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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

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Winnipeg teen one of six finalists in essay contest. *Page 26*

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15-year-old swimmer wins six medals at JCC Maccabi Youth Games. *Page 50*

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Egypt trying to smooth path between Israel and Syria

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Senior Egyptian officials have been actively working to jump-start the stalled peace process between Israel and Syria.

After meeting with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad in Damascus last week, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amre Moussa said Syria was ready to resume negotiations with Israel if they are based on the land-for-peace principle.

The previous Israeli Labor government, which was open to a territorial concession on the Golan Heights in exchange for security guarantees, suspended negotiations in March, after Syria refused to condemn a series of suicide bombings in Israel.

Netanyahu has called for a resumption of the talks without preconditions, but he also is opposed to any Israeli withdrawal from the Golan.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa, who accompanied Moussa to the airport, said Syria was ready to restart negotiations, "from the point where from they stopped."

Continued on page 43

MOSCOW B'NAI MITZVAH IN THE GALILEE
Ten Moscow youths recently became b'nai mitzvah through a pioneering project to strengthen Jewish life in Russia. The celebration which was initiated by the Masorti movement took place at ancient Tsipori in the Galilee. ***[photo by The Israeli Forum]***

Canada asked to help rebuild centre

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Palestinian officials have urged Canada to help rebuild a partially Canadian-funded community centre that was demolished last week by the Municipality of Jerusalem.

The Canadian Embassy demanded an explanation for the razing of the Jerusalem building which served disabled youth and was one of several West Bank and Gaza projects supported by the Embassy's Canada Fund.

The demolition of the building – which was illegally constructed in the Moslem quarter of the Old City – unleashed a torrent of anger among Palestinians and was described as "poorly timed" and "insensitive" by Israeli opposition members.

Demolition "poorly timed"

"These attempts are part of a premeditated policy to Judaize Arab Jerusalem, to empty its inhabitants and to encourage settlement building inside Jerusalem's neighborhoods," charged Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in response to the Aug. 27 demolition.

The act was one of several developments that prompted Arafat's call for civil disobedience last week. "Israel has started a war on Jerusalem," he declared.

Canada's chargé d'affaires in Tel Aviv, David Viveash, called the incident unfortunate and said that the embassy was examining the Palestinian request to rebuild the Bourj Laq-Laq centre, which had received $41,000 in Canadian funding. Viveash added that five members of the board of the centre were arrested by Israeli police after they erected tents on the site of the demolished building near the Herod Gate.

Israel's Foreign Ministry responded to Canadian demands for an explanation with a statement, noting that the destruction had been ordered by the municipality and not by any national authority.

"The building in question was constructed without a permit, and neither were the relevant plans deposited with the municipality," said the statement. "Moreover, warning notices which were posted over the past few months were conspicuously ignored by those responsible."

Continued on page 43

INSIDE

Look inside for our 12-page special Fall Fashion '96 supplement.

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Jews and Canadian politics part II — please see page 11

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

New Defence Pact

JERUSALEM – Israel and Turkey have signed an agreement for defence industry cooperation, the second defence pact between the two states.

Defence Ministry Director General David Ivry initialed the accord in Istanbul for the Israeli side.

A military training accord between Turkey and Israel that was signed in February brought Israeli jets to Turkish airspace, as well as a hail of criticism from Arab countries.

Shabbat Road Closure

JERUSALEM – Haredi officials said Wednesday that they would not cooperate with the committee set up by Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy to investigate the issue of closing streets on Shabbat, while secular leaders were also critical of the makeup of the committee, which has four religious and four secular members.

Finance Ministers Meet

JERUSALEM – Israeli Finance Minister Dan Meridor met with his Palestinian counterpart last week to discuss ways to ease the economic hardships of the Palestinians caused by the closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Red Cross Visits

JERUSALEM – The Palestinian Authority has agreed to let International Red Cross officials visit prisoners in jails in the autonomous areas.

The decision follows reports of harsh treatment and torture of political prisoners in the jails.

Until now, Palestinian security forces have refused to allow the international humanitarian organization into the lockups.

Train Run

JERUSALEM – Plans to establish a new rail line from Ashdod Port to the Gaza Strip, carrying both passengers and freight, were announced Tuesday night by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.

This will allow for increased trade between the Palestinian Authority and Israel, and decrease international imports and exports from the Strip, Sharon said.

Archaeological Site

JERUSALEM – An archaeological site yielding evidence of the destruction of the Second Temple has opened in Jerusalem, after two years of excavations.

The excavations, conducted by the Israel Antiquities Authority, reveal a paved Herodian street, with ruined shops along it.

Stone blocks weighing 45 to 50 tons each were integrated into the pavement. A complex drainage system and ritual baths were also exposed.

Composer Dies

JERUSALEM – Israeli composer Yair Rosenblum, whose "Peace Song" was the anthem of the Nov. 4 Tel Aviv rally where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was slain, has died in Holon after a two-year illness. He was 52.

WORLD

Reform Rabbis Ordained

NEW YORK – Two Reform rabbis for the Israel Progressive Movement were recently ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Over the past two decades, HUC-JIR's Israel Rabbinic Program has trained 16 men and two women as rabbis to lead Israel's Reform congregations, schools and institutions.

Domestic Violence

WASHINGTON – Jewish Women International will reach 3,000 rabbis this year with the third edition of its Resource Guide for Rabbis.

The guide is the latest salvo in JWI's campaign to educate the Jewish community about domestic abuse.

With sample sermons from all four branches of Judaism, this guide provides a unique perspective on the issue of domestic violence in the Jewish community.

Torah Scrolls Nabbed

MOSCOW – Torah scrolls were recently stolen from two synagogues in Minsk, the capital of Belarus.

The thefts occurred the same night, local community leaders said. The scrolls each have an estimated worth of $20,000.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday September 3,1971

JERUSALEM COMPLAINS ABOUT U.S. CRITICISM

Israel's Foreign Ministry has charged that the United States State Department was unjustified in equating Defense Minister Moshe Dayan's talk of a "permanent" Israeli regime in the occupied Arab territories with the statement by Egypt, Libya and Syria barring negotiations and peace with Israel.

Ministry spokesman Avraham Aviday said, "The speech by [Dayan] ...was an evaluation of the situation and expression of a point of view not meant to change the decisions of the Cabinet. In contrast, the Damascus statement is an official announcement by three Arab presidents which confirms there will be no peace and no negotiations with Israel."

******

MONTREALERS PLAN PRAYERS FOR SOVIET JEWS

High Holiday and Simchat Torah celebrations will, this year, include special prayers on behalf of the Jews in the Soviet Union. At a special meeting of Synagogue Council of Greater Montreal, arrangements were finalized for the circulation of a mass petition by synagogue members and seat holders to Jews in Holiday services. The synagogues will also participate in the Simchat Torah demonstration October 12th.

A NEW YEAR
A NEW
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UJA launches its 1997 campaign

Emphasis being put on reaching new contributors

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's a sure sign that summer is nearing an end: the United Jewish Appeal launched its 1997 campaign last week, with a special emphasis this time on reaching out to those who have never contributed.

Over 1,000 supporters jammed the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts for the kick-off to United Jewish Appeal's (UJA) 79th annual drive. The glitzy event featured a multi-media presentation and a rousing performance by Shorashim, a group of six young singers from Israel.

Later in the week, troupe members were involved in a serious auto accident in Edmonton, where they were scheduled to open that city's UJA campaign. Despite injuries including a concussion and a broken arm, five of the six members performed anyway. They also kicked off UJA campaigns in Montreal and Hamilton.

The Toronto launch's overriding theme was Remembering Our Roots, and actor Al Waxman, the guest speaker, recounted his experiences with anti-Semitism in the city in the 1940s and '50s.

In the end, Waxman said, "to be a Jew and Canadian is not mutually exclusive."

The gathering heard that one in seven Jews in Toronto lives in poverty, and that continuing government cutbacks are making the work of Jewish agencies more difficult.

But the good news, campaign chair David Goldstein told *The CJN*, is that UJA's Three-Year Vision, put in place last year, has already raised some $16 million toward next year's campaign.

The plan asked donors to pledge a contribution over three years. Some 8,000 people did, providing a substantial kick-off to the '97, as well as the '98 campaigns.

UJA, the community's central distributor of charity dollars, has raised some $34 million in cash and pledges for 1996, said director of communications Howard English.

As of last year, the drive stopped setting a specific goal. Before that, the target was about $40 million.

Because next year's campaign has gotten off to such a good start, Goldstein explained, UJA staff will be able to concentrate their efforts on tapping those who have never made a donation.

Members of the Israeli singing troupe Shorashim entertained at the Toronto UJA campaign's 1997 launch. Here, they are shown on City-TV's Breakfast Television show. From left are Shalom Soto, Shai Kaminski, Irma Fisko, Yael Levy, Meital Trabelsi and Stephen Arnoff. [Rosemary Goldhar photo]

And a special Challenge Fund will match, dollar for dollar, any pledge made by a new donor.

A 1994 study released by Brandeis University in the United States said that 41 percent of Toronto's Jews do not donate to UJA and 26 percent of Jewish households make no contribution to any Jewish charity.

"It's not because they don't want to," Goldstein said. "It's probably because they haven't been asked."

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Greater Toronto Area

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Sometimes we lose our way. Either through haze, darkness or self-imposed disorientation we walk towards bright lights, foreign visions, embracing them, confusing them for our destiny. We fall away from the old way because we cannot see the familiar markers. Alas, some of us do not even know where to look for them.

The first survey ever conducted of Jewish day school graduates in the United States, undertaken by professors Alvin Schiff and Mareleyn Schneider, educator and sociologist respectively, may help direct us to those markers. The results are being compiled into 11 reports, the first three of which were recently released.

Last week I introduced readers to this survey, with the promise to write about some of the findings contained in the first three reports.

The survey was administered to 6,673 graduates of 13 elementary schools and 13 high schools located in 19 large and small Jewish communities in the Northeast, South Midwest and Western United States. Sixteen of the institutions identified themselves as centrist or modern Orthodox, five are under Conservative sponsorship, three are "trans-ideological" communal schools, and two are "right of centre" Orthodox yeshivot. For the analysis, the researchers consolidated Reform Jews with Reconstructionist Jews and agnostics with atheists and Jews who practised no religion. The respondents were all between 20 and 45 years of age.

Jewish day school grads surveyed

There is no Canadian content to the survey, but its findings are surely relevant and applicable, with appropriate allowances, to the unfolding experience of our community as well.

To convey even a minimally adequate sense of the contents of the reports, I shall quote extensively from them. The first report is an overview entitled *The Jewishness Quotient of Jewish Day School Graduates: Studying the Effect of Jewish Education on Adult Jewish Behavior*. It contains brief, clearly, even forcefully written introductory material which provides the historical and demographic backdrop for the survey.

The authors' defining hypothesis is the following: "There is a statistically significant relationship between Jewish day school attendance, adult Jewish behavior and involvement, and endogamous marital patterns.

"The more one stays in school, the stronger the relationships, *regardless of the Jewish religious ideology of the school* [my emphasis], the background of the parents, and other factors. In other words, adult Jewish behavior and involvement increases with the length of stay in Jewish day schools."

Of considerable significance, especially in light of the fact that the research was conducted under the auspices of Yeshiva University, is the fact that the hypothesis expressly excluded a preference for any one specific form of religious observance. The theory rests on the extent and intensity of the exposure to Jewish education not on its nature.

The hypothesis is subsequently proven.

The authors conclude thus (I reproduce part of the discussion from the first report): "Day school graduates are like other 20 to 40-year-old, white, middle class American Jews regarding country of birth and secular education. They significantly differ, however, in parental background, current Jewish observance, camp experience, visits to Israel, involvement in Jewish organizational life, patterns of intermarriage, and attitudes towards intermarriage.

"The home environment of Jewish day school graduates is much more Jewishly oriented than the average American Jewish family, indicating that there is a relationship between parental level of Jewishness and the matter of Jewish education of their progeny.

"The level of Jewish behavior (particularly Sabbath and kashrut observance) and Jewish organizational involvement of the 20 to 40-year-old day school graduates is dramatically higher than that of typical American Jews of this age group.

"There is a striking difference between day school alumni and the general Jewish population regarding visits to Israel. Whereas only 15 percent of American Jews have visited Israel, 89 percent of day school graduates have been to Israel on average four times. Moreover, about eight percent either have made aliyah or were living there at the time of the study.

"The most noticeable difference between Jewish day school graduates and other American Jews of their age is in the matter of intermarriage: actual experience and attitude toward it. Whereas the majority of Jews who married between 1985 and 1990, according to the 1990 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS), married non-Jews, 4.5 percent of Jewish day school graduates, who generally married between 1975 and 1990, are intermarried and over 80 percent object to their progeny intermarrying."

The second report is entitled *Far-Reaching Effects of Extensive Jewish Day School Attendance: The impact of Jewish education on Jewish behavior and attitudes*. Among its many categorical findings, I shall reproduce only one: "In general, with few exceptions, regardless of type of school, the numbers of observant graduates increase with the amount of Jewish education. For those from Orthodox schools, graduation from high school indicates that 83 percent will keep kosher at home and 72 percent outside the home. Sixty-nine will observe traditional Sabbath rites. For those from Conservative schools, 63 percent of high school alumni keep kosher at home and 47 percent keep kosher outside the home. Trans-ideological graduates exhibit a similar degree of kashrut observance: 60 percent at home, 50 outside the home."

The third report is called *Fortifying and Restoring Jewish Behavior: The interaction of home and school*. The key parts of its conclusion are: "Family values alone will not ensure Jewish continuity. A comprehensive, enduring Jewish education program is critical for continuance of Jewish identity for the generations to come. It strengthens their Jewish observance patterns, encourages involvement in Jewish communal activity, and engenders strong feeling against intermarriage...

"A combination of extensive Jewish education, bolstered by a positive family environment and other Jewish experiences, will prevent further erosion and contribute significantly to the continuity of American Jewry."

The survey is available from Yeshiva University, Department of Public Relations, 500 West 185th St., New York, N.Y. 10033-3201. I recommend it to the leaders of our community.

The remaining eight reports will be released over the course of the next 12 months. MBD

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Greater Toronto Area

Hate crimes report a little too late: CJC

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A report prepared for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police that outlines the seriousness of hate crimes is "better late than never," according to Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress.

The report, while "commendable," would have been better timed if it had been released two years ago when hate group activities were at their peak, Farber said.

In the interim, many leaders of white supremacist groups have been convicted of various offences and are in jail or out on bail, he said.

"Police must learn that these things need immediate attention," he added.

Sgt. Dino Doria of Metro Toronto's hate crime unit had a different take on the release of the report. He said it "indicates that hate crimes are becoming a larger priority" for police.

Since the Metro unit was created in 1993, hate groups have taken their propaganda to the Internet and forged international links, prompting more interest from police, he said.

On the local scene, police have responded to hate group activities by adopting a multi-faceted approach that includes educating youth about the dangers posed by racist groups.

Doria said the police unit recorded 101 hate crimes occurrences in the first six months of 1996, down 32 percent from the same period the year before. Most of those occurrences involve vandalism, assaults and uttering threats, he said.

The report released last week, titled *Hate Crimes in Canada; In Your Back Yard*, argued that hate groups undermine the fabric of democratic society and should not be treated as fringe phenomena.

Hate groups have permeated Candian society and target blacks, Jews, South Asians and gays for crimes ranging from verbal abuse to murder, the report stated.

The report also noted the Internet is being used to distribute hate material that would otherwise be prohibited under Canadian law. Material posted in the United States is freely available in Canada, the report added.

REENA FUN DAY

Dudley the Dragon entertains hundreds of kids who turned out last week for the annual Reena Fun Day, held at the Promenade shopping centre in Thornhill. Proceeds from the day go towards Reena, which helps developmentally disabled adults live independently, in a Jewish environment. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Tradition

Paul Stern, President

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And when it was time for the Shofar to sound, I'd close my eyes and puff out my cheeks and pretend that it was me blowing . . .

And there was nothing more delicious than my mother's chicken soup or my Aunt Clara's desserts.

After all these years, all the familiarity, I still look forward to Yom Tov with great excitement. Now I celebrate these times with my family and I know these traditions will carry on.

In this changing world
hold on to the things you can rely on

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Paul Stern, President

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Greater Toronto Area

Kalejs blames Russians for massacres

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a statement to an Immigration officer, alleged Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs claimed that 27,800 Latvian Jews were killed by Russian forces and not by the Nazis and their Arajs Kommando (AK) collaborators.

"The Russians were responsible for those killings," Kalejs told Immigration officer Rodriguez in September 1995. Further attempting to explain his past, Kalejs said "information I have in my possession through my common-law wife revealed that one of the witnesses that testified against me was a Russian intelligence officer. This information was found in the archives of Riga."

Kalejs' statement was contained in a report prepared by Rodriguez based on two interviews with Kalejs in September 1995. Kalejs was referring to testimony videotaped in Latvia as part of a U.S. deportation proceeding against him. Kalejs was ordered removed from the United States for his wartime involvement in the persecution of civilians as part of the Arajs Kommando (AK).

After being deported from the United States, he attempted to enter Canada in 1994. He left for a time and returned in September 1995. He was interviewed on landing at Pearson International Airport on Sept. 3 by Rodriguez and then again on Sept. 7.

Armed on the second occasion with a U.S. court decision in the case, Rodriguez asked Kalejs about the accusation that he was involved in the murder of 27,800 Jews.

That's when Kalejs attempted to place responsibility for the murders on the Soviets. Kalejs also told Rodriguez that U.S. courts relied on testimony from "Russian people who were forced to say what they want; otherwise the Russian officials were going to send them to Siberia."

Testifying in Latvia for the U.S. proceeding, former members of the Arajs Kommando identified Kalejs as a senior lieutenant in the unit, which was involved in numerous massacres of civilians — including the mass shootings of 27,800 Latvian Jews.

Last week, Kalejs's former brother in law, Alfreds Putnins, testified on videotape — reluctantly — about Kalejs. Putnins said he did not wish the evidence taped and played outside of a U.S. courtroom because he wanted to protect his son in the United States.

Putnins said he barely knew Kalejs even though he married Kalejs' sister, Olga, in 1942. He spent most of the war at the front away from his wife and barely met Kalejs, he said.

Putnins said he had no first-hand information that Kalejs served in the Salaspils concentration camp, "but I know that he went there ... I think it was towards the end of the war ... My wife said her brother worked at Salaspils."

(Other evidence has placed Kalejs as head of an AK unit that guarded the camp, in which civilians were brutalized and killed.)

Putnins also testified he only learned of Kalejs' wartime activities after 1945. He said he knew his brother-in-law was a first lieutenant, but he did not know in which unit he served. During the war he never heard of the Arajs Kommando, he added.

However, U.S. attorney Aron Goldberg pointed out that in July 1985, Putnins signed a protocol at the Soviet procurator's office in which he stated that "somewhere in 1942, from my wife, I found out that her brother ... was in the the Arajs Kommando, as if he were a commander of a platoon or a company."

Explaining the discrepancy, Putnins said in 1985 he was relying on second-hand information.

Goldberg also pointed out that in 1987 Putnins said he last saw Kalejs in 1942, but that he told the Soviet procurator in 1985 that he saw Kalejs in February or March 1944 "and he was wearing an SS uniform at that time."

Putnins claimed the previous testimony was "not written here precisely."

Goldberg also pointed out that in 1985, Putnins identified Kalejs as a commander of a company of guards at Salaspils "but today you said you do not know what activities [he] was engaged in at Salaspils."

Putnins said he didn't know what duties Kalejs was involved in and that he only learned after the war that he commanded a company of guards there.

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC deals with holiday security issues

Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region has created a "formalized structure" to ensure the community's security needs are met, especially during the High Holy Days.

"While we do not directly provide security for community institutions, Congress acts as a resource to all organizations, and coordinates security within the Jewish community," said Ellen Cole, chair of the region's community relations committee. "This is a role and responsibility undertaken by CJC regions across the country."

On the national level, Congress has produced a revised manual, *Security Measures for Community Organizations*. It provides guidelines on security precautions for Jewish organizations and is available from CJC offices across the country. In Ontario, requests can be made by calling (416) 635-2883, ext. 176.

CJC Ontario region Chair Moshe Ronen summarized CJC's efforts to ensure security is maintained. "In addition to distributing the security booklet, Ontario region convenes an annual security meeting, inviting representatives of all Greater Toronto Area synagogues, Jewish schools, institutions, and organizations," he said. "Representatives of local, provincial, and often national police and security agencies attend the meeting to discuss proactive steps to ensure safety. Those meetings remind all members of the Jewish community that we cannot take security for granted."

In addition to the annual meeting, Ontario region circulates security alerts to all synagogues, schools and institutions at times when potential threats are perceived to be at higher level.

"We maintain very close cooperation with all police forces and other security agencies to ensure that our institutions are properly informed," said Steven Shulman, associate director of community relations for Congress. "In Toronto, the Board of Jewish Education helps us disseminate information to Jewish schools. We also ensure that security information is provided to all Ontario federations, synagogues, and other institutions outside the Greater Toronto Area because security is not just a big city concern."

Shulman stressed that the answer to security concerns is "not fear, but rather prudence. The key to security is vigilance on the part of all members of the Jewish community. In recent years, we have noticed Jewish institutions in the province sharpen their focus on security issues. While Canada is very safe, we are always cognizant of internal and external threats."

"We are not currently aware of any specific threat to Jewish community institutions," stated Cole. "However, prior to the High Holy Days, we ask that all institutions ensure that adequate security precautions are in place for the entire year."

Saudis top weapons purchaser

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Saudi Arabia continues to be Canada's best weapons customer, with purchases totalling nearly $168 million last year.

However, that's down from the $280 million the Saudis spent on Canadian military goods in 1994, according to an annual report from Canada's Foreign Affairs department, tabled in Parliament recently by minister Lloyd Axworthy.

Axworthy said he was "pleased" to note that the total value of Canadian military exports dropped last year by 12 percent over the year before, to $447 million from $507 million.

But the report does not cover over $600 million in sales to the United States because the U.S. is not considered a foreign market.

Axworthy said he wants to make Canada "an even more responsible player in the global military goods market . . . I intend to tighten the rules further to ensure that our exports do not end up in the wrong hands."

The minister has long called for a reduction in Canadian arms sales and export permit approvals, which skyrocketed following the Gulf War. Critics say Canada jumped aboard the gravy train of Western arms sales to the Saudis after the conflict.

Before the war, Canada avoided selling arms in the Middle East because the region was considered too explosive.

Israel has watched Canadian arms exports closely since the Gulf conflict, mainly because of increased sales to Arab countries still technically at war with the Jewish state.

The Saudis are still said to be interested in buying three fully-armed Canadian-built frigates, estimated at $500 million each. In 1992, Israel's embassy in Ottawa expressed concern at the prospect.

Since the early 1990s, the Saudis have bought about 1,000 light armored vehicles (LAVs) from General Motors of Canada, with about 600 more scheduled before 1998. The LAV is an eight-wheel, fully-armed personnel carrier that was used in the Gulf War.

In addition to the LAVs, the Saudis last year bought Canadian-made electronic equipment for military use and other specialized equipment for military training.

Canada's policy is to "closely control" arms sales to countries which pose a threat to Canada or its allies; which are embroiled in conflict; are under UN sanctions; or whose governments have serious human rights problems and where it's feared Canadian weapons may be used against the civilian population.

Canada has never sold arms to Israel because of the threat of hostilities there. In 1994, Defence Minister David Collenette promised to review Canada's ban on weapons sales to the Jewish state.

But the annual report shows Canada's military sales to Israel last year totalled just $45,000, the same as the year before. Israel bought components for engines, navigation systems and sonar equipment. Most experts believe Israel is not interested in Canadian-made weapons.

Canadian sales to Turkey quadrupled last year over 1994, and Tunisia became a new buyer of Canadian military goods.

In all, Canada last year sold $172 million worth of military goods to eight Arab nations.

Rob Ritter of the Canada-Israel Committee told *The CJN* he thinks Axworthy "is interested in making changes, but you can't dismantle a whole establishment overnight."

Israel's embassy in Ottawa had no comment on the latest figures.

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Greater Toronto Area

York student 'connects' with life in Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Despite major upheaval in Israel over the past 12 months, York University student Roni Felsen is convinced he couldn't have picked a better time to study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

It was "a crazy year" — bombings, the assassination of Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, government changes — but Felsen, 21, can't imagine having spent it anywhere else. "I probably would have felt a lot less connected."

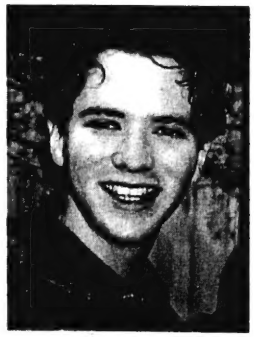
To make the most of his year, Felsen sought to become involved outside of the campus, teaching fitness classes at two luxury hotels, substituting as an English teacher at a Jerusalem public school and attending protest rallies as an observer.

"A lot of people stopped taking buses, or didn't even leave the campus," recalls Felsen. "I figured you could hide for a year, or take advantage of where you are."

Felsen followed the Israeli elections closely, and has a collection of over 100 bumper stickers collected at political rallies. Although he is a day school graduate and had visited Israel four times previously, his knowledge of Israeli politics was sketchy prior to his year away, he said.

Among his courses at the university's Rothberg School for Overseas Students was Israeli Foreign Policy, which included an overview of Israel's political system. Felsen is entering his fourth year in York's Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education program, majoring in French and Education, and will receive credit for his year in Jerusalem. He was one of 70 Canadian students, among them 40 Torontonians, attending the school last year.

The highlight of his intellectual experience was a course on Medieval Biblical Commentators taught by renowned nonagenarian professor Nechama Leibowitz.



Roni Felsen

On an informal basis, his education was furthered by interaction with other dorm students. "I really lucked out," he said.

In addition to overseas students, his floormates included Jewish Israelis (Israeli-born as well as Ethiopian and Russian immigrants) and Arab Israelis.

Despite their "big diversity of opinions," the Rabin assassination unified them in sadness, Felsen said.

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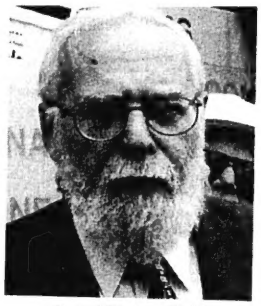
Greater Toronto Area

Labor victory would have doomed Israel: rabbi

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN



Rabbi Sholom Gold

TORONTO – Israel would not have survived another four years of the Labor party government of Shimon Peres, Rabbi Sholom Gold, a leading figure of Israel's National Religious Party (Mafdal), told a Toronto-area audience recently.

"Because they (the Labor coalition) didn't think it was possible, they failed to foresee the disaster that was to befall them," said Rabbi Gold, speaking at Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation on the topic After the Election: The New Israel.

The Laborites refused to believe pre-election polls that told them Benjamin Netanyahu and the Likud might win the election, Rabbi Gold said. "They were living with the same mistake that was made on erev Yom Kippur in 1973. The government at the time believed that Egypt and Syria wouldn't attack. Because they didn't believe it would happen, they weren't able to see the truth staring them in the face."

According to Rabbi Gold, the previous government had an undisclosed plan to allow the partition of Jerusalem.

"From the beginning of the Oslo process, they continually, constantly, viciously lied to the people," he said. "They said over and over again that Jerusalem would always be the undivided home of the Jewish people – and every time they were lying."

The former Brooklynite rabbi who now leads the congregation Kehilat Zichron Yoseph in Har Nof, Jerusalem, spoke angrily of the previous government's treatment of the religious right: "They held the right in absolute contempt. We were abused and vilified. We were not merely the outsiders, we were the ones who had to be crushed and destroyed.

"The government didn't understand that we would pay them back for it. They didn't understand that the day of judgment was going to come and that we would use the power of the ballot box."

Days before the election, members of Israel's religious right "were working together with a sense of tremendous mission," Rabbi Gold said. "You spoke to the people in the streets, there was a *ruach*, you could feel the victory in the air."

Chabad's 11th-hour sign and bumper sticker campaign, in which the religious group proclaimed Netanyahu their choice, will be studied for years to come "like the Battle of the Bulge or Entebbe," said Rabbi Gold. "It hit the country two days before the election, and there was no way for Labor to fight back."

The defeated Labor government discouraged aliyah or Jewish immigration, Rabbi Gold asserted, knowing that most *olim* would be religious Jews.

"Now we've got to put aliyah back on the Jewish agenda," he said. "Start visiting, and start sending your kids. Israel is a much happier place than it was before."

Rabbi Gold's visit was sponsored by the Bet El twinning committee of Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in conjunction with One Israel and Mizrachi Organization of Canada.

OMISSION

On Aug. 1, *The CJN* published an article entitled *Tisha b'Av in the Sephardi Tradition* by Cantor Aviv Ouanounou. The author omitted acknowledging that some of the material for his essay was researched from *A Treasury of Sephardic Laws and Customs*, by Rabbi Herbert C. Dobrinsky, Ktav Publishing House Inc., Hoboken, N.J. and Yeshiva University Press, New York, N.Y., 1988. The author apologizes for and regrets the omission as does *The CJN*.

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Moderation called for

The community centre in the Old City of Jerusalem was bulldozed last week because the construction on its site was illegal. City Hall took steps to enforce the law. It demolished the building. No doubt, however, its demolition was more than merely a municipal act protecting the integrity of rules, permits and regulations. It was a national act protecting the integrity of Israel's claim to sovereignty over an undivided Jerusalem.

Israel's claim is not a recent one. It does not originate with the two-month-old government of Benjamin Netanyahu. It is as old as time itself. And it was also the policy of Netanyahu's predecessor, Shimon Peres.

As Canadian taxpayers, of course, we regret the apparent waste of the more than $30,000 donated by the government to the project. But Canadian officials on the scene must bear the brunt of the blame for not properly ensuring the disbursement of funds to appropriate channels or for appropriate purposes. Israel has stated as repeatedly and as consistently as snowfall in Canadian winter that it would never again allow Jerusalem's status as a united city to be compromised.

The bulldozing of the unfinished community centre must therefore be seen in that light. And most people do. Canada's largest daily, the *Toronto Star*, chose to cover the story in a different light, however, as if it were under a huge spotlight, with alarms sounding in full siren.

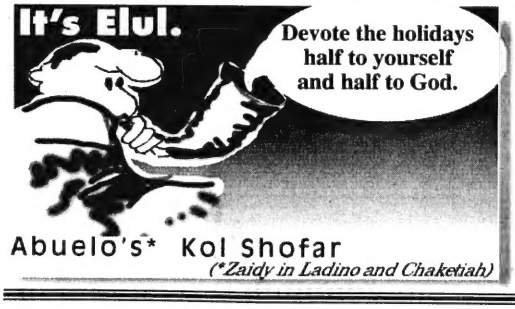
On the second page of the edition of Aug. 28, a two-inch, boldfaced headline announced: "Canadian-funded Arab centre razed".

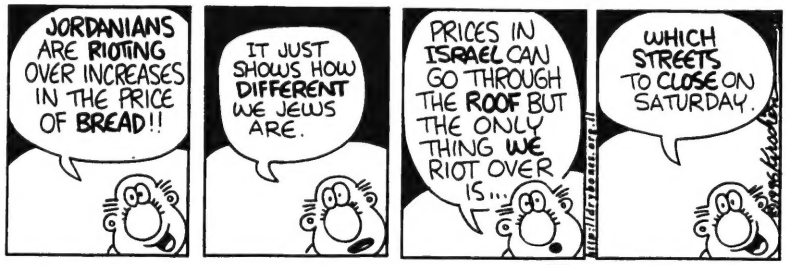
Accompanying the article was an editorial entitled"Anxious in Israel," in which, among many dubious assertions, was this: "Israel's relations with the rest of the world are under strain."

The *Star's* coverage was neither balanced nor proportionate. Nor was it accurate. Two months is too short a time for the "rest of the world" to have established any formal experience with the still-fresh government in Israel. Indeed, most of the "rest of the world" is still waiting for more definitive policy decisions from Netanyahu. There have been no shifts in bilateral relations with any of Israel's friends, foes or trading partners. No one, other than the *Star's* editorial writer, has detected any strain in those bilateral relations.

Despite the "strain" between Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Netanyahu, Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) communicate regularly. The prime minister's chief foreign affairs advisor, Dore Gold, meets with his Palestinian counterpart. Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Maher al-Masri, the PA member in charge of economics and trade, have resumed regular meetings and are undertaking joint, cooperative endeavors. Last week, David Levy spoke with Arafat, urging him to tone down the rhetoric, but also assuring him of Israel's good faith. Minister of Defence, Yitzhak Mordechai also assured the PA of Israel's intentions while similarly calling on Arafat to speak more softly: "We intend to continue the dialogue between us and the PA and to seek ways for a solution in the future. *I don't advise intensifying statements of the situation but to take a moderate approach and find better ways for progress to the benefit of all sides.*" (Editor's italics)

In the still-settling dust after the May 29 elections, moderation is indeed called for, in the reportage by the *Toronto Star* too.

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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Sept.1, 1970, Ernest Sirluck of the University of Manitoba was sworn in as the first Jewish president of a Canadian university. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

The Bishop's role in Kielce pogrom

Re: Sheldon Kirshner's article "Circumstances surrounding 1946 pogrom remain a mystery" (*CJN* July 4).

We wish to address just one matter as illustrative of the misinformation that pervades this topic. Citing Michael Borwicz, Kirshner states that three weeks before the pogrom, the bishop of Kielce refused to issue an appropriate pastoral letter; that on the day of the pogrom the bishop's office refused to grant a connection upon receiving a call from a local Jewish leader; and that in the wake of the pogrom the bishop declined to sign a statement denouncing the onslaught.

Bishop Kaczmarek was far removed from Kielce for health reasons for two months. Upon his return on July 24, he immediately struck a special church commission to investigate the incident. His 18-page report was secretly delivered to the U.S. ambassador, Arthur Bliss Lane, who voiced complete agreement with its conclusion: "It [the pogrom] was not spontaneous, but a carefully organized plot."

On July 4, on learning of the melee, two groups of priests set out for Planty Street to intervene, only to be turned back by the authorities. Why? The state authorities also reneged on a joint state-church statement worked out with the bishop's office in the aftermath of the pogrom. Undaunted, the office issued statements of condemnation which were immediately read in every parish in the diocese: "This deliberate massacre is a crime that cries out for Divine retribution, and as such is deserving of total and categorical condemnation."

The authorities were livid and plotted their revenge. Bishop Kaczmarek, along with other members of the clergy who spoke out against the pogrom, was eventually arrested by Colonel Jozef Swiatlo (Licht). He was tortured (losing his health and 19 teeth in the process) and personally threatened by the likes of Jozef Rozanski (Goldberg), the director of the investigation department of the Ministry of State Security. He was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment after a show trial at which his defence was torpedoed by Mieczyslaw Maslanko, the director of defence attorneys. The charges — espionage, anti-state activity — were so patently absurd that after the ouster of the Stalinists, his conviction was promptly overturned.

Hanna Sokolski
President
Canadian Polish Congress
Toronto District

Keep an eye on Arafat

For several decades we have seen a gradual erosion of the free world and media support for the State of Israel. The Israelis are called hard-liners and are accused of being against the peace process.

Even though Benjamin Netanyahu has been officially elected by the Israeli population, the world media and a segment of the Jews in Israel and North America find this difficult to accept. There is a Bibi-watch program, but these same observers never dreamed of setting up a Yasser-watch program. The article on the destruction of Israel in the Palestinian Covenant has not as yet been revoked by the PLO, although Yasser Arafat said it would be. Only a worldwide cover-up, helped along by the most powerful of the media and by many influential Jewish leaders and organizations, who whitewash and defend Arafat and blame Netanyahu, have given the world the impression that the PLO Covenant has been changed. The deceptive hoax continues. The text of the Palestinian National Covenant remains as it was.

Netanyahu has made it clear that he will continue negotiations with the Arab community. Is there anything wrong or extremist in the view that a nation has rights to safe and secure borders?

Nathan Yacowar
Chomedey, Quebec

Just tell Quebec the truth

I respectfully suggest the following to Heritage Minister Sheila Copps: Speak out loud and clear and give Quebec specific information on the price of separation. Surely, your government has made studies and could without fear indicate the cost in economic, social and political terms of Quebec's separating. This need not be in the form of a threat, but a simple calculation based on a review of the existing value of buildings in Quebec, pension funds, tax liabilities and consequences which would inevitably flow from a separation from Canada. You must assume that the average Canadian both in Quebec and in the rest of Canada is capable of understanding in real terms the implications of separation.

All Canadians are sick and tired of hearing about sovereignty association, economic partnerships and political linkage. You and your government must show once and for all its commitment to a united Canada where Quebec has its equal place together with all other provinces and a mutual respect for the language and religion of all Canadians. If truth offends, then so be it.

Bert Raphael
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Jews' role in Canada's political process

By SHELDON AND JUDY GODFREY

PART II

"The question you have to ask," says Barry Campbell, MP for Toronto-St. Paul's "is whether it would matter to us as Jews if at some future date there were no Jews in the House of Commons."

From the one Jewish MP elected between 1867 and 1917, Jews were elected to the Canadian House of Commons in ever increasing numbers until 1969, when Jews were elected in more than three times the proportion to their percentage of the population at large.

Henry Nathan, who was elected as the Conservative member of parliament from Vancouver Island in 1872, remained in office for only two years. But it was not until 1917, with the election of Samuel W. Jacobs as MP for Montreal-St. Lawrence, that the period of continuous representation in the House of Commons by at least one Jew from Montreal began. Toronto has had Jewish members of parliament from the time of the election of Samuel Factor in 1935 to the present, except for short period after David Croll, the MP for Spadina, was appointed to the Senate in 1955. Winnipeg has also had a large number of Jewish members of parliament over the years since A.A. Heaps was first elected in 1921.

By 1969, the year nine Jewish MPs went to Ottawa representing all the major political parties, most of Canada's provinces had sent Jews to the House of Commons. An impressive number have served as Canadian cabinet ministers since that same year, when Herbert Gray became the first Jew to be appointed and take his place in the cabinet. These include: Barnet Danson, Robert Kaplan, Gerald Weiner and Sheila Finestone.

In the current House of Commons, there are representatives of many cultural and religious groups. There are now three Jewish MPs, all Liberals, who are represented in almost equal proportion to the percentage of Jews in Canada.

In view of these facts, the first question should be: "Why aren't there more Jewish members of parliament today?"

The difficulties of anyone being an MP are apparent: Exposure to the public, particularly at election time, is not always a positive experience for MPs. Acknowledgements of the hard work done conscientiously by MPs in the public interest are rare, while gratuitous criticism is common. Financial disclosure requirements, necessary to avoid conflicts of interest, are nonetheless onerous and get in the way of continuing one's legitimate business while in office. Time spent in Ottawa away from home puts real pressure on family relationships usually requiring two separate residences in different cities. Pay is relatively poor – even the civil service, where Jews are now highly placed, pays more.

And after Ottawa what? When the term is finished an MP could be out of touch with a former profession or career. Jobs may not be waiting; appointment to boards or commissions for ex-MPs are almost always publicly criticized as being partisan and not based on merit.

Indeed we are fortunate to have had as many excellent MPs willing to face the onerous responsibility with such devotion.

In the United States, where the situation of members of Congress is similar, Jews make up about 10 per cent of members, compared to the present one per cent in Canada. Some of this difference may be due to the higher pay for members of the American Congress and their better chances of finding work after their terms in politics are completed, but it does not satisfactorily explain the relative current low percentage of Canadian Jewish MPs.

The next question is whether it matters if the percentage of Jewish MPs in Canada is low. Here are some thoughts to consider:

• Rabbi Martin S. Cohn of Beth Tikvah Congregation in Richmond, B.C., reminds us that Jews living in the Diaspora strive to be "a light unto the nations" – with a profound sense of purpose. By the willingness of the Jewish people to endure "a life lived on the cusp," we can keep at bay the dark forces that threaten to overwhelm us all. "Living among the nations is not just a useful thing for Jews to do," he writes. "It is *tikkun olam* in its highest sense, a chance to redeem the world." The political role of Jews in Canada, to take Rabbi Cohn's words a step further, is to work to create a just society – a place where all are equally entitled to the favor and protection of the government. Such a society is one that is enriched by the contribution of the brightest and the best of its citizens, not one where only one class or group has the full opportunity for participation.

• It is worth remembering that while Jews have worked for these ideals from the beginning, many of these ideals were achieved when there were no Jews in office. Ezekiel Hart, Selim Franklin and others were followed by Jews who worked in and with other groups to effect the political process in the interest of equality – groups with names like the Baron de Hirsch Institute, the Jewish Legislation Committee and the Canadian Jewish Congress.

• "The number waxes and wanes," says Herb Gray, who, as Canada's longest serving present member of the House, should be in a position to know. Gray observes that since the 1960s, having "Jewish seats" in Parliament has not been an important issue. Some ridings with large Jewish populations have been very well represented by non-Jews; some ridings with few Jews have consistently elected Jewish MPs. Besides, there are many Jews elected to provincial and municipal office. Gray cites a recent trip to a Convention of World Jewish Parliamentarians in Israel where he was surprised at the large number of elected Jewish representatives from Canada's provincial legislatures.

• When a higher percentage of Jews was elected to public office, they participated in the enactment of legislation that levelled the playing field in the interest of equal opportunities for all. As a result, Jews and others are now able to participate fully, achieving positions at the highest levels of endeavors previously denied them: in the arts, the media, education, the civil service, the humanities, law, medicine, economics, finance, science, business and the senate.

• That job – levelling the playing field – has been significantly completed. We do not gainsay the economic difficulties being experienced by many Canadians, as evidenced by the persistent, high rate of national unemployment. But, Canada with its groundbreaking, longstanding traditions of respect for the equal status of individuals whose forefathers have come from different places, is about as close to being a just society as there is. This year, for the third consecutive time, the United Nations decided that Canada is the best place to live in the world.

No matter how many Jewish MPs are elected, their political role has always been, and will always be, to ensure that Canadian society continues to protect the hard won equal rights of its citizens that mark Canada's uniqueness.

Almost a 150 years after toleration was replaced by equality and enshrined into the law as a distinctive feature of Canadian society, the historic "conflict" between the two has re-emerged into the political and constitutional discourse of the country.

In the struggle to maintain the political and territorial integrity of Canada and accommodate the separatist threat from Quebec, some public figures are proposing constitutional accommodations, such as a "distinct society" to be later defined, whose long-range effect may impair the long-fought-for political equality which now marks the advanced legal landscape of this country.

Ironically, in a certain sense, we could be forced backwards by our own House of Commons and legislatures. In this sense, Jewish members of parliament, elected because of their equality, are on the horns of a dilemma.

If the price of national unity is a return to the old "toleration," will the changes to the Charter of Rights be more than Canadians can or should accept?

On the other hand, are the political and territorial implications of the break-up of Canada so far-reaching as to warrant payment of that high a price?

Can the price be paid alongside the legal assurances that no Canadians or groups of Canadians will be relegated to second class status?

What role can we reasonably expect our elected members of parliament, as individuals, to play in helping to resolve the national discourse between "toleration" and equality? Apart from the leadership of individual example and the contributions around the cabinet table or in caucus, what powers do individual MPs have to effect change or prevent undesirable legislation?

The parliamentary system imposes a severe discipline on party members, far more severe than that imposed by the presidential system of the United States. Individual MPs, who owe their election to their political party, cannot lightly oppose their own party in the House of Commons. Unlike in the United States, governments here can stand or fall with votes on major policy matters in parliament.

"Where do you draw your line in the sand?" asks MP Barry Campbell, in explaining the difficulty of voting in such circumstances. "You have to decide if a particular issue is the issue on which to take your stand." If you want to be around to fight another day, you have to "stay in the tent." Otherwise you can't expect to stay in the party.

As a result, Canadian politics leaves a heavier onus on "ordinary" citizens to become involved in the political process. That is, after all, the way many of Canada's basic rights were won when there were no Jews or other minorities in the House of Commons. Today, Jews in Canada are equal and are very secure in their rights. But no matter what our numbers, our politicians can't do everything for us. Government, in its broadest sense, is our responsibility as full and equal citizens.

In Canada, political rights are not lost by speaking out or by concerted political action. But, as with all precious things, we put them at risk through neglect, lack of awareness and indifference to the political process.

Thus, we must continue to elect MPs who excel. But we must also work with our government in enlightened political action.

We must continue to strive to be "a light among the nations," whether we have more or fewer Jewish members elected to the House of Commons. We must continue to live "on the cusp," to ensure that Canada grows and prospers as a just society, and to hope that the world will continue to be better for it.

Sheldon and Judy Godfrey are the authors of Search Out the Land, *McGill-Queen's University Press, 1995.*

Constitution Act, 1982

PART I
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law:

Guarantee of Rights and Freedoms

1. The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees the rights and freedoms set out in it subject only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

The Constitution Act of 1982 sets out Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Reproduced above is the Charter's first section. In their two-part essay, Sheldon and Judy Godfrey speculate about the possible impact of the national unity debate upon the future of the Charter.

Opinions

On the road in Prague

This article and the following one are coming from Prague, where we are travelling.

Where can you hear a concert of classical pieces for cello and piano at 4:40 and then enjoy Dixieland at 6 while sipping coffee?

By Jean M. Gerber

Answer: The Kafka house and Cafe Milena in Prague. This day of music in the Bohemian air was our introduction to the city of the Golem.

By the 10th century (900 CE), there were Jewish merchants and craftsmen living below the castle above the Vltava/Moldau River. Jews later moved across the river to the present site of the former ghetto, the Josefov, named in honor of the emperor who began their emancipation. Our tour of that area was poignant and forceful as we passed through reminders of Jewish history from the 14th to the late 20th centuries.

Our guide, Marketta, took us to the signature building of Jewish Prague, the Alte-Neue Shul, which dates from the 14th century. It begins below street level and reaches up to a sharp peak. Inside is the odor of centuries. Walls are flanked by wooden seats, the central bimah encircled by wrought iron, the women's section in a narrow side room which gives access to the sanctuary only through several narrow windows. Upstairs, the legend goes, lie the remains of Rabbi Loew's Golem, servant and protector of the Jews, who finally became their near destroyer until he "deactivated" his monster.

After the Crusade massacres, Jews were deemed royal property and alternately tolerated, taxed, expelled and entreated to return. The stately Maisel Synagogue now holds some of the artifacts of Czech Jewry. During Maisel's lifetime, Jews lived in security.

The Klausen Synagogue with its ornate ark was also built by community leaders. Wealthy Jewish families were benefactors of the Jewish and general community, since wealth made a Jew both valuable and vulnerable to the secular rulers.

Prague Jewry maintained pride in its own culture and in the city of Prague. It had its own guilds and societies, some with symbols similar to the Christian guilds (both Jewish and Christian butchers, for example, had a lion holding an axe). Prague was the first community in Europe to use the six-pointed star in its symbol — the Jews' hat with the star of David inside. At the famous battle of the Charles Bridge, both Jews and Christians repelled the invaders.

The Jews' hat, however, had a double meaning. Jewish men had to wear it outside the ghetto, thus proclaiming their identity and opening them to ridicule. On the other hand, if they were outside the ghetto, they could be on the king's business and molesting them could have dire consequences for the perpetrators.

We next visited the Pinchas Synagogue, built in the Renaissance style and now bare of ornament except for the central bimah and ark. Standing inside the iron-work of the bimah gave one a sense of the closeness to, yet separation from, the congregation.

The synagogue is bare, but around its walls are written the names of the Jews and the communities destroyed by the Nazis. Amid the serenity and coolness of the white-washed interior, the march of names of the dead forces itself on the visitor.

From the Pinchas, one enters the much photographed old cemetery. As each era filled the cemetery, a layer of earth was added, new graves dug and the old stones lifted to stand next to new ones. Now commoner jostles aristocrat, rabbi and *am-haaretz* lie in each other's arms.

Finally one enters the building originally intended for use by the *chevra kadisha*, which has a display by the artists of Terezin. Over 20,000 drawings, our guide tells us, were hidden from the Nazis, from expert portraits to children's sketches. The artists were permitted to draw until it was discovered that they were drawing events from their ugly daily life. They were immediately deported to Auschwitz.

Marketta brings us out to the street and we look back over the cemetery at the Rudolfim, a huge building with statues of muscians lining its roof. She tells us a story. Is it true? Well, as Wiesel says, some things that never happened are true, while some things that happened cannot be true.

When the Germans occupied Prague, they summoned the Czech leaders and demanded that they remove the statue of the Jew Felix Mendelssohn. The officials went up, then descended and told the Germans that they were unable to decide which one was Mendelssohn. "That's your problem" snarled the Nazis, "Get up there and find him." The officials were dismayed, but one hit on a solution. They chose the statue with the biggest nose and presented it to the Nazis. The Germans become apoplectic with rage.

It was the statue of Richard Wagner.

Christians in Israel

It will come as a surprise to some that there is an organization called Association of Christians and Jews in Israel. It seems perfectly understandable that such a group would organize in the Diaspora and, in fact, the idea goes back to the United States in the late 1920s. At that time, a rabbi, a Catholic priest and a Protestant minister appeared on a public platform, and that was considered a near-sensation. Pretty soon the idea spread and in Canada, the Canadian Council of Christian and Jews became the locus for an organized promotion of amity.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

But why in Israel? Because there, roles are reversed: in the Diaspora Jews are a minority recognized by the majority; in Israel it is the reverse. There, Christians want to reinforce their civic status, for Israel is a democracy where the open acknowledgement of one's faith is a given, and where the practice of religion and the security of sacred places are assured by basic laws. For the last five years, the organization has published an eight-page bulletin entitled, *Christians and Israel*, a modest but interesting quarterly. In the latest issue, the lead article is *Lebanon and Israel.*

When the Jewish state arose, there was every indication that Lebanon, with its large Christian population, would keep it company; but largely because of Syrian interference, this amicable relationship never became a fact. Now, Christians in Lebanon are on the defensive, and that is true as well for the rest of the Near East and, in fact, for Asia as a whole. A recent study by J. P. Valognes speaks of *Life and Death of Christians in the Orient.* "Will any Christians be left in the Orient in the third millennium?" asks the author, and he answers that due to the inability of Muslim society to accept another religion in its midst, the outlook is dark.

But what about Christians in Israel itself? They too suffer from the diminution of their faith in the Near East. Their sacred sites are of course safe and guaranteed by the state, but Christian Arabs — who form the majority of that faith in Israel — are under pressure from fellow Arabs who are Muslims.

A letter to *Avvenire* (Rome) reports that "in the Mass-books used by Palestinian Christians, the Bible has been mutilated. All the passages considered unacceptable to Muslims have been eliminated from the Arab version. Entire generations of Palestinian Christians have grown up denying God's alliance with Israel and the Jewishness of Jesus, of the Madonna, of the Apostles. To them, they were all Arabs!"

Another statement says that the relations between Islam and Christianity are today, for many, a source of preoccupation and a matter of great disquiet. In a recent edition, the *American Catholic Register* had this to say: "Most Christians — whose leadership has long fought for the formation of a secular Arab state in Israel — are not feeling particularly secure about a future which, they fear, could be hijacked by fundamental Islam."

It may well be that 25 years from now the only place where Christian communities have any chance of surviving in the Orient is in Israel.

Summer's the time for reading

Summer has always been an advantageous time for sorting out and reading the new books that are published during that leisure period each year. In the non-fiction category, however, the past season brought me a number of books whose reading occasioned differing degrees of sadness, disquiet and disappointment (in one case shock). Happily, the summer reading material also provided instruction, learning and pleasure.

By Arnold Ages

First the good news. James T. Patterson's *Grand Expectations* (Oxford), a kaleidoscopic history of the United States from 1945 to 1974, introduced me to a historian with the writing skill of William Manchester, the magisterial sweep of Winston Churchill and the interpretive powers of Arthur Schlesinger Jr.

Two books on the late Hannah Arendt, the brilliant German-Jewish political scientist and controversialist, one by Larry May and Jerome Kohn, the other by Richard Bernstein (both published by MIT Press) succeeded in instructing me and enhancing Arendt's reputation, not only as a perceptive student of history and politics, but as a scholar motivated deeply by her Jewish origins. Bernstein claims that Arendt was led to her theories about totalitarianism because she was "an engaged Jewish intellectual."

There are many such people found in *People of the Book* (Wisconsin) an anthology of 30 probing essays on Jewish life edited by Jeffrey Rubin-Dorsky and Shelley Fisher Fishkin. The best is a piece by Gary Saul Morson, a specialist in Slavic studies who presents a blistering critique of apologists for anti-Semitism, who find reasons to explain away the Jew-hatred found in great writers like Fyodor Dostoyevsky. Morson deplores the way critics become defence attorneys for such writers, "forgetting their loyalty to truth."

I also had a very positive reaction to a Festschrift in honor of Richard Rubenstein (University Press of America). Almost 60 different contributors offer both personal and scholarly tribute to the author of *After Auschwitz* and *The Cunning of History*, a thinker who, despite his current administrative dalliance with the Moonies, has displayed an intellectual boldness in theological matters, especially in dealing with the Holocaust.

It is on the question of the Holocaust that my summer reading also produced a measure of shock. Alan S. Rosenbaum's *Is The Holocaust Unique?* (Westview) is one of the few books I have ever seen in which the author of an introduction repudiates, to a large degree, the contents of the book — and rightly so. Some of the collaborators in it piggy back on the revisionist syndrome, by denying the uniqueness of Jewish suffering and stressing what is seen as the equally serious genocide against the Armenians and the American Indians.

Disappointment is the word I would use to describe my reaction to Francois Mitterand and Elie Wiesel's *Memoir In Two Voices* (Arcade). Unfortunately the fault lies not with Wiesel, but with the translation of the original French into an English which betrays Wiesel's noble intent. There are two mistranslations of vital materials in this memoir, which make both Mitterand and Wiesel say things in English that are bereft of common sense.

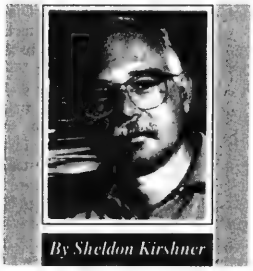
Hitler's toxic brain is the subject of Eugene Davidson's *The Unmaking of Adolf Hitler* (Mussouri), another let-down for me. Davidson trots down well-known pathways in this reconstruction of the political career of Hitler. Davidson must be somewhat of a masochist, because he has actually read and digested Hitler's major speeches and devotes page after page to presenting their malevolent contents. To what end? I kept asking myself.

The worst essay of the summer season was George Steiner's *Through That Glass Darkly,* found in his book *No Passion Spent* (Yale). Unless Steiner is the world's greatest writer of irony, he has written an unspeakably obtuse essay, in which he finds the origins of and the justification for the Holocaust in the Jews' refusal to accept Jesus! As Mrs. Astor is reputed to have said on the Titanic: "I asked for ice but this is too much!

The Kirshner File

A woman of exemplary accomplishments

Long before the modern feminist movement shifted into high gear, Sylvia Ostry was one of its role models, a woman of exemplary accomplishments.



By Sheldon Kirshner

For more than two decades, she was the consummate Ottawa insider — Canada's chief statistician, deputy minister of consumer and corporate affairs, chair of the Economic Council of Canada, deputy minister of international trade and, finally, the ambassador for multilateral trade.

And for four years, she headed up the Paris-based department of economics and statistics at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Today, Ostry is chair of the Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto, a nonpartisan, inter-disciplinary research organization which studies the economic, political and legal relationships between sovereign states.

And Ostry — a Companion of the Order of Canada and the recipient of 17 honorary university degrees — is also the chancellor of the University of Waterloo. In addition, she is a prolific writer of monographs and books, a busy consultant and a member of the board of several corporations.

Perusing her resume, one is tempted to ask how she manages to juggle so many balls in the air at once.

She smiles, having been asked the question before. "I'm compulsive," she explained, leaning forward, a cigarette between her fingers. "I'm a workaholic and have always been like that."

During the course of a normal day, she devours a raft of domestic and foreign newspapers and specialized journals, writes, takes phone calls, receives visitors and otherwise attends to the business of the Centre for International Studies.

"I enjoy this," she said. "It's not work to me. I take great satisfaction from it."

By common consent, Ostry is one of the movers and shakers in the rarefied realm of international trade and finance.

Her advice has been sought by the World Trade Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Canadian and Hungarian governments, the United Nations and research institutions in Israel, among others.

And as a company director, Ostry's brain is picked by the Power Financial Corporation, the Bank of Montreal and the Inter-American Development Bank.

A frequent traveller to European and Asian capitals (she had just returned from a trip to Singapore), Ostry is most at home when, surrounded by crooked stacks of documents and clippings, she is writing one of her learned articles or books.

Since polishing off her first monograph in 1962 (*Labor Policy and Labor Economics in Canada*), Ostry has churned out a niagara of monographs and articles, the topics ranging from Canada's wage structure and labor market to regional trading blocs and the Japanese economy.

From her pen (or computer) has poured forth a steady stream of books, most notably *Governments and Corporations in a Shrinking World: The Search for Stability* and *The Halifax G-7 Summit: Issues on the Table*. Currently, she is working on *Who's On First: The Post-Cold War Trading System*, scheduled to be published in 1997.

Married to Bernard Ostry, the former chair of TVOntario, she was born in Winnipeg's north end, where luminaries such as the diplomat Alan Gotlieb and the CBC producer/commentator Larry Zolf were raised.

Ostry's father Morris, who hailed from the Russian city of Odessa, was in the pulp wood paper business. And her mother Bess, whose father came from Danzig, was a school teacher who taught Ostry how to read at the age of 2½. Ostry's only other sibling, Fred, is a chemical engineer and an adjunct professor at the University of Victoria.

She decided to study medicine at the University of Manitoba largely because she considered its anti-Semitic quota system a challenge to be surmounted. Until the 1950s, most Jewish doctors in Winnipeg were trained outside the province. As it happened, medical school did not live up to her expectations. She recalls that her first year was "very boring, sheer memory work." Much to the dean's indignation, she dropped out, transferring to McGill.

Immersing herself in the field of economics, Ostry completed her BA and MA degrees in 1948 and in 1950, respectively. She taught at McGill while finishing her PhD. In 1962, she began teaching at the University of Montreal, leaving two years later when Simon Goldberg, a senior bureaucrat, offered her a high-powered position at Statistics Canada.

By then, Ostry had started a family. She had two boys. One is employed by the International Monetary Fund in Washington and a second is a civil servant in Ottawa.

Ostry rose steadily in the ranks, and in 1972, she was named chief statistician, an appointment which elicited a bevy of vile anti-Semitic letters.

Then she was promoted to deputy minister (consumer and corporate affairs) and deputy registrar-general. "It was one of my favorite jobs," she recalled, saying she helped to reform the Canada Corporation Act and bankruptcy laws.

In 1978, she moved to the Economic Council of Canada, overseeing regulatory reform. Within a year, she accepted an offer from the powerful Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Since the job she took had always been held by a man, Ostry had to prove herself. "It was a do-or-die situation, but I believe you should be exposed to tough competition."

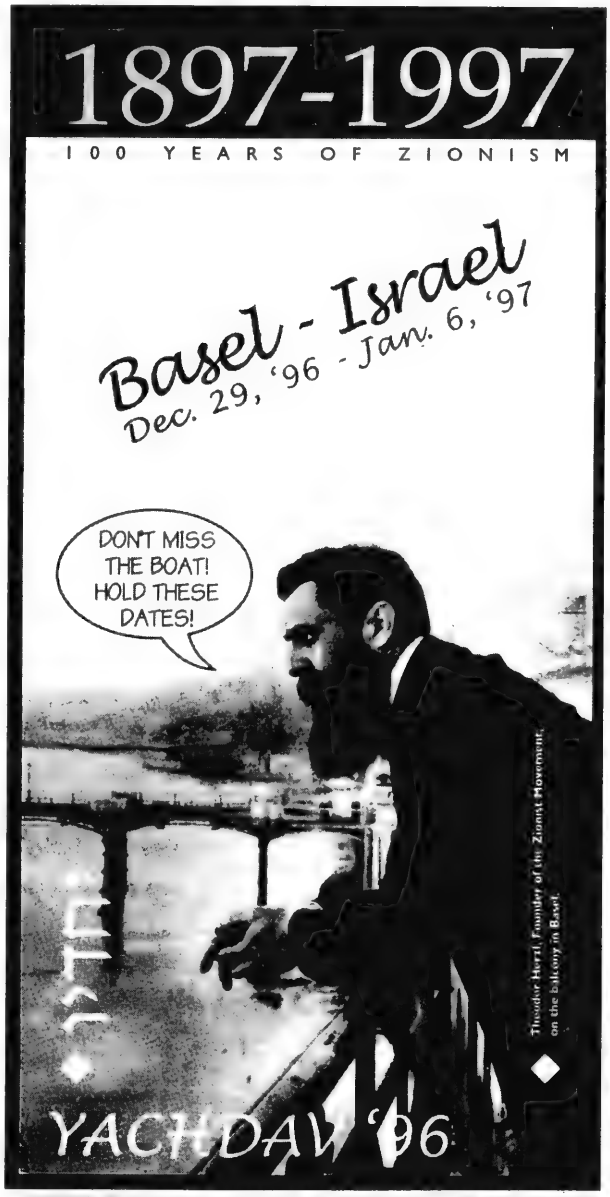
Returning to Canada in 1984, Ostry was successively deputy minister of international trade, envoy to the multilateral trade negotiations and the prime minister's representative at four Group of 7 summits of industrialized nations.

In 1989, exhausted by the rigorous demands of her globe-trotting duties, she accepted a sabbatical at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York, where she wrote a book. She savored the intellectual freedom and resolved not to go back to government. "I just felt I had done as much as I could."

She is in her element at the Centre for International Studies, but regrets that very little of its funding is Canadian in origin. Ostry, who plans to relinquish her post at the University of Waterloo later this year, keeps abreast of developments in the Middle East.

She shares the vision of former Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres that peace and prosperity in the Middle East are interrelated.

Ostry is pleased the centre is doing its bit to disseminate factual information about that perennial hot spot. Last year, it published annotated bibliographies on water supplies and economic cooperation in the Mideast, which scholars and students will doubtless find invaluable.


1897-1997
100 YEARS OF ZIONISM
Basel - Israel
Dec. 29, '96 - Jan. 6, '97
DONT MISS THE BOAT! HOLD THESE DATES!
Theodor Herzl, Founder of the Zionist Movement, on the balcony in Basel.
YACHDAV '96

YACHDAV '96
International Young Leadership Mission to Switzerland & Israel

Join hundreds of young Jewish leaders from around the world for an unforgettable experience in Israel and Switzerland.

- Walk in the footsteps of Theodor Herzl during two exciting days in beautiful Basel, Switzerland, site of the first Zionist Congress in 1897.
- Witness the historic Aliyah to Israel from the former Soviet Union and meet face to face with new immigrants and hear their personal stories.
- Speed through the Negev on jeeps and barbecue under the stars on an unforgettable desert adventure.
- Celebrate the arrival of 1997 in Israel with hundreds of young Jewish men and women from all over the world.
- Meet with Egypt's Ambassador to Israel and attend a farewell dinner with Israel's Prime Minister, Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu.

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Jewish Life

Family vacation to Flulandia makes you ill

By JORDAN MAX

In the beginning, we planned our long-awaited summer vacation with interesting outings, sports, necessary house repairs, six months' worth of unwatched videotaped sitcoms, hobbies and of course, relaxation time.

Guest Voices

Well, instead we took an unscheduled family vacation together in Flulandia (a nasty viral infection, not a new Russian republic).

Here are some excerpts from my diary (excluding the daily dressing, mealtimes, diaper changes, temper tantrums, sunscreen application, bathtime and bedtime routines).

Day 1: Start vacation early by taking care of children while Nanny has emergency operation. Three-year-old son throws up all over white sofa. Baby daughter taken to doctor, who diagnoses viral pharyngitis. We're off to a great start.

Day 3: Begin packing food, clothing and mountain gear for overnight trip. Refrigerator will not fit on trailer hitch. Travel to Niagara Falls, accompanied by non-stop children's tapes and crying baby daughter. Get lost on walk to Falls. Oldest son starts to develop flu symptoms; taken to local walk-in clinic. Call Tempra manufacturer offering them exclusive official sponsorship of our vacation. Wife and I up half the night with two sick children. Karaoke bar next door provides loud, atonal entertainment until 2 a.m. Rest of Niagara Falls trip cancelled.

Day 5: My annual physical checkup, after two nights of minimal sleep. Blood pressure higher than normal. Make mental note to schedule next year's physical before family vacation. My turn to come down with the flu. Nanny phones to say she's not coming back. Really loud thunderstorm at night. Spend countless hours on kids' beds.

Day 6: Still have the flu. Begin packing up clothes, preparing food for three nights at rented cottage. Enough stuff for a Himalayan expedition. Too sick, even to barbeque. Empty Swiss bank account, buy food for Shabbat meals. House in neighborhood explodes. More nightmares.

Day 10: Cut grass before it looks like wheat field. More packing and food preparation. Finally off to cottage. Unpack, kids discover television only has two channels, neither with children's shows. Sand buckets and sandals missing, presumed left at home. Big, hungry mosquitos. Kept awake until 1 a.m. by loud neighbors' TV. At least it's not Karaoke night.

Day 11: Drive to town to buy buckets, sandals and fruit. Supermarket out of kosher triple chocolate fudge cookies. Spend afternoon at beach building sand casinos and toll roads (castles deemed too passe). Make mistake of allowing children to put sunscreen on my back, resulting in bad sunburn with intricate hand design. Neighbors turn TV down at 12:30 a.m. Progress!

Day 13: More packing and checking for lost toys. Morning paddle boating cancelled due to rain. Drive home through thunderstorm to discover basement washroom flooded. Unpack. Order pizza for dinner while children hug TV. Sprain ankle while teaching sons to play basketball. Spend remainder of day with foot up and iced. Finally beginning to feel like vacation. Make mental note to sprain ankle during vacation.

Day 16: Last day. Find original big List of Things to Do on Vacation; major anxiety attack. Buy materials for house repairs in mistaken belief I will have time to do them. Wife reminds me of promise to schlep furniture from in-laws' house. Get to bed before midnight. Looking forward to going back to work tomorrow at air traffic control for a rest.

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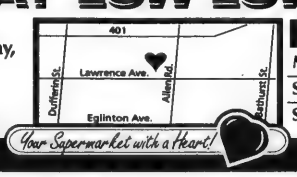

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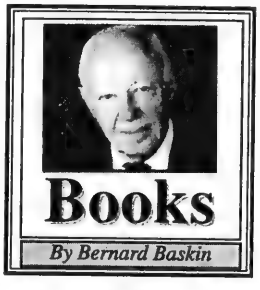

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Best Books: Readers Choose their Favorites, edited by Chris Murray, Oxford Press $34.95

The Reader's Companion To The Twentieth Century Novel, edited by Peter Parker, Oxford Press $49.95

Where would we be without books? They provide entrance into an unlimited world of knowledge and imagination. Literature can help us to commune with better minds than our own and to lay hold upon better ideas than we now possess. It can give our anti-hero age new figures and personalities to emulate. It can provide a pattern of emotional stability in an uncertain time. It is the best antidote against alienation.

The Spanish Nobel Prize winner, Jorge Luis Borges wrote, "Books are the past memories of the centuries. Consequently, their function is irreplaceable. If books were to disappear, history would disappear."

But what should we read as the books multiply unendingly and as our attention is diverted by the wonders of the technological age?

In *Best Books* over 100 experts have selected more than 1,500 of their favorite books in five general areas: Aspects of Society, Language and Literature, The Arts, Science and Technology, and History. Each subject has a brief introduction, a pertinent quotation and a list of recommended books — ranging from classics to newly published titles.

The list of Jewish books is chosen by Julia Neuberger, a rabbi who lectures in Bible at Leo Baeck College, London. She suggests the following books, among others:

[Cont'd. on page 15]

Selecting the best

Jewish Life

What's in a name?

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

What's in a name – or more precisely, a Jewish surname?

No one, it seems, has ever been able to answer that question with as much scientific, linguistic and historical precision as Alexander "Sasha" Beider, a 32-year-old Moscow-born statistician who emigrated to Paris about 1990.

Upon its publication in 1993, Beider's *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames From the Russian Empire*, which supplies derivations for some 50,000 Jewish surnames, was hailed in genealogical circles as one of the most important books ever printed about Jewish names.

"The first and most important principle I developed for my etymological research is that names must be studied near the places where they originated," Beider explained. "In other words, one should document in what region a name appears for the first time. Geographic distribution is crucial for etymology; it's the basis for all other investigations."

Published in July, Beider's long-awaited companion volume, *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames From The Kingdom of Poland* (Avotaynu, US $69.95), adheres rigorously to this geographic principle. The 540-page book contains a listing of some 33,000 Polish-Jewish surnames culled from original archival sources, indicating, if known, where each name occurred at the beginning of the 20th century.

The book's scholarly introduction illuminates many aspects of the hitherto dark process of how Jews acquired their family names. We learn, for instance, that Jews in some Polish provinces were compelled to register their surnames about 1821 and that those who did not comply by 1824 were assigned names that were often less desirable, if not ridiculous. Our ancestors in this period clearly weren't thinking of their genealogically minded descendents, since married sons living in their own homes in Galicia and elsewhere often took names unlike those assumed by their fathers.

Utilizing Russian voters lists for 1906 and 1912, Beider has determined that the 10 most common Jewish names then in use in Russian Poland were Goldberg, Friedmann, Kohn, Rosenberg, Jakubowicz, Lewkowicz, Goldstein, Silberberg, Silberstein and Borenstein. Favored for their associations with wealth, forests, gardens and other pleasant or bounteous images, so-called "artificial" surnames were the most popular category of names and account for 37.5 percent of the total. Examples include Goldberg ("mountain of gold"), Kirszenblat ("leaf of the cherry tree"), Perlmutter ("mother of pearl") and Walfisz or Wallfish ("whale").

Surnames drawn from toponyms or place names – Gluszkin, Kaliszer, Kutner, Lubliner, Nirenberg, Ostrowski, Poznanski, Rudnik, Warszawski – account for 25.2 per cent of the names, while another 15.4 per cent are occupational names such as Arbajter or Arbeiter ("worker"), Kotler ("kettle maker, coppersmith"), Piekarz ("baker"), Portnoj or Portnoy ("tailor"), and Zimmerman or Cymerman ("carpenter").

Other categories include patronymic surnames (Abramson, Jakubowicz, Rubinek), surnames drawn from personal characteristics (Dunkiel, "dark"; Starkman, "strong, thick man"; Szwarcbart, "black beard"), rabbinical surnames (Auerbach, Epsztajn, Horowicz, Jaffe, Margolis, Zaks) and surnames drawn from female given names (Chaneman, Dynowicz, Frejdkin, Glikowski, Raskin, Ryfkin).

A polyglot with some knowledge of eight languages, Beider is able to identify a German spelling change in a surname derived from a Polish noun with a Yiddish suffix. A name with Russian or Ukrainian ending elicits his suggestion that the bearer might have migrated west from the Russian Empire. He also indicates names with Latinate endings (Beatus, Cyncynatus, Jakobi) and names – surprisingly rare – of Hebrew origin, such as Asorodobraj, derived from the phrase for Ten Commandments.

Perusers of the dictionary may be surprised by the uniqueness and variety of the names. Cymbalista, we learn, comes from the Polish for "dulcimer player;" Milgrom or Milgrojm is Yiddish for "pomegranate;" Pasternak is Polish for "parsnip;" Szmek comes from the Yiddish for a "pinch" (of snuff); and so on. Some derivations seem downright peculiar: the author suggests, for example, that the rare name Bratleder originated in the German for "fried liver(?)".

As if compiling two mammoth surname dictionaries in his spare time wasn't taxing enough, Beider issued between their publication a smaller volume on Czech-Jewish surnames from Prague. Asked about the focus of his next project – whether it will be (for example) Romania, Hungary or the Sephardi world – he looks momentarily perplexed. "I haven't yet decided," the usually tireless researcher admits with a sigh. "Right now, I'm taking a break."

Selecting the best books

[Cont'd. from page 14]

• *A Rabbinic Anthology* (1938) edited by C. G. Montefiore and H. Loewe. This is an anthology of writings from the ancient rabbis with a long and helpful introduction.

• *Atlas of the Jewish World* (1984) by Nicholas de Lange. This is probably the best of the many useful atlases of Jewish history. A book of unending fascination.

• *The Jewish People:* Their *History and Religion* (1987) by David J. Goldberg & John D. Rayner. Clear, concise, helpful. A good one-volume treasury of information about Judaism, its history, practices and culture.

• *If This is a Man* (1960) by Primo Levi. Records what it means to be a Jew, and to experience concentration camps.

Books on the Holocaust are chosen by David Cesarini, professor of Modern Jewish Studies at Manchester University.

• *The Racial State — Germany, 1939-1945* (1991) by Michael Burleigh and Wolfgang Wippermann. A superb dissection of Nazi racial policy and practice, revealing how Jews and other minorities were adversely affected by Nazi racial thinking.

• *The Holocaust. The Fate of European Jewry* (1990) by Leni Yahil. The most comprehensive one-volume account. Rich in detail, yet easy to read.

• *Atlas of the Holocaust* (1988) by Martin Gilbert. A valuable work of reference that draws on survivor testimony to give a shocking blow-by-blow record of the catastrophe.

• *Out of the Whirlwind — A Reader of Holocaust Literature* (1976) edited by Albert Friedlander. A collection of stories and extracts from other forms of literature by survivors that takes us as close as possible to the heart of darkness.

These books lead inevitably to others and set readers off on exciting journeys into enjoyment, as well as enhancement of knowledge and spirit.

The Reader's Companion to the Twentieth Century Novel surveys over 750 novels that the editor feels are the most significant titles of the century written in English. The reviews are insightful, long enough to deal closely with both plot and characters and display a broad sympathy of selection.

Jewish readers can refresh their memories, or decide to read for the first time, novels by Saul Bellow, E. L. Doctorow, Jerzy Kosinski, Bernard Malamud, Chaim Potok, Mordecai Richler, Philip Roth, I. B. Singer and others.

Remember, as Mark Twain admonished, "The person who does not read books has no advantage over the person who cannot read them."

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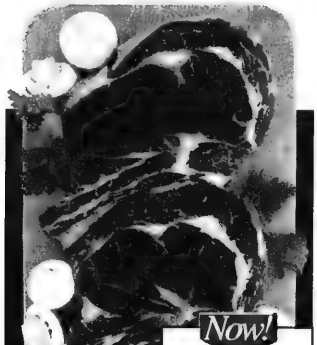

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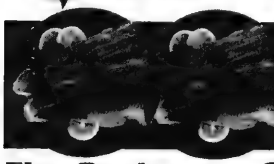

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish donors get names in stars at the BJC

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – A new energy room, fun centre for children, youth lounge and entertainment centre, and rejuvenated basketball house league are among the achievements so far of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), the corporate entity that took over the financially ailing Jewish Community Centre on north Bathurst Street in North York two years ago.

According to BJC president Michael Kerbel, there are also new arts programs, computers and a Hebrew ulpan and Kolel Jewish studies programs there. Last week Kerbel and Sandra Brown, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, unveiled yet another new item: a donor wall in the BJC's lobby, adorned with Jewish stars inscribed with the names of valued donors.

In a brief ceremony, Kerbel thanked 20 "respected friends of the BJC who have guaranteed our survival by ensuring that our financial needs will be met during our reconstructive period."

He also thanked the "group of seven" sponsors who assisted in the management of the centre during its period of turbulence and reconstruction.

Kerbel thanked three persons by name: Bernie Ghert from Federation; Marty Goldberg, a volunteer and donor; and Deborah Pinsky, the BJC's executive director.

"This event is to let everyone know that we're healthy and happy and thrilled to be here," Pinsky said in an interview, adding that the fundraising drive has brought in $587,000 to date.

'What the BJC is doing is of value'

Among the donors at the reception was Jeff Brown, one of 23 grandchildren and great-grandchildren who collectively made a donation in honor of their grandfather and great-grandfather, Willie Brown, who died last year at age 94.

"He was one of the oldest members here and he was still running two miles whenever he came here," Brown reminisced. "He was the joke-teller of the health club. This is where he hung his hat. I think he felt most at home here, hanging out with his cronies."

Another donor, Sheri Cohen, a social worker who works with children and adults with learning disabilities, said she became a supporter of the BJC after learning of its programs involving disabled children.

"What the BJC is doing is really of value," she said. "It's very important that kids with learning disabilities be integrated into the community."

The BJC's donor wall has about 125 stars, only about half of which are inscribed; the others are blank. Fundraising efforts continue.

At the unveiling of the BJC Donor Wall is Sandy Brown and Michael Kerbel.

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CJC says use of French in no danger in Quebec

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — No further measures are needed to bring about a "change of attitude" in Quebec over the importance of French, Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region argued in its recent brief to Quebec's Commission de la culture, which got underway Aug. 28.

Unlike B'nai Brith, whose brief delivered a strongly-worded, explicit indictment of Bill 40, which would resurrect the Commission de la protection de la langue francaise — derided in the anglophone community as the "language police" — Congress opted to address the hearing's other terms of reference: overall language policy based on a government paper setting forth a series of policy principles.

In Congress's opinion, the Parti Quebecois government's attitude is "problematic" since it assumes a threat to French in the province.

This despite all evidence to the contrary, the brief says, including the vast majority of Quebecers — 94 percent — who use French in their daily lives.

Moreover, the brief says "until just recently," Quebec was enjoying a state of "linguistic equilibrium and a climate of acceptable compromise for the the majority of Quebecers."

A positive social climate and Quebecers' support for affirming the province's French face will not be served by changing language policies, the brief suggests.

Congress reiterated its support for the "preservation and promotion of the French language," but any measure taken to reinforce those goals, the brief stresses, "must, absolutely and without exception, be compatible with the principles and spirit of the Canadian and Quebec charters on rights and individual freedoms."

The brief also points to what is sees as a disparity between the vehement language of the government's "consultation" on language and its actual, "relatively moderate" recommendations that would, nonetheless, still have a "more or less great impact."

The strong language, Congress says, seems to reveal a "narrow vision" of Quebec society.

Congress sees having legislators define the parameters of making French "the common language of public life" as "highly problematic."

By doing so, "this goal potentially becomes the source of a long and stormy debate on individual rights and freedoms."

As well, the messages are contradictory, the brief states, because the government paper also speaks of the "rich" contribution of other languages to Quebec society.

The brief also regrets use of the terms "Quebecois" and "Quebecoises" as referring only to francophones, suggesting it and other factors might serve to add to a climate of confrontation.

The document makes constant reference to the need for linguistic consensus but says "certain contradictions exist between the means and the end," and that "the greatest threat to linguistic consensus is the political proposal submitted to the consulation."

The brief also takes issue with proposals on immigration and to increase the proportion of francophones on Montreal island.

First, it argues, a proposal to bring in more immigrants "more readily disposed to" Quebec life by knowing French is already policy.

Second, recent policy has been to reduce the total number of independent immigrants allowed into the province, not increase it.

Instead, Congress suggests, why not "seek ways to improve Quebec's ability to take in immigrants so as to be able to raise the immigration level?"

The brief also challenges the need to increase the francophone population of Montreal, because, it argued, the need is based on misleading statistics which exclude off-island areas where large pockets of francophones live, such as Longueuil, while including areas on the West Island, like Dollard des Ormeaux, with its high anglophone and allophone populations.

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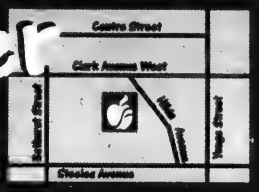

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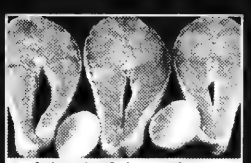

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6.99 lb.

Cream Cheese
Blue Bell
.99 100 g
4.49 lb.

Chocolate Fudge Layer Cake
700 g
5.99

Red Plums
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
2.18 kg
.99 lb.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES.

TORONTO LOVES THE LAUNCH

It was an invigorating mixture of sentiment, pride and hope for the future with a little added pizzaz. Al Waxman, the evening's guest speaker, called it "oneness." Whatever it was it was felt by everyone of the more than 1,000 who attended the 1997 UJA Federation Community Campaign Launch last week.

"I really feel I'm part of something very special tonight," said Michael Budman, who co-chaired the launch with his partner Don Green and Debbie Kimel. "I'm proud to belong to an organization that epitomizes the core of Jewish values. "It's been a magical evening," added Green, "one people will remember for a long time."

Green and Budman, co-founders of Roots Canada, loaned UJA Federation the Roots logo for the evening's "remembering our roots" theme, with printed T-shirts, posters and key chains. All the proceeds from t-shirt sales will go to UJA Federation.

Debbie Kimel said it was "a thrill to work on the launch and very exciting to see such an overwhelming turnout."

Campaign Chairman David Goldstein thanked everyone for "stepping forward when the community called," and said he was "proud to represent the community in 1997."

"It's the hottest ticket in town," noted Michael Daren, vice-chairman of the 1997 campaign with David Engel. "The fact that so many past UJA Federation chairmen are here tonight speaks of the loyalty this campaign has created," added Engel.

The evening also featured musical performances by both *Shorashim* and community choirs and a UJA Federation multi-media presentation.

UJA Federation launch receives enthusiastic reviews

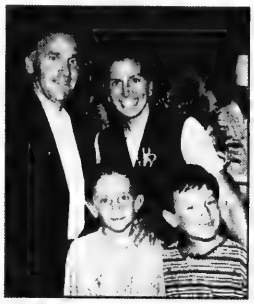
Some launch participants were so moved by the evening, they had trouble finding words to describe their emotions. Here's what they had to say.

Shana Harris, Principal of Bialik Hebrew Day School, said ***"the evening captured what UJA Federation does in a very entertaining yet powerful way."***

Gary Grundman, co-chair of Major Gifts, said ***"it's great to see so many members of the community come out in support of the campaign."***

Michael Bregman, one of the evenings honourary chairmen, felt "a great sense of energy from the gathering."

According to Beth Tzedec's Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl "the success of the launch says a great deal about the future of the community."



Gary, Bonnie, Michael and Jamie Grundman.

(left to right) Van and Sonia Shron, Shana and Jonathon Harris.

David Barkin predicted ***"this year will be the year of opportunity and a community-building year."***

UJA Federation Vice-Chairman David Engel summed it up: "tonight the community feels like one big family."

"The entire evening made me get in touch with myself and my own feelings about my Jewish identity and being part of this community," said Barbara Sigler.

Alan Winer, co-chair of canvasser training, thought the launch was "a great motivational evening and the perfect way to start the campaign."

United Israel Appeal President Harvey Wolfe applauded Toronto's Jewish community ***"for always making sure no Jew is alone."***

Harvey Wolfe

Rochelle and David Barkin

Women's Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell said ***"it was a very emotional evening. Al Waxman and Shai Kaminsky's presentations served as eloquent inspiration for this year's campaign."***

Vicki Campbell

Song and dance deliver the message

Call out. Reach out and take the message home. These were among the many emotional lyrics sung by six young Israelis, at the 1997 UJA Federation Community Campaign Launch.

Allan Pakes

The group, whose name *Shorashim* echoed the evening's "remembering your roots" theme, offered participants their musical views on the meaning of being Jewish. Four members of the group made aliya to pursue their entertainment careers.

Shai Kaminsky, who left Kiev with the help of the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency, says "Toronto is great but there's no place like home."

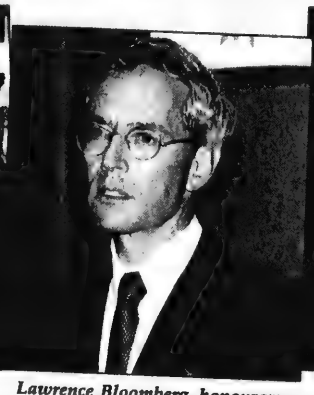
Allan Pakes, former Director of Communications at the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, formed *Shorashim* to perform at the 1996 UJA Young Leadership Conference in Washington last May. "The national UJA asked me to create a program that would deliver a message about the work done by UJA Federations," explains Pakes. "I believe there is no better medium for this type of message than song, video and stage performance," he adds.

Other highlights of the program included performances by the Bathurst Jewish Centre Children's Choir and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living Seniors' Choir, and a keynote address by actor Al Waxman and a UJA Federation multi-media presentation featuring the campaign video "Keep the Fire Burning...Chapter Two."

1997 UJA Federation Community Campaign Launch

LOOK AT THE LAUNCH

Michael Budman (far left) and Don Green (far right) Co-chairs of this year's Launch with guest speaker Al Waxman (second from left) and UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein.



Lawrence Bloomberg, honourary chair, called UJA Federation "the glue that binds the community."

True Believers! Honourary Chairs Gerry Schwartz (left) and Michael Bregman.

Shorashim performed a collection of songs that helped Launch participants remember their roots.

Launch Co-chair Debbie Kimel brought along the entire family. (left to right) Jeffrey, Samantha, Debbie, Warren, Lauren and Michael.

UJA Federation Campaign Vice-Chair David Engel (left) schmoozes with Mark Satok, Co-chair of UJA Federation's Young Business Network.

Campaign Chairman David Goldstein and his wife Bonnie, (far left) sharing the spotlight with two of Shorashim's singers Mietal Trabelsi (second from right) and Irma Fisko.

Henry and Julia Koschitzky.

(above) UJA Federation President Sandra Brown with Rabbi Frydman-Kohl and wife Josette.

(bottom right) Irving Granovsky checks on his grandson Brent.

Community Matters

SUPER SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Lipa Green Building • 4600 Bathurst Street

When your volunteer calls on
SUPER SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
or during **SUPER WEEK, SEPTEMBER 9-12,**
show your belief in one of the world's greatest Jewish communities by pledging your gift to UJA Federation.

Your dollars will go a long way, touching the lives of hundreds of thousands of Jews here in Toronto, in Israel and around the world.

BE A SUPER HERO!

We thank these organizations for demonstrating their belief in our community and the Jewish values that UJA Federation represents by participating at a table reserved especially for them!

• Arthur Andersen & Co. •
• Associated Hebrew Day Schools •
• Bathurst Jewish Centre • Baycrest Centre •
• Beit Haminyan • Beth Tikvah •
• Bloor Jewish Community Centre • CHAT •
• Goodman & Carr • Holy Blossom Temple •
• Jewish Camp Council • National Council of Jewish Women •
• Na'amat Canada • Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa •
• United Synagogue Day School •
• Weston Forest Corp. • Workmen's Circle •

Volunteer and be part of this exciting community-wide event.

UJA FEDERATION

READY FOR WORK

UJA Federation, Jewish Family & Child Service and Jewish Vocational Service are asking the community to offer job opportunities for its unemployed members.

The joint venture pilot project, which began last June, was created to help welfare recipients and the unemployed find work in an increasingly competitive environment. JF&CS social workers selected 30 of their most eligible clients and referred them to JVS where they were assessed based on experience, training and skills.

"We want to help these people become more independent and less reliant on the community for financial support," explains Fran Giddens, JVS project co-ordinator. "The highest form of tzedakah," adds Giddens, "is helping people help themselves."

Thirteen employment candidates were chosen from the group and now UJA Federation is calling on the community to provide whatever opportunities are available. Candidates are available for interviews.

AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT

A.D.	**Experienced electronic technician**
S.G.	**Motor trade service advisor**
L.C.	**Administrative assistant** with 10 years experience, fluent in Spanish and Hebrew.
L.B.	**Receptionist/word processor,** proficient in MS Word
M.B.	**Photographer/videographer,** 10 years experience
W.K.	**Shipper/warehouse worker**
I.A.	**Bookkeeper/accounting clerk,** ACCPAC computer skills, Lotus and Wordperfect.
J.S.	**Library technician**
L.C.	**Dental assistant,** 10 years experience
M.V.	**Administrative assistant/Customer service** for bank or life insurance company, certified in I.F.I.C.
F.C.	**Receptionist,** 10 years experience, computer literate.
S.A.	**Legal assistant**/general office worker
H.W.	**Data entry clerk/administrative assistant,** upgraded computer skills.

If you would like to enquire about or interview one of these candidates or know of any available positions, please call Fran Giddens at (416) 638-7800 ext. 268.

Successful summer at Leo Baeck Centre

Jerusalem- Young immigrants from the former Soviet Union and their Arab peers from Haifa. Seven hundred Ethiopian youths from the Neve Carmel caravan absorption site. Children from homes torn apart by drug abuse and toddlers in an early childhood education program. These are just some of the over 1,500 Israeli youths who took part in outreach day camps this summer at Israel's only Reform-affiliated matnas, the Israeli equivalent of a Jewish community centre.

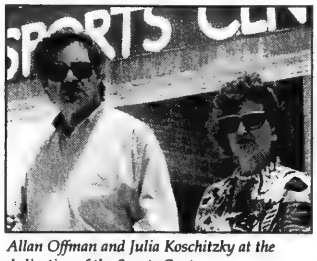
Located on the sprawling green campus of the Leo Baeck Education Centre in Haifa, the matnas includes the Lehrman Community Centre, the Ohel Avraham Reform synagogue, led by Michael Marmur, son of Toronto Rabbi Dov Marmur and the Offman Sports Centre, a United Israel Appeal of Canada project.

The campus and its many facilities are filled with the secular and the religious, Ashkenazim and Sephardim, new immigrants and sabras, mainstream and disadvantaged Israelis, Arabs and Jews. As part of the philosophy of what began in 1938 as a small kindergarten, Leo Baeck has always been committed to the promotion and practice of tolerance, pluralism, and respect in the tradition of the school's namesake, Rabbi Leo Baeck, a philosopher and teacher of the Reform movement in Germany.

Most of the summer camp activities were based at the Offman Sports Centre, a state-of-the-art sports complex where youngsters happily took advantage of its two swimming pools, full-sized sports hall, complete Nautilus room, sauna and jacuzzi, and an all-purpose outdoor field for handball, soccer, basketball and tennis.

The centre, built in 1991, is named for Allan Offman, past UJA Federation Campaign Chairman and a prominent leader in the Toronto Jewish community.

During the year, the complex is used by its 2,000 family membership for the schools' physicial education classes and other activities.



Allan Offman and Julia Koschitzky at the dedication of the Sports Centre.

From coast to coast

Histadrut closes Winnipeg office

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – At the urging of longtime executive director Noach Witman, the Winnipeg Histadrut office has been closed as of the end of August.

The annual campaign will be run out of Montreal.

"I have been asking to be relieved of this position for the last two years," says Witman, who is 92. "I am getting older and find fundraising harder to do. At the same time, I have been doing this job on a volunteer basis for the last 15 years. I don't feel it it right to hire someone to be the executive director here."

Witman, western Canada's leading Yiddishist, has been associated with Histadrut ever since he came to Canada and Winnipeg in 1927. He opened the office in 1942 and used to crisscross western Canada to raise money on behalf of the organization.

"We used to raise $80,000 a year in Winnipeg and another $100,000 from the other smaller Jewish communities in the west," he recalls.

He resigned in 1956 because he had tired of being a one-man operation outside of Winnipeg. He had also taken over the editorship of the Yiddish-language *Israelite Press*. He severed his connections with the Histadrut for a few years when the organization split off from Pioneer Women (Na'amat), a move he opposed. He rejoined when the two groups were reunited.

In recent years, he reports, the Winnipeg campaign has averaged about $37,000.

"I advised the head office to run the campaign out of Montreal rather than hire an executive director for here," he says. "I have sent them the lists and the cards. The campaign will run Oct. 15 as usual. I will make appeals in my weekly newspaper column and radio show."

Although he has left the Histadrut, Witman is conceding little else to old age. He will continue to write his Yiddish column in *The Jewish Post and News* and host his weekly Yiddish language radio show.

He also has a monthly public access cable television show and continues to serve as executive secretary for Winnipeg's Committee for Yiddish and as cultural chair for the Yiddish-language H. Leivick B'nai Brith Lodge.

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Over 80 years ago, Rabbi Yudel Rosenberg helped found Eitz Chaim Schools. Last year, his great great granddaughter Atara Rosenberg graduated from that same school – the first descendent to do so. Atara, seen here, now 15 and a student at Beth Jacob High School, and her father Baruch, look at a photograph of Rabbi Rosenberg. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Thomas Cook

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MANISCHEWITZ **MATZO BALL** Mix 5 oz. **$2.49**

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ASTRO **CREAM CHEESE SPREAD** 250 G **$1.69**

ASTRO **SOUR CREAM** 500 mL **$1.59**

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ROASTED **TURKEY BREAST** **$4.99/LB.** 11.00/Kg

CANADIAN **BRIE CHEESE** **$6.99/LB.** 15.41/Kg

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CHEF STYLE **PRIME RIB ROAST** **$4.99/LB.** 11.00/Kg

BEEF BRISKETS **$6.99/LB.** 15.41/Kg

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ONTARIO YUKON GOLD **POTATOES** 5 LB. BAG **$1.99**

CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES **$1.49 PT.**

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RED OR GREEN **SEEDLESS GRAPES** **99¢ LB.**

McINTOSH APPLES **79¢ LB.**

FRESH **ROMAINE LETTUCE** LARGE SIZE **89¢ EA.**

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Sept. 5, is deadline for Sept. 19 issue, and Thursday, Sept. 12, is deadline for Sept. 26. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Sept. 5

BIBLE-TANACH CLASS

The weekly Bible-Tanach class resumes 9:10 a.m. at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Study of the Book of Daniel continues with **Aaron Nussbaum**. 636-8097.

Friday, Sept. 6

LUNCH 'N' LEARN

Lunch 'N' Learn at noon with **Ed Yuditsky** on Jewish Holiday Highlights. Bring your lunch. Room 202, Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Saturday, Sept. 7

FATHERS AND SONS

Selichot at Beth Tzedec Congregation features the Pearl Gertrude Brody Annual Memorial Lecture on Fathers and Sons, a Biblical Trialogue on the Akedah, the Binding of Isaac. **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, Beth Tzedec; **Liyakatali Takim**, Islamic imam, Nashville Tenn.; **Rev. Thomas M. Rosica**, Newman Centre Catholic Mission. Moderator **Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum**. Refreshments 9:15 p.m., thialogue 10:30 p.m., Selichot service midnight.

Sunday, Sept. 8

TRIBUTE TO WALLENBERG

Universal tribute and unveiling of the **Raoul Wallenberg** monument, Earl Bales Park, 2:30 p.m., guest of honor **Nina Lagergren**; keynote speaker **Irwin Cotler**; guest speaker **Joe Schlesinger**; **Harry Rasky** reading poetry by **Leonard Cohen; Bill Berle, Srul Glick, Cantors Maissner, Frankel** and **Sufrin**; child vocalist **Jennifer Hitner**; violinists **Joseph Peleg** and **Moshe Hammer**; and pianist **Alexander Moses**.

KIELCE POGROM

Memorial service, Kielcer section, Bathurst Lawn Cemetery, 10:30 a.m. to remember victims of the brutal onslaught on July 4, 1946. Held by executive of Kielcer Sick Benefit Society. **Morris** 630-5880.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem memorial service, Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, Earl Bales Park, 11 a.m. All organizations, schools, synagogues, landsmanshafts are invited to participate. 905-660-6028.

MEMORIAL PARADE

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion, memorial parade and remembrance service, Mount Sinai Memorial Park cenotaph. Honorary guest from all levels of government will attend. Family members of Jewish servicemen lost in World War II welcome. Fall-in time 10:30 a.m.

GALA GARAGE SALE

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, gala garage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 23 Laurelcrest Ave. (Bathurst/Wilson).

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth — On the Wings of Story, by **Alec Gelcer** followed by mini-concert of stories, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Giant garage sale by Ahavath Achim Retirement Home, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 33 Wilmington Ave.

Monday, Sept. 9

UNDERSTANDING DIABETES

Canadian Diabetes Association Jewish Diabetes chapter meeting, Understanding Your Diabetes with endocrinologist **Dr. Marsha Werb**, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

STRESSBUSTERS '96

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sister-

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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Manischewitz Noodles 12 OZ. .99
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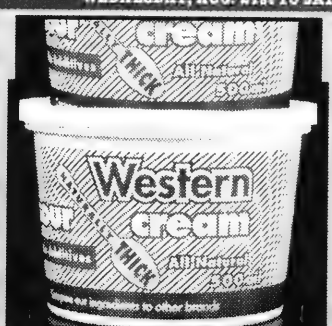

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Menora or Hechal Candles BOX OF 72 3.49
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Anderson Pretzels 16 OZ. 1.39

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GRAPES Red or Green, Seedless Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, 2.18 kg .99 LB.
McINTOSH APPLES or Paula Red or Jersey Product of Ontario Canada Fancy 1.50 kg .59 LB.
SWEET RED PEPPERS Product of U.S.A. No. 1 Grade 2.18 kg .99 LB.
LETTUCE Product of Ontario, Canada No. 1 each .49

MEAT

KOSHER CHICKENS Fresh, Canada Grade A, Whole, 4.39 kg 1.99 LB.
WHITEFISH Frozen, Dressed, Whole, 2.18 kg .99 LB.

EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
Available only at: 6201 Bathurst Street & 5845 Leslie Street, Willowdale, Ontario

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

hood presents Stressbusters '96 wellness workshop with **Rosalie Moscoe**, 8 p.m. Hostess **Basia Jesin**.

TOUCHES & FLAVORS

Emunah Women of Toronto opening event, Festive Touches and Flavors with **Greta Rosen** of Chillis 'n' Meringue, Creative Food for Yom Yov; and **Elvy Cohn** of Balloon Bash, Imaginative Sukkah and Table Decor. Sale of elegant specialties. 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. 636-0036.

Tuesday Sept. 10

THE POETESS RACHEL

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood opening meeting with **Miriam Ofseyer** speaking on The Poetess Rachel. 8 p.m.

SHALOM ALEICHEM

New Fraternal Jewish Association evening dedicated to 80th yahrzeit of **Shalom Aleichem** with guest artist **Nathan Garnick** and speaker **Simcha Simchovich**, 8 p.m. Lodzer centre, 12 Heaton St.

DYNAMIC WOMEN WANTED

Ora chapter, Jewish Women International line-dancing night for interested women, 7:30 p.m., in Thornhill. **Annette** 789-2434.

Wednesday, Sept. 11

COMMUNITY MIKVAH

Thornhill Community Mikvah, 36 Atkinson Ave., hosts a Rosh Hashanah open house, conducted by the Liberal Jewish community, 7:30 p.m. with a talk by **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**, director of Kolel, a tour and opportunity for both men and women to immerse.

COOKING WITH HONEY

To celebrate the sweetness of Rosh Hashanah, three Beth Tikvah chefs, **Judi Urowitz, Renee Spiegel, Shawna Goodman**, present cooking and baking with honey, 8 p.m. at the synagogue.

POMEGRANATE GUILD

At Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles opening meeting, **Renata Realini** discusses color theory, Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 7:30 p.m. followed by visit to the Guild's exhibit at Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum. **Janet** 225-2002.

And What Else Is New...

HOLY DAY WORKSHOPS

High Holy Day workshops at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, $8 at door. 905-709-1900:

Tuesday, Sept. 10, 7:30-9:30 p.m., pre-Rosh Hashanah workshop, with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**, High Holy Day Torah Readings.

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7:30-9:30 p.m,, pre-Yom Kippur workshop with **Rabbi Ben Hollander** of Jerusalem, Kol Nidre and Its Lessons.

Also, registration is now open for Kolel's fall semester. Course brochure/information, 905-709-1900.

CHILDREN'S YIDDISH

Free Yiddish classes for children, kindergarten and elementary grades, Sunday mornings, Associated Hebrew Day School, 250 Finch Ave. W., opening day, Sept. 22. Sponsored by Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation and North York and York Region Boards of Education. Registration/information **Sylvia Lustgarten** 635-2883, ext. 155.

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association events, **Naomi** 364-7002.

Sunday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m., Children's School Welcome Breakfast, 131 Fenn Ave. Some spaces still available. Register.

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m., adult education lecture, Is There Only One Way to Live a Jewish Life?, with **Dr. Jerald Bain**, University of Toronto, 200 College St., Room 219. Suggested donation $5.

Saturday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m., Rosh Hashanah service and tea, North York Community Memorial Hall. Separate children's service. babysitting. $85 adult, $50 student for three events. Reserve.

MAIMONIDES COLLEGE

Registration for Maimonides College courses for women offered at Eitz Chaim School, 475 Patricia Ave., takes place Tuesdays, Sept. 10, 17 and 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the school. First semester Oct. 7-Dec. 30, Second semester Jan. 20-April 14. **Sarah Stern**, Toronto registrar, 785-9919.

NEWS FROM BARRIE

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services held in Barrie, conducted by **Rabbi Bernard Baskin**. Tickets and schedule, call Simcoe County Jewish Association, voice mail 705-721-6126.

Doing Jewish, an eight-week adult Jewish education course offered in Barrie by the Association in conjunction with Kolel. 705-721-6126.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Israeli Folkdancing: beginners course starting Wednesday, Sept. 11, 7:30-8:30 p.m.: intermediate/advanced session 8:30-11 p.m., Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

LIVING WITH CHILDREN

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue programs. To register, **Debbie Dash** 633-5500.

Two parenting sessions, Starting Out, for parents of children to 12 months, and Toddler Talk, for parents of children 1-4 years, offered by North York Public Health Department Wednesdays, Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20.

Toddler Time, a drop-in for toddlers 1 and 2 years and their caregivers, Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m. beginning Sept. 25 for 10 weeks. Jewish festivals and customs through arts and crafts, songs, stories, creative movement and play. Space limited.

U OF T YIDDISH COURSES

The phone number for University of Toronto fall 1996 Yiddish credit courses (item appeared Aug. 22) is changed to 926-2324.

HOLY DAY KOSHER MEALS

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is offering kosher meals (under supervision of the Orthodox Division of Kashruth Committee of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto) for the High Holy Days to residents/patients in care facilities and to the general public. Meal, $7, can be ordered for as many days as desired. Order by Monday, Sept. 9. **Sonia Krass**, phone 225-2112, fax 225-2097.

KOL TORAH MEMBERSHIP

For High Holy Day services, Kol Torah-The Sephardic Centre of Thornhill has instituted membership for the coming year for families and single people who are currently working. Children who live at home and who have no source of income are free. For membership kit, 905-707-9510.

MACCABI CANADA

Ontario regional indoor soccer (mini-football) trials Sept. 6-8: Call for hours and locations. **David Rumack**, assistant coach, 424-2525 or **Joe Amado**, head coach 514-956-6000.

ISRAEL BONDS EVENTS

State of Israel Bonds events:

Sunday, Sept. 8, Beth Sholom Synagogue honors **Sandra and Bernie Parl**. Entertainer **Neshama Carlebach**.

Monday, Sept. 9, Stashover Society dinner at Borochov Cultural Centre, guest speaker **Gil Elan**.

HEBREW COURSES

Learning Hebrew is easy and exciting with **Yael Lev**. Conversational Hebrew (ulpan method), all levels, prayer book reading , daytime or evening. Special classes for parents of children in Jewish schools. Classes start week of Sept. 16 at Associated Hebrew Schools, Beth Tikvah and Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogues. 225-6151.

POSITIVE PARENTING

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Parenting the Young Child is hard Work, begins Oct. 2; Parenting Alone: Challenges and Opportunities, begins Sept. 25; Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together, begins Oct. 9; Surviving Your Teens, begins Sept. 25. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800.

ROSH HASHANAH GIFTS

Shachar chapter of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO sale of kosher honey jars from Israel at Thornhill Square Thursday, Sept. 5, 4-8:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Additional dates and information **Katy** 221-7384.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC Open House/Fitness Fair Sunday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. showcasing movement techniques, personal training, yoga, fitness classes, demonstrations by Suzuki School of Music and Mainspace Circus School, tours. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club Afternoon Tea on the Roof, Thursday, Sept. 5, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Register for Ottawa/Hull Fall Rhapsody Trip Sept. 30-Oct. 3 with BJC Senior Adult Services. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

BJC Senior Adult Service Department presents the Russian Dance and Music Company, artistic director **Alexei Fateyev**, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $8. Tickets at BJC Information desk. **Teme**.

For Seniors

Chai Dancers performing group is looking for new dancers. Some dance experience required. **Teme**, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 636-1880, ext. 364.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 5, general meeting, discussion by **Aaron Dahari**. Sept. 12, film *One Million Years Ago*. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771. Art exhibition at 15 Hove St. Oct. 3. Members welcome to exhibit their work. **Ovadia Azori** 631-9794.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: opening luncheon Monday, Oct. 7, 12:30 p.m. with entertainment; shopping trip to Buffalo Oct. 21; vacation trip to Netanya and Eilat, all inclusive Nov. 4-25. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club registration for 1997 Miami trip, Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m., Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance Sept. 8; Thornhill Mall Square, Sept. 9; forthcoming trips Frankenmuth, Mich., Flint, Windsor casino; Buffalo, Atlantic City, New York; Las Vegas. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents **Ken Vegotsky** speaking on Mind-Body-Soul Connection, Thursday, Sept. 12, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Sept. 11 program is a lecture. **Anna**.

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Winnipeg teen enters essay contest finals

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – Anna Tennenhouse, 17, was one of only six finalists in the senior grade category, from over 1,000 entries submitted to the fifth annual Morris J. and Betty Kaplun Essay Contest last fall.

The contest was established by trustees of the Morris J. and Betty Kaplun Foundation (the Kapluns were refugees from Nazi Germany) to encourage young people to think about what it means to be Jewish.

"I was interested in the topic (What is the Secret of the Jewish People's Immortality?)," says Tennenhouse, a student at Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate. "I have always kept a journal, but the only other writing contest I have ever entered was my school's Fern Shawna Rykiss Writing Award," named in memory of a former student who was killed in a terrorist incident in Israel a few years ago. Tennenhouse won the award in Grade 10.

While pleased to receive a cheque for $18 (US) for submitting her entry early (one of the first 50 contestants to enter), Tennenhouse says she forgot about the contest as she was caught up in the year's activities. She received $750 for being a finalist.

The Kaplun Award caps an outstanding year for the honors student who is starting Grade 12. In addition to the award, she was chosen to be a page at the provincial Legislature and to attend a mock parliament in Ottawa in March for young Canadians.

In April, she participated in the March of the Living and while she was away, a song she wrote took first prize in the annual Joseph Wolinksy Collegiate Israel Song Festival, the fourth year in a row that her song has won first prize.

"I am not a songwriter," she says. "I just write songs for the song festival."

Her songwriting ability is enhanced by 12 years of violin lessons and her participation as a singer in Winnipeg's Sarah Sommer Chai Folk Ensemble.

For this year, Tennenhouse says she plans to take things a little easier. She will concentrate on her school work while looking forward to going to Israel with her classmates in the spring. (The annual Israel trip at the end of Grade 12 is a JWC tradition.)

As to her future, she has not yet decided on a career. "I am keeping my options open," she says.

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UJA FEDERATION

From coast to coast

Atlantic Canada JNF to honor Pinks

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Maritime Correspondent

HALIFAX — The Jewish community here has named Irving and Ruth Pink of Yarmouth as the honorees at the 1996 JNF of Atlantic Canada Negev Dinner.

The couple has given years of devotion to their community, to Canada and to Israel.

The gala dinner will be held Sept. 8 at the Beth Israel Synagogue social hall in Halifax. Noted Canadian comedian Dave Broadfoot will be guest speaker.

But the spotlight will be on the Pinks, stalwarts of the Yarmouth Jewish community for more than 60 years and longtime benefactors of the secular community.

Irving Pink, 83, still practises law. He was recently honored by the Nova Scotia Barrister's Society for 60 years of service.

"I'd love to quit, but I've nothing else to do," he says with a laugh.

He has worked hard for United Israel Appeal, Jewish National Fund and Israel Bond campaigns and has been a community pillar from the days when 30 to 40 families made the Yarmouth congregation a vibrant force, until today, when only a handful of families remain in the community.

"We still have a synagogue, but only bring a rabbi in for the High Holidays," he says. "Our building is owned by Shaar Shalom in Halifax [the Yarmouth congregation was Orthodox until it became necessary to court women in its minyanim and Conservatism was adopted] so there will be some continuity."

Ruth Pink became a member of Hadassah in 1948 and ultimately became regional chair, national vice-chair and national vice-president. She has worked to keep Yarmouth Hadassah together, with only five members.

"Four years ago, we created a foundation and contacted every past member and their children," she recalls. "The contribution made by 14 or 15 people let us unveil a plaque in Israel to perpetuate Daughters of Zion, the Yarmouth chapter.

In the secular community, Irving chaired the Yarmouth Regional Hospital board for 25 years, was president of the Yarmouth Liberal Association, was one of only two non-elected citizens ever to be elected president of the Nova Scotia Union of Municipalities and president of the Nova Scotia Education Association.

Ruth has been a member of the YMCA board, chairing a financial campaign for a new building in 1981. She was instrumental in publishing the *Bluenose Cookbook* which has now had four editions in seven printings. The couple co-chaired a hospital camapaign for $8 million.

Ruth's gardening prowess was featured in *Chatelaine* magazine in 1991 and her pottery creations are sold throughout Nova Scotia.

"We didn't have to have the recognition," says Ruth. "Anything we do is because we enjoy doing it."

"It really does us more good than the people we might be helping. It keeps us alive and going," Irving adds.

They have passed on their community enthusiasm to four sons — Steven, Joel, Darrel and Ronald, all living in Halifax and all involved in charitable work. Steven is a businessman, while the others are lawyers, like their father.

Tickets for the Negev Dinner, at $54 each, are available through the Atlantic Jewish Council in Halifax.

Joint house of worship set to open

WATERLOO — The official opening of Canada's first-ever joint house of worship will take place Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. when The Cedars Worship and Community Centre opens its doors at 543 Beechwood Dr., Waterloo.

The Cedars will be shared between Westminster United Church and Temple Shalom — the first jointly designed and constructed split worship facility in Canada.

The $1.4 million building is owned by Westminister United Church. Temple Shalom, a Reform congregation, will hold a five-year lease, with an option to purchase half The Cedars.

Two adjoining sanctuaries will house 300 seats for the church and 84 for the synagogue. Each sanctuary can expand as the need arises.

For information on the opening, call Temple Shalom president Robert Chodos at 519-662-3390.

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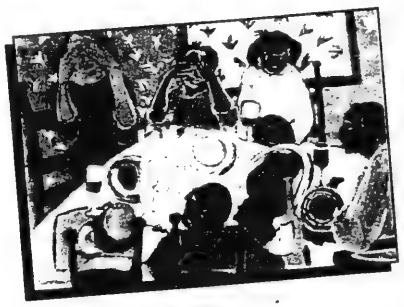
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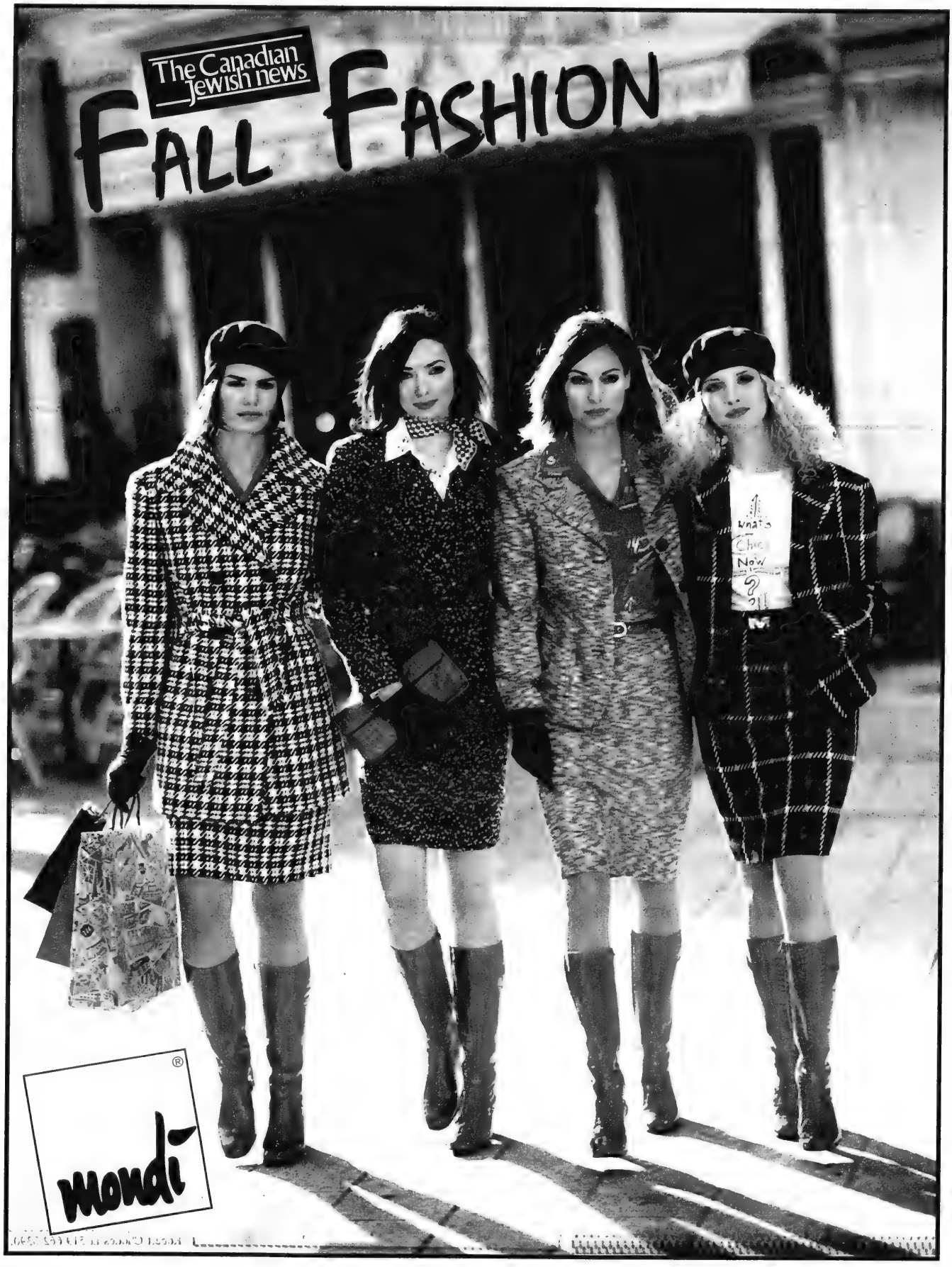
The Canadian Jewish news
FALL FASHION
mondi

Fall Fashion

Beauty SHOP

By Carol Birken-Wise

What's New for Fall

This year makeup colors for fall will dazzle with feminine sensuality. Shades are as vivid as purple or as sensuous as naked flesh. Color your eyes with black eyeliner edged with white, or simply choose monochromatic shades to sizzle with your mood. Whatever your fancy, make a statement, fall '96 is bold and right on the edge.

After the long hot summer treat yourself to a professional facial or an at home facial scrub and purifying mask. Which ever your choice, its imperative to lift out impurities that may have settled in your pores.

Depending on your skin type choose a hydrating and revitalizing mask to combat the lack of humidity and drying effects of heating vents. Keeping your skin subtle and radiant is worth the time and effort. Your skin is like an artist's canvas.

Before setting out to purchase your new fall collection organize your makeup at home. Often, you may only need a new lip gloss or lip pencil to change the whole effect of lipsticks you already own. Blending colors together can also create a fresh new look.

Carol's Tips:

SKIN CARE — is essential during the fall season. Cold, chilling winds can cause your skin to dry and feel tight. Notice the changes your skin experiences from season to season. It is not unusual to be oily in the summer and dry in the fall. Exfoliate, cleanse, tone, moisturize and treat are all necessary steps to keep your complexion soft and clear.

LANCOME treats us with an irresistible duo — Souplesse is an intensive hydration bath that leaves your skin feeling velvety and supple. Viveclat, a revitalizing mask, activates cell metabolism and invigorates the skin. Regular use will help make your skin firmer and more radiant. Also from LANCOME is a three-in-one cleansing product. In just seconds, your face and eyes are cleansed and toned. The name, Eau De Bienfait.

Skin Illuminating Complex by ELIZABETH ARDEN is a new night cream that incorporates retinyl technology resulting in improved skin clarity, radiance and texture.

FOUNDATION — will provide the perfect base for your makeup application. It will protect your skin from the environment and in many cases help to nourish it. Contrary to common belief it almost never causes blemishes. Make your skin appear flawless by applying a sheer layer to your whole face, blend well and dust with translucent powder.

Teint Caresse Natural (Natural Perfection Makeup) from CHANEL is lightly textured and smooth as silk. It eliminates all imperfections yet feels weightless and looks totally natural.

LANCOME introduces Maquisuperbe, a shimmering liquid that adds a sheer, subtle glow all over — face, cheeks and shoulders — the sheen of youth.

Sweep color lightly

BLUSH — your cheeks with soft hues. Sweep color lightly on the highest point of your cheek bone. Be sure to use a large, soft brush or sponge to create a natural healthy glow.

LANCOME's Blush Subtil is a delicate oil free powder blush-perfect for oily skin. Its fine texture allows for easy application.

Mocha blush by CHANEL, will add the perfect hint of color to your new fall makeup.

Beyond Blusher by CLINIQUE is a two-in-one delight. It has a soft sponge applicator for your cheeks and lips. Either way you are blushed. It is ideal for young teens or the lady on the go.

EYES — Hot news — eyeliner is available in every shape, size and color imaginable. It's a must with all your eye looks. Harmony blends, or direct contrasts, will set your eyes in motion. For an eye-opening effect, curl your lashes, dust with powder and apply lots of rich creamy mascara.

CHRISTIAN DIOR's Diorliner is designed for use by even the most inexperienced. Its finely-styled applicator allows for precision application. For extra drama, blend DIOR's black eye shadow deep in the crease of your eye.

Create your eyestyle with one little compact from LANCOME. Available in seven perfectly coordinated color stories each containing two shadows and one eyeliner cake to be applied wet or dry. For the tearful group try LANCOME's Le Stylo Waterproof, an eyeliner pencil that tows the line with long wearing diligence.

L'OREAL's Sensitique Mascara features the same pH balance as human tears. This breakthrough formula offers full luxurious lashes and promises to be irritant free.

For an especially sensational look dress your lashes with Rouge Noir mascara from CHANEL.

LIPS — will be bold, full and sexy. Define your lips, but don't make them look unnatural. Enlarging you lips too much can make them look like they belong to a marionette. Choose a lipstick shade that enhances your skin tone and for extra shine and shimmer top it off with gloss.

CHANEL's Precision Lip Definer in Rouge Noir will create boldness and significant definition. Apply Quantuor Levres Intenses (Lip Intensities) for a rich and sensuous effect. Also from CHANEL this season are spectacular nail enamels in colors such as Metal Bronze and Metal Garnet.

Slick on LANCOME's 14K glint of golden gloss to shimmer and update colors you already own. Rouge Idole is LANCOME's Indelibly Divine Lip Color that plays for keeps. Its hold power hugs your lips until you take it off.

FRAGRANCE — can be a deliciously pleasurable experience, or simply, your worst nightmare. Your choice of fragrance speaks volumes. When choosing a scent experiment first and see what works best with your body chemistry. Your friend's scent may smell completely different on you.

PACO RABANNE — one scent says it all. This unisex fragrance is provocative and energetic. Its aluminum cylinder packaging is recyclable and in one word — exquisite.

BVLGARI is a fragrance created by the world famous Italian jewellers. This fresh green tea fragrance was designed for men and women. It combines Oriental subtlety with Mediterranean warmth through its base note of green tea, mid note of jasmine and top note of Spanish orange blossom. For added pleasure try a Tea Bag bath. Simply hang a Bvlgari tea bag on your water faucet and let the hot water stream through.

DOLCE VITA, by Christian Dior, is a soft melody of romance and sensuality. It is floral, fruity and woody all at once. This mood enhancing scent translates quite literally to — "Sweet Life."

Carol Birken Wise is a beauty and fashion expert. She will be conducting seminar at the LEARNING ANNEX (964-0011) throughout the fall and winter season.

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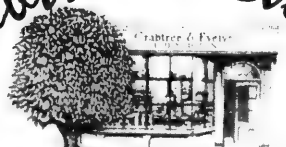

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Shana Tova to all our customers and friends

Fall Fashion

In any aerobics class there's a spandex dress code

By SHERYL HALPERN
Special to The CJN

This summer you saw what you looked like in bathing suits and tennis outfits. This fall you are definitely going back to the gym. But walk in during any aerobics class and it's clear: there's a spandex dress code.

If you're a beginner, you can, if you want, ignore the code. You can wear over-sized T-shirts (not so oversized that they look like nightshirts or interfere with leg movements.) You can get away with T-shirts with logos, polo shirts, jogging suits, sweat pants or baggy shorts. Or you can go half-way, with your extra-extra-large T-shirts over form-fitting short shorts, Lycra bike pants or tights.

But if you want to look like a serious exercise buff, watch the regulars, and go for the cropped-and-layered look. Pop a crop top, tank or T-back sport bra (an easy-wear bandeau, not lingerie) over bike pants; layer a leotard or shorts over below-knee tights; top a unitard with bike-pant legs with a cropped T-shirt or a mesh shirt.

Check out the latest workout gear at department and specialty stores — names like Nike, Adidas, Body Glove, Reebok, Danskin, Brooks, Everlast are good bets. What you buy depends on your budget and your figure (your instructor wears a crop top, and a thong over her tights — wear this combo only if you look like your instructor.)

Here's what you'll find:

Fabrics: Lycra-spandex and nylon add the bounce-back stretch you need for heavy workouts; cotton adds comfort and breathability. Look for cotton-spandex blends, and check the washing instructions to make sure you get machine-wash-and-dry wear. If you're exercising three or four times a week, you shouldn't have to hand-wash and line-dry your gear each time.

Colors: Black and gym-grey rule — especially in tanks, sports bras and crop tops, short shorts and bike shorts. Unitards can be two-tone — one by Adidas is navy with wide grey side inserts. But you can go for bright colors, even geometric prints, in leotards (spotted: geometrics on a sunny gold background and a blue and purple basketweave) and below-knee tights (glowing in neon-bright pink, yellow, lime, and in turquoise, purple, navy and a mauve-blue abstract design.)

Styles: If you've got it, flaunt it: T-back sport bras and cap-sleeve crop tops for women, tanks for men, leotards cut high on the hip show off figures, and yes, allow a fuller range of movement. So do skin-tight bike pants and tights, the very sleek not-for-Olympians-only unitards (with halter or maillot straps) and the wear-if-you-dare thongs. Yes, it does look a lot like beachwear — the leotards look like maillots, the sport bras like 2-piecer tops, the short shorts like beach trunks. But here they're built rugged enough for reps.

If you're not ready to flaunt it, ease into the look with looser cap-sleeve or polo tops, cap-sleeve leotards and shorts over tights. Soon you'll be in style and in shape. Just do it, as the ads say. Remember: you do have to look at yourself in the gym mirrors. And so do the regulars.

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Jo-Anne has the right answer

By SIDURA LUDWIG
CJN Staff

Some of the fashions at the Answer Salon. [Sidura Ludwig photo]

TORONTO – Jo-Anne Walter has always liked clothes. And she's always wanted to own her own business.

The 30-year-old entrepeneur is now the owner of The Answer Salon, a women's clothing store for plus sizes.

"Plus sizes is a market that needs to be served," Walter said in a recent interview.

Located at 3200 Yonge St. (Yonge/Lawrence area), the boutique-style store carries everything from bathing suits to business suits.

"I try to give my customers a full range of clothing," Walter said, "so that they don't have to go shop anywhere else."

Walter sells higher end clothing, to present her customers with the best selection of quality. She buys her clothes from Toronto, Montreal and New York. Having recently attended a plus size show in Las Vegas, she is now carrying some California lines.

She emphasizes that her number 1 priority is her customers.

"I won't sell my customers clothing that doesn't look good on them. I want them to feel comfortable here and trust our opinion. I want them to walk out of here and have people say, 'I love your clothes! Where did you get them?'"

Jo-Anne Walter

Originally from Montreal, Walter moved to Toronto seven years ago to do her MBA at York University. Through that program, she was able to participate in an internship in Paris, France for six months. There, she tried her hand at international business, but spent her free time window shopping and admiring the fashions.

After completing her degree, Walter worked for Imperial Oil as a systems analyst for 2½ years.

Then two years ago, she spotted an ad in the *Financial Post* requesting a buyer for The Answer Salon.

"I checked out the financial statements and then spent some time in the store."

She hasn't looked back since. Walter continues to expand the store by appealing to younger customers, while maintaining relationships with her regulars.

"I have a staff of six part-timers," she said, "most of whom have been here since before I bought the store. They know the clientele. People come in and ask for a specific staff person."

Walter's family has been in the clothing business for generations. After her grandfather died, her grandmother opened up a clothing store in Montreal to support herself.

"When I was younger, I didn't work in the store, but I went buying a lot," Walter recalled.

Walter's mother, as well, owns a women's clothing store in Montreal called Boutique Bessie. Walter doesn't dismiss the possibility of expanding her business with her mother at some point in time.

"We call each other all the time with new ideas."

Even before owning her own store, Walter was a participant with United Jewish Appeal's (UJA) Young Business Network for young Jewish entrepreneurs.

"We would bring in different speakers from the business world. It was an opportunity to expand our knowledge of business in the Jewish community and to make contacts."

Walter spent part of last summer touring Israel with the UJA-sponsored trip, Yachdav. She said she would consider bringing in lines of Israeli clothing for her business, particularly bathing suits.

Although she's always looking for ways to expand her business, Walter wants to take things one step at a time.

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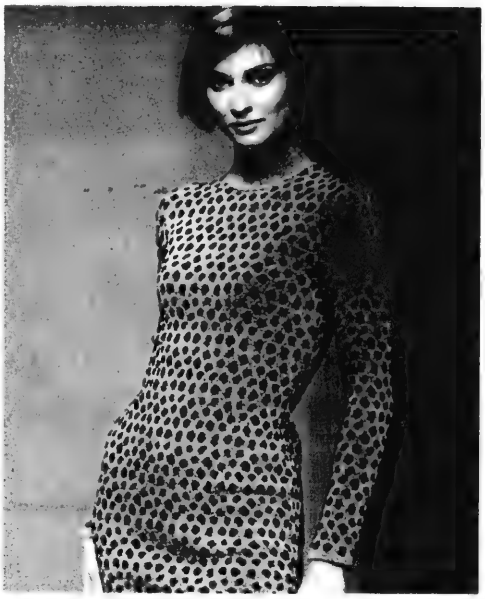
Fall Fashion



Rodier Fall '96

Rodier's new Fall '96 line of clothing (pictured above) features stylish elegance for all occasions.

No less than eight major grouping underscore the diversity of Rodier's Fall '96 collection:

•***Noir et rouge***- Classic Rodier at its best: exquisite knit tops, skirts, dresses and coats in unequivocal strong colors.

•***Le sport*** - A young executive's dream wardrobe, featuring stunning two-piece suits, a myriad of sweater choices that carry effortlessly from office to evening, and a stunning 3/4 length double-breasted cahmere coat.

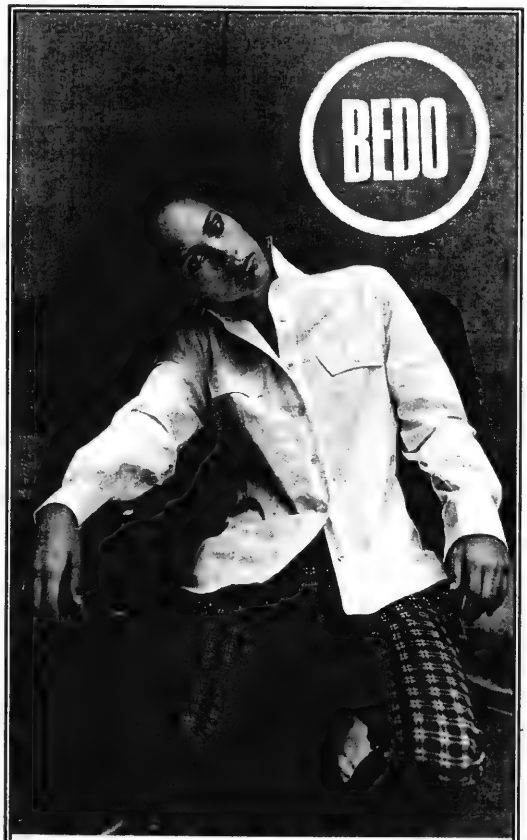
•***Masculin*** – In this grouping, featuring dark brown and royal blue, Rodier struts its casual stuff with lyrcra and wool fabrications and cozy thick caridgans.

•***Douceur*** – Sumptuously soft sweaters in coral and peach highlight this upbeat Rodier grouping which elevates a simple turtleneck into a symbol of strength, style and softness in one smart package.

•***Flanelle mérinos chamelle*** – This is vintage Rodier: stunningly dignified merion and alpaca renderings of the two-piece suit, long sweater-dresses, skirts and slacks.

•***Animal*** – Rodier's trendiest grouping takes a walk on the wild side with gray and black zebra prints in body-hugging wool/polyamid fabrications.

•***Vif*** - Flashy bright yellows and bold brassy blues in wool bouclette two-piece suits, short jackets and tightly-fitted skirts.



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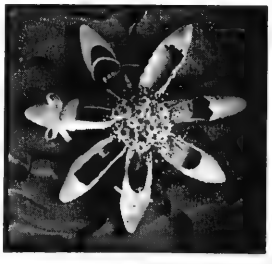

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Naukoff Kosmetics gets in your face

By CAROL BIRKEN-WISE
Special to The CJN

Fashion and cosmetic designers have been doing it for years, overtly, covertly or simply subconsciously. Copying ideas is somewhat commonplace in the playground of beauty and fashion.

However, the mode of this new cosmetic company is unmistakably in your face, its name — Naukoff Kosmetix. Not only do they knock-off cosmetics, it seems they knock-down the price.

Company president Nancy Crossley set out to develop a line of cosmetics that would offer the public a high quality product, at a reasonable price. Naukoff Kosmetix and their team of makeup artists have been providing makeup services to on-air celebrities for over 10 years.

Ofra Harnoy

Some of their clients have included Brad Pitt, Robert Redford, Joan Rivers and Shirley Maclean. Celebrities like Ofra Harnoy, Camilla Scott and Monica Deol say they never leave home without it.

Naukoff Kosmetix is also involved in various television specials such as the *Genie Awards*, *Gemini Awards* and CTV's *Sick Kids Telethon*, as well as regular shows for the Life Network, CFTO, Channel 47 and Discovery.

Crossley keeps a close eye on quality. Consistency, color and staying power are her foremost concerns. The eyeshadows are triple-milled making them smooth as silk. Lipsticks contain sunscreen, Vitamin E and a high percentage of pigment to increase the staying power. All ingredients have been tested for allergic reactions and contain minimal fragrance. They are registered and approved by the FDA of Canada and ensure they are cruelty-free.

These hot new cosmetics embody the very best qualities of the prominent high priced lines which Crossley has favored over the years. The sensational color story is extensive and the names are adorably FUN-etix. Eyeshadow colors like Bored-Oh, Cash-shoe and Durt say it all.

Naukoff Kosmetix is high quality, affordably priced and will definitely put a smile on your face. It will be available September 96 at Boutique locations throughout Canada, on the Internet and on the Shopping Channel in October. For further information call — 416-409-9602.

Fall Fashion

Kids want to be cool with hippest brand names

By ANITA SZABADI GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

Kids' T-shirts, with slogans such as "Flower Power" or "Peace" used to be a sign of the times. Then, designer names such as Pierre Cardin or Oscar de la Renta were identified discreetly on a lapel or pocket flap.

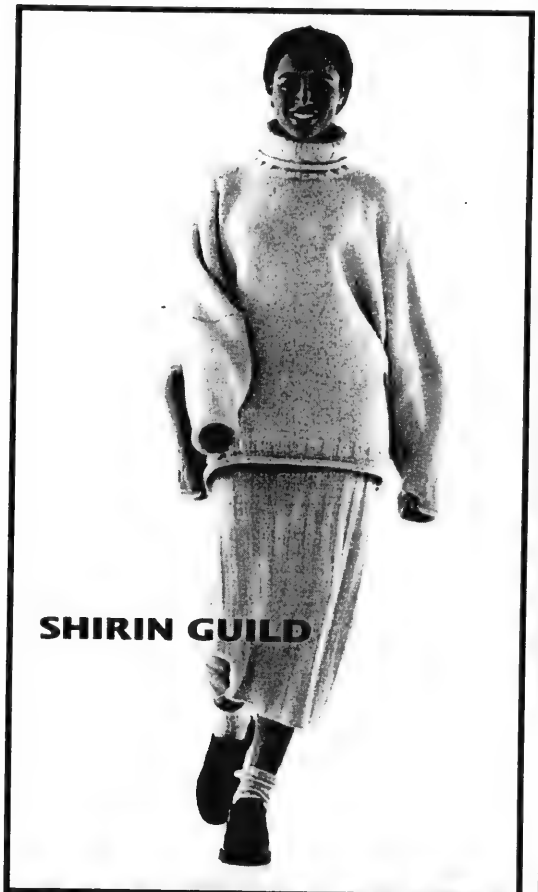
Today, kids don T-shirts and sweatshirts that display brand names, sports figures and slogans, all reflecting our way of life today. Nike is shown in 6 inch high letters, Reebok is spread diagonally over the front and back of a sweatshirt and Tommy Hilfiger is printed in multi-colored letters wherever it will fit. Reading anecdotal slogans has become a pastime as my 12-year-old's friends parade through our kitchen: Baseball is life — it's not the bats, it's the balls; It's just a game — yeah right!; Second place is the first loser; Hockey is life, the rest is just details.

Sportswear manufacturers are not left out in the cold with Reebok's Above the Rim line and the college varsity and professional sports teams. Recently, when I asked my son's friend if he was a Charlotte Hornets fan because of the hat he was sporting, he was surprised at my question and said simply, "I'm not a fan — the hat is just cool!"

Then there are the brand names such as Stussy, No Fear, Mossimo and No rules. These new 'designer' names are found on everything from sports bags to dress shirts. A pair of Exhaust jeans has just become part of my son's collection. Another popular brand is Guess? carrying a whole collection of sportswear including shoes and socks to match.

I have to say, however, that more often than not the quality of these items is high. — Attention is paid to using top quality fabrics, such as heavy weight 100 percent pre-shrunk cotton, or easy care cotton polyester blends with some spandex thrown in to ensure the clothes keep their shape. Lots of detail work is added with double stitching, interesting pockets, side-flaps and buttons.

The irony of this name-crazy trend for teens and betweens is that they think they have created an individual style all their own. But all in all, this trend adds up to a satisfied teenager (could I ask for anything more!), a thankful mom-consumer and an eager little brother waiting in the wings for top quality and very cool hand-me-downs.



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Fall Fashion

The pros and cons of wearing school uniforms

BY ANITA SZABADI GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

Call a parents' meeting about an educational issue and the attendance will be respectable. Schedule a meeting to discuss a school uniform policy however, and there will be a full house. Everyone's talking about the pros and cons of uniforms.

Uniforms were almost always a given in both public and private schools in the '40s and '50s but with the arrival of the free-spirited '60s and early '70s, uniforms were relegated to posh private schools only. The thinking of the times said that children should be allowed to express their individuality. What better form of expression than the way you dress, to show the world who you were and what you stood for.

Over the past five to eight years, however, uniforms for both public and private school have made a comeback and many elementary and high schools have adopted a uniform policy for their students.

Debbie Feldstein, owner of Les Veterans A Plus, a Ville St-Laurent uniform manufacturer, began her business in 1990 because she saw this growing market for uniforms. "Parents and students alike were looking to create a sense of pride in their school and themselves," says Feldstein. "A standard uniform or color code would create this for them.

"Often parents are resistant to uniforms at first," says Feldstein, "but when they realize the benefits, they are convinced."

Among the many benefits are that when buying uniforms, the initial outlay may seem costly, but minimal additional clothing is needed to get through the school year. Also, a good quality uniform can be passed down from "generation to generation" says Feldstein.

The classic tunic, box pleat or V-neck, is most often chosen for girls while boys choose pants and a collared shirt. A cardigan with the school crest is almost always included to complete the uniforms's look.

Another benefit of uniforms is that competition between children is kept to a minimum and there is no difference created between those that can afford designer clothes and those who wear hand-me-downs.

Comfort is also the key, with careful attention paid to using quality fabrics and incorporating a lot of fleece coordinates. "When designing our line of uniforms, we have to think about both the parents and children," says Feldstein, "Parents look for quality and kids look for comfort." Kids also look for style, so Feldstein has designed a line in which "classical meets trendy" and school administrators, parents and students seem satisfied.

Public schools often have a difficult task when trying to institute a uniform policy because being part of a city-wide or regional school board, they cannot mandate a uniform. A color-code is a feasible alternative and parents are asked to voluntarily abide by it. "Color codes for public schools are extremely popular and their numbers continue to grow," says Feldstein.

Feldstein works with public and private school representatives to create an individual look for their school. Colors, styles and fabrics are chosen to reflect each school. "The most popular colors chosen for elementary schools today are navy and white with a third color accent such as red, gold or kelly green," says Feldstein. "And gray and burgundy solids or plaids are the preferred high schools colors." If a school already has its own colors from sports teams or clubs, these colors will often be included.

"Of course, the name of a school lends itself to the creation of a color code as in the case of Greendale School in Dollard des Ormeaux where all elements of their coordinates always incorporate green," says Feldstein. Many schools also use a crest, most often added onto the cardigan, blazer and/or gym uniform. If the school does not already have a crest, Feldstein and her team will work with the school committees to create one.

Ease of implementation of a new school uniform or color-code policy is also key to the program's success. Companies such as Veterans A Plus and others will bring fashion shows to school auditoriums, arrange fitting sessions in school gyms or have well-appointed show rooms where parents and children can go and feel comfortable as they make their final choices. Feldstein also takes over the function of supplying letters and catalogues to parents, order form distribution and collection and final delivery of complete uniform packages.

The classic box-pleat or V-neck tunic still serves as a basic element for most school uniforms. (Photo: Vetements A Plus)

Comfort comes first as many school uniforms and color codes feature a full line of fleece coordinates. (Photo: Vetements A Plus)

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Fall Fashion

Pictured at the Robin Kay fashion show are: (Left) Twin up with Robin Kay's double strip button cardigan ($148), long sleeve polo top ($118) and stretch "suede" flared pant $118. (Bottom) Naturally easy....Robin Kay's button-through cardigan lounge set in sweater knit, $78. (Right) Robin Kay's short cropped turtle neck $118, worn under a long lean jacket , $219, and ribbed knit skirt , $78.

Photos by Barry Shainbaum

Robin Kay fall line founded along 'green principles'

Robin Kay isn't neutral about the colour green. As an environmentalist and fashion designer, she has created a fashion empire founded on "green" environmental principles.

So naturally, when Toronto-based designer Robin Kay took her Fall collection to the McGill Club earlier this year to show in front of gathered guests it was to spread the word on the joys of environmental clothing,

On view on the runway, a selection of clothes of woven hemp fabric, and an array of Robin Kay cotton knitwear and home wears of natural unbleached cotton.

With seasoned skill, Robin Kay uses unbleached cotton knit as the basis of her collection. Seasonal colours - this fall a rich dark brown and spinach, pop in and out, but "natural" is a constant. Apart from color, Robin Kay is proving that environmentally-conscious clothing need not be crunchy.

The runaway display of stove pipe leggings, long, ribbed, body hugging turtlenecks, and a range of layered looks, all slick and fashionably sleek, proved that if the content is pure, so is the style.

Robin Kay is available at Robin Kay Home and Style stores in Canada. This Fall Robin Kay Pure Body Ecology and Homeline will be available in selected Holt Renfrew stores across Canada.

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Fall Fashion

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Sterling Heather Wool Crepe is the foundation for this sophisticated sportswear group. The silhouettes here are very new and exciting with several new jacket shapes. Jones New York has used a lightweight sub-base that creates a sophisticated new suit.

Texture is a special element in this group. Jones New York likes to see the base cloth worn with the yarn dye novelties. The play of texture and fabric will show how softness can be achieved while also emphasizing sophistication. Look for elegant jacquards and luxe fabrics to attain the refined allure.

Prints are sublte and multi-textural, giving them an antique textile look. Sweaters incorporate bouclé yarns and some subtle gunmetal lurex touches for highlight.

The use of a sweater in place of a blouse for a suit emphasizes a European quality Jones New York sees as the the total attitude of the group.

The model pictured here is wearing a Kennedy jacket and Bone Astaire pant.

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Fall Fashion

Two faux furs – zebra print plus pure black for the crown, with black angora gloves braceleted with matching zebra.

Heaslip's headlines Fall'96

The Heaslip Line offering quality and beauty in headwear is becoming a "buy word" within the vast North American market. And there are reasons:

Under the 10 year leadership of Bob and Elaine Siegel, Heaslip has introduced designer driven lines in a wide variety of leathers, fabrics and new technical products. And,of course, they have maintained and further developed the Heaslip knits cherished by generations of Canadian women.

Heaslip's stylish offerings for each and every season can be found in Canada in such distinguished department stores as Eaton's and Holt Renfrew and chains like L'Hiver en Folie and Bizou and other boutiques.

Warm Up

The beautifully hatted quartet of photos you see here gives just a hint of Heaslip's fabulous offerings.

•The big picture – a show hat supreme that combines plush suede with a generous banding of Italian metallic lamb.

•To make winter truly a wonderland – indoors as well as out – a glorious après ski ensemble; toque, vest and mittens in winter white cotton tapestry and faux fur.

•The ideal couple – the hat itself of two faux furs, in zebra print for the rolled brim and pure black for the crown. The graceful accompanying gloves, in black angora braceleted with matching zebra.

•The hat (almost) all seasons – from afar, a casual "Bloomsbury" knit cloche. Up close, the deep artfully swirled band of soft suede, repeated by the trim edging its brim, moves this hat from casual to classic.

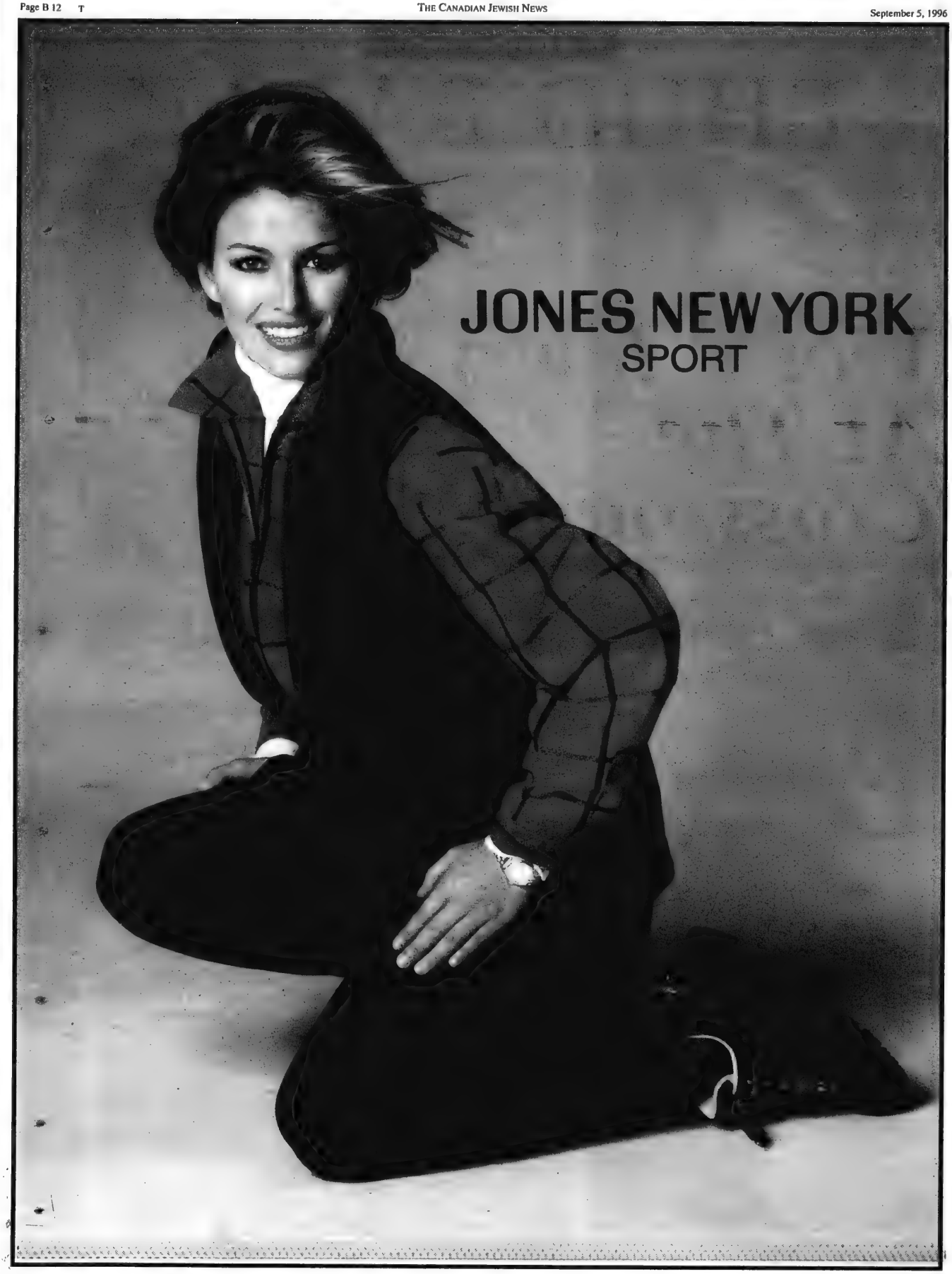
Liz Harbosin is the designer whose skills have enriched every area of clothing design – first menswear, then womenswear and finally her line "Liz Harbosin for Olympic Leather" which created an international reputation for Canadian design. She now brings the same power and wit to hat and accessory design.

Vicki Sather, whose creations have graced the covers of many fashion magazines has already produced several lines for the company under the "Vicki Sather for Heaslip" label. Her designs, always fetching, always feminine, can be seen this season in her soft shaped cashmeres and dressier brocades as well as her winning rainhat line.

"Bloomsbury" knit cloche with swirled band of soft suede.

"The Big Picture" plush suede with a generous banding of Italian metallic lamb.

"Après Ski" winter white cotton tapestry trimmed with faux fur.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FTHS offers varied program

TORONTO — Free Torah High School (FTHS), a unique supplementary afternoon Hebrew School program, opens its doors again this September with a varied curriculum at four locations across Metro Toronto.

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This year, Irving Eisner, a well-known Holocaust survivor and author of two books on the subject, will teach a course which will include personal stories and poignant memories.

"We are very privileged to have Mr. Eisner, who has lectured around the world on this topic, teaching for FTHS. He will take the students on a trip they will never forget, from the death camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau and Dachau, to liberation and freedom, to his present day reflections on what it means to be Jewish in the shadow of the greatest tragedy the world has ever known," said Cofnas.

FTHS is open to students in grades 7 to 13. For more information, call 416-782-4426.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55 (Bathurst and Wilson) invites you to a Sunday Brunch, Sept. 8, 1996 at 11:30 a.m. which will present a Woman's Journey to Judaism, with guest speaker Claudette Edghill, speaking on: "Choosing to be a Daughter of the Covenant". $8.00 prepaid reservations at the synagogue office (416) 635-5340 until Friday, September 6 - 2:30 p.m. Dress Code in effect. $10.00 at the door. Visa accepted.

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גידי קורן

רגע של שיר:

יד על הלב: מתי פעם אחרונה קראתם שירי? אז הינה, כדי להכניס קצת חגיגיות בימי החול האלה, - רגע של שיר. אתם אולי זוכרים - בנעורים הרחוקים שלכם היה פזמונאי מפורסם בשם יחיאל מוהר (ברדיו תמיד אמרו: מוהר ווילנסקי, כי משה ווילנסקי כתב את המנגינות). שמו האמיתי של אותו יחיאל מוהר היה יחיאל מר. בנו, עלי מוהר ממשיך לכתוב שירים כמו אביו. האב כתב את "הורה האחזות" והבן כתב את " שכשנבוא" ("הזמן את השנים יניס"). בקיצור - שניהם על הכיפק. נחזור ליחיאל מוהר - לצד הפזמונים הוא כתב גם ספרי שירה, שברובם לא נקלטו מי יודע מה. והינה שנים רבות אחרי מותו, מצאתי שיר ניפלא שלו בקובץ ישן. השיר הזה, שנכתב לביתו הקטנה, מסביר בעצב שפקט את ההבדל בין הפחד של ילדים לפחד של אנשים מבוגרים:

"את פוחדת הרבה
ואני מפחד -
כשאת מפחדת את צועקת,
אני שקט,
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משאיר בפנים ולוהט.
כשחושך מאוד, ביתי, את חומקת
ישר אל מתחת לשמיכתי:
לי אין עוד לאן לחמוק בהחלט -
וזה כל ההבדל , ביתי."

הרהורים על החיה שבאדם:

סיפר לי חבר על חוויה שעבר בשעות מירוץ מכוניות שהתקיים באיצטדיון ה- CNE. הרעיון המרכזי היה שמאות מכוניות ישנות מתנגשות זו בזו ומנסות להרוס זו את זו. תוך כדי התחרות עפה מכונית אחת לעבר הגדר והתהפכה, ולא היה ספק שאנשיה נפגעו אנושות. והקהל הקהל הריע בקולי קולות, התלהב, ורבים רצו למקום האירוע "כדי לראות". לדעתו של אותו חבר, הסיבה העיקרית למספר הצופים הגבוה במרוצי המכוניות המקצועיים היא הציפיה להתנגשויות פאטאליות, והסיכוי לראות דם. ראיתם פעם את טקס ההוצאה להורג בתליה בכיכרות דמשק, בגדד, או ריאד? אלפי אנשים עומדים שעות בציפיה לראות דם, או לראות חיים נפסקים! לדעתי האישית, מדובר פה באינסטינקט חייתי שהולך איתנו כבר מליוני שנים. היגה הוכחה: לפני שנים רבות נסענו לפיקניק בכינרת. בדרך עלינו לבקר חבר במושב בגולן והוא, כדי לציפר אותנו , רצה לתת לנו תרנגול הודו לקחת איתנו לפיקניק. בחר החבר בתרנגול הודו, שם אותו על אבן גדולה קמוך לילול והתחיל לחתוך לו את הצוואר. לתדהמתי ראיתי מאות תרנגולות הודו נעמדות מצטופפות, - מה זה מצטופפות, הולכות ממש מכות - לאורך הגדר כדי לראות את ההוצאה להורג! שוב מרימה החיה שבאדם את ראשה, להזכיר לנו מאין באנו. צריך המון חינוך והמון רגישות כדי לחסל אותה. אבל שישאר בינינו.

רק ישראלי יבין:

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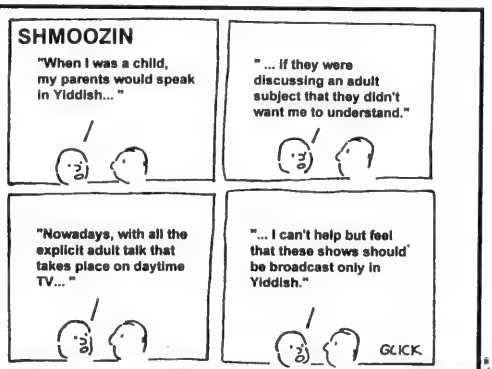
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ROSH HASHANAH FOODS

Before you fast...get ready to eat again!

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

According to my calendar, the half way point of the High Holy Day time line is the "break the fast." Yom Kippur services are over and Sukkot is still a week or so away. Sukkot, however, is not exactly what I'm thinking about when I'm heading out those sanctuary doors after 25 hours of fasting.

I know some people say that after all that time they're really not that hungry, but, for me and most people I know, we want food. Lots and lots of food. We don't want to make it, or wait for it to come out of the oven and woe to anyone who gets between me and the kiddish table. We want it NOW!

The best strategy, as far as I'm concerned, is to have everything ready to go before you head into the fast so that when it's time, you can hit the kitchen floor running.

The following recipes can all be made well in advance of the fast so that all you have to do is throw open the refrigerator door and dig in (just kidding, you can put it on the table if you want).

It's just as easy to break a fast with a dairy as it is meat. There is no one right answer, so make what you're most comfortable with. Most of the recipes, however, are either dairy or parve. For those of you that prefer a meat meal I made sure the recipes are tasty but light enough not to upset your stomach. Enjoy!

CRAZY LAYERED SALAD WITH TUNA MAYONNAISE

- 3 cups torn salad greens (red lead, iceberg, bib, etc.)
- 4 green onions, sliced
- 3 tomatoes, seeded and sliced
- 1 cup fresh basil
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup alfalfa spouts
- 1 small red onion sliced thin
- 1 cup black olives chopped
- 4 ounces salami (optional)
- 4 hard cooked eggs, sliced
- 8 ounces smoked turkey, cubed (optional)
- 1 red pepper cored, and sliced thin
- 1 cup artichoke hearts, cut into quarters
- 1 pound asparagus or broccoli, blanched and cut into small pieces

Tuna Mayonnaise

- 2½ cups mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp. kosher Dijon mustard
- ⅓ cup fresh parsley (or 1 tbsp. dried)
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice

pepper to taste

- 1 6½ ounce can white tuna, drained

Toss the greens with ½ the green onion and celery. In a large salad bowl place the greens on the bottom. Next, place the tomatoes on top of the lettuce. Place ½ the basil over the tomatoes. Then layer with the alfalfa sprouts, onion, half the olives, and all the salami. Next layer the egg on top of the salami and then sprinkle them with a little salt and pepper. Sprinkle the remaining green onion over the top of the egg. Place the turkey over the egg and then cover it with the red pepper. Place the remaining basil on top of the red peppers and then cover with the asparagus. Set aside for a moment.

In a blender or food processor combine all the ingredients for the tuna mayonnaise and process until smooth. Spread the tuna mayonnaise over the asparagus and then top with remaining olives. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least 6 hours. Toss well before serving.

(Serves 6 - this can be doubled or tripled)

CORN SLAW

- 1 pound green beans, blanched
- 1 cup peas
- 2 cups corn
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped green onion
- ½ cup chopped green pepper
- 1 cup shredded red cabbage
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup oil
- 2 tbsp. water
- ⅔ cup kosher wine vinegar
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper

In a blender combine the sugar, oil, water, vinegar, salt and pepper. Blend well. In a large bowl combine the remaining ingredients and toss with dressing. Refrigerate. Toss before serving.
(serves 6 to 8 - this can be doubled or tripled)

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Chocolate lovers rejoice with some tasty treats

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

If someone wanted to torture me to glean some vital state secret, they wouldn't have to pull off my fingernails or any other vulnerable part of my body.

All they would have to do is wave some rich chocolate confection under my nose, and my willpower would be non-existent.

Most of us like chocolate. That's why *Baker's Best Chocolate Cookbook* (Brimar Publishing, 1995) is such a treat.

Wonderful color photographs and lip-smacking recipes are offered in an easy to follow format. I would prefer that the pages not be quite so glaring, but heck, how else can the pictures look so doggone appealing?

By the way, it is nice to know that the majority of Baker's chocolate projects are kosher, so users of this cookbook don't have to try to find alternatives to the listed ingredients.

Sure, most of the recipes are very rich, but, after all, doesn't it say in some scholarly work that nothing has calories on holidays?

Pralines'n Cream Cheesecake

PRALINES'N CREAM CHEESECAKE

Crust
1 cup kosher graham crumbs
½ cup finely chopped pecans
⅓ cup butter or margarine, melted
¼ cup brown sugar, packed

Filling
½ cup chopped pecans
¼ cup packed brown sugar
¼ cup butter or margarine, melted
2 pkgs. kosher cream cheese, softened
¾ cup packed brown sugar
1 envelope (7 g.) kosher unflavored gelatin
¼ cup cold water
1 cup whipping cream, whipped
4 squares semi-sweet chocolate, melted and cooled

Crust: Combine crust ingredients. Press onto bottom and 1 inch up sides of 8½ inch springform pan.

Filling: For praline mixture, combine pecans, ¼ cup brown sugar and melted butter, mixing well with fork. Set aside.

Beat cream cheese and remaining sugar with electric mixer until smooth.

Sprinkle gelatin on top of cold water in saucepan. Let stand 5 minutes to soften. Stir mixture over heat until gelatin is dissolved. Blend warm gelatin into cheese mixture. Fold cheese mixture into whipped cream.

Measure 2 cups of the cheese mixture. Fold in chocolate and blend well. Spread all but ½ cup plain cheese mixture into prepared pan.

Sprinkle praline mixture over top. Spread chocolate cheese mixture evenly over praline.

Spoon remaining plain cheese mixture over chocolate mixture and swirl surface with knife to marble. Chill at least 3 hrs.

Serves 10 to 12.

Turkey 'n greens

MARINATED VEGETABLE AND TURKEY PLATTER

⅓ cup kosher tarragon vinegar
¼ cup olive oil
2 tsp. dried oregano
½ tsp. ground mustard
½ tsp. pepper
1 tsp. minced garlic
1 medium cucumber, sliced
1 red onion, sliced thin
1 red pepper, sliced thin
1 green pepper, sliced thin
6 roma tomatoes, sliced
24 slices smoked turkey
12 sandwich buns
lettuce leaves

In a large zip lock plastic bag combine the vinegar, oil, oregano, mustard, pepper and garlic. Place all the vegetables in the bag and close. Mix well and refrigerate, turning the bag every couple of hours. Line serving platter with lettuce. Drain the vegetables and arrange them on half the platter. Arrange the turkey on the other half. Serve with buns. (serves 12)

בס"ד

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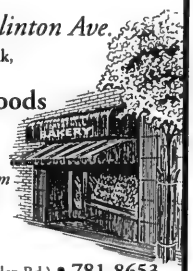

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398 ml. can sliced peaches in light syrup
398 ml. can sliced pears in light syrup
1 tsp. lemon juice
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
¼ cup rolled oats
¼ cup oat bran or wheat bran
¼ cup chopped walnuts (opt.)
⅓ cup brown sugar
⅓ cup margarine or butter

Drain sliced peaches and pears well (reserve syrup for another use). Place in lightly greased 9-inch square baking pan; drizzle with lemon juice.

In mixing bowl, combine flour, oats, bran, nuts and brown sugar. Cut in butter until crumbly. Bake at 375 F about 30 min. or until golden on top.

(Serves 6)

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MIXED FRUIT CRUMBLE

½ cup rolled oats
⅓ cup firmly-packed brown sugar
¼ cup whole wheat or all-purpose flour
1½ tsp cinnamon
½ tsp grated orange rind
3 tbsp oil
4 cups peeled and sliced apples (4 apples)*
¼ cup orange juice

1. COMBINE oats, brown sugar, flour, cinnamon and orange rind.
2. STIR oil into oat mixture until blended.
3. PLACE apples in 1½ quart (1.5 L) baking dish. Drizzle with orange juice.
4. SPOON oat mixture evenly over apples.
5. BAKE at 375°F (190°C) for about 40-50 minutes, or until apples are tender. Serve warm.

(Serves 4)

***Fruit Variations**

1. Replace half of apples with canned or fresh sliced peaches.
2. Replace half of apples with canned or fresh pears.
3. Replace 1 cup apples with 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries.
4. Add ½ cup raisins to any fruit combination above.
5. Replace half of apples with pitted, quartered prune plums.

(Courtesy Crisco Oil)

FRESH PEACH COBBLER

1½ tbsp. cornstarch
⅓ cup brown sugar
½ cup water
4 cups peaches, peeled, sliced and sprinkled with sugar
dash of nutmeg
1 tbsp. butter or margarine
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. sugar
½ cup sifted flour
½ cup sugar
½ tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt
2 tbsp. soft butter or margarine
1 egg slightly beaten
½ tsp. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 400°. In a large sauce pan combine the cornstarch, brown sugar, white sugar, and water. Add the peaches and cook until the mixture is thickened (about 15 minutes). Stir constantly. Remove from heat and add the butter, lemon juice, and nutmeg. Pour the peach mixture into a greased 3 quart baking dish. Set aside. In a bowl combine the remaining flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, butter/margarine and egg. Mix well and drop mixture over the top of the fruit. Spread evenly over top. Don't worry if it doesn't quite cover, the topping will spread during cooking. You can sprinkle additional sugar and cinnamon on top of the batter before baking. Bake 40 to 50 minutes. Serve warm with sweetened whipped topping or ice cream. **(serves 6)**

BLUEBERRY GRUNT

3 cups blueberries
⅔ cup sugar
½ tsp. cinnamon
¼ tsp. nutmeg
¼ tsp. mace
1 cup water
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 cup flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
¾ cup milk
heavy cream, sweetened

In a large sauce pan combine the blueberries, sugar, spices, water and lemon juice. Cook over a moderate heat for 3 to 4 minutes stirring occasionally. Remove the fruit mixture from the heat. In a bowl combine the flour, baking powder, sugar and salt. Start with a ½ cup of milk, gradually stir the milk into the flour mixture. Add only enough milk to make a dumpling dough that will slide off the spoon.

Return the blueberry mixture to the heat and bring it to a simmer. Drop the dumplings, in heaping tablespoons, over the fruit mixture. The dumplings should not touch and be about 1½ inch across. Cover the mixture and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from heat, spoon the dumplings into serving dishes and spoon the blueberry mixture over them. Serve with a sweetened shipped topping or a milk or parve ice cream. **(serves 4 to 6)**

SOUTHWESTERN CHEESE PIE

1 cup finely crushed kosher tortilla chips
3 tbsp. margarine, melted
16 ounces cream cheese, softened
2 eggs
8 ounces shredded kosher colby or Monterey Jack cheese
2 tsp. taco seasoning (you can add more if you like)
1 cup sour cream
1 cup chopped red pepper
½ cup chopped green onions
⅓ cup chopped tomatoes
½ cup black olives, chopped

Preheat oven to 325°. Stir together the taco chips and margarine. Press them into the bottom of a 9-inch spring form pan. Bake for 15 minutes. In a mixing bowl combine the cream cheese and eggs. Mix well until blended. Mix in the cheese and taco seasoning. Pour the mixture over the cooked crust and then return to the oven for an additional 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and spread the cream cheese over the top. Run a knife around the edge but cool before removing the rim. Chill thoroughly. Sprinkle the remaining ingredients on top just before serving. Slice very thin pieces because this is rich. Serve with additional taco chips and salsa. **(serves 16)**

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ROSH HASHANAH FOODS

Fruits definitely enhance old fashioned favorites

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Year after year, drought or monsoon, Hashem blesses us with his summer bounty. It's an amazing thing to behold - unless, of course, in his benevolent way he blesses you with the equivalent of a small third world country's bumper crop of fruits. You can acquire this munificience by getting carried away in the produce section, a road side stand or in your garden, seemingly overnight. All of a sudden you're wading in watermelon and buried blueberries.

I know, I know, there are worse things in the world than being saddled with 16 quarts of strawberries, 2 bushels of peaches or 5 buckets of cherries. But often, our other concerns don't seem quite as urgent as finding ways to use up all of our fruit before it spoils.

You can try giving some of it away. This solution, while expedient (as well as being extremely well endorsed by the sages of old) really doesn't give you the immediate satisfaction (and taste and calories) as eating it does. Besides, if you've got a ton of fruit it's highly probable that your friends do too.

Your next logical conclusion could be to make pies or jelly and jam. Well, this solution is OK - but let's face it, aren't you just a little tired of using the same old recipes year after year?

So what are the other options, you ask. You can (in alphabet order) make a Betty, Buckle, Cobbler, Crisp, Crumble, Fool, Grunt, Pandowdy or a Plate Cake.

Don't have a clue as to what some of these are? Well don't worry. Most of these old fashion favorites are EASY to make and are variations of each other. They can be made either parve or dairy. All of them are wonderful when served with ice cream, a whipped topping, and/or a vanilla sauce.

Below you'll find a list of simple definitions to help make your dessert choosing a little less confusing.

BETTY: Fruit mixture topped with buttered bread crumbs and then baked until the topping is golden and fruit is bubbly.

BUCKLE: Fruit mixture topped with yellow or white cake batter and baked until the topping is golden and fruit is bubbly.

COBBLER: Fruit mixture is covered with biscuits or pastry dough (it can be rolled, cut or dropped) and baked until the topping is golden brown and fruit is bubbly.

CRISP: Fruit mixture is topped with a crumbly mixture of butter, flour, sugar and nuts and then baked until the fruit mixture is bubbly and the topping is browned.

CRUMBLE: Basically the same as a crisp but you add oatmeal and delete the nuts to the topping mixture.

FOOL: Fruit mixture is covered with crumbled cookies, usually macaroons and served cold.

GRUNT: Fruit mixture is topped with a drop biscuit, covered and then baked. The entire mixture is steamed instead of being baked.

PANDOWDY: The fruit mixture is covered with a pastry, and partially baked (just until the crust is set). The pan is removed from the oven, the crust cut, pushed down (slightly) into the fruit mixture and then returned to the oven to bake until the crust is golden.

RASPBERRY FOOL

1 quart raspberries, washed and dried
powdered sugar to taste
3 tbsp. whipped cream
2 tbsp. kirsh or flavored liqueur
1 to 1½ cups macaroons, broken up

Combine the raspberries and powdered sugar, mix gently. Let stand for about 10 minutes and then add the cream and liqueur. Chill well, top with crumbled macaroons and serve. **(serves 4)**

CHERRY APPLE CRISP

4 cups tart apples, peeled and sliced
4 cups pitted sweet cherries
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. flour
2 tbsp. sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
½ cup flour
½ cup brown sugar
¼ cup butter or margarine (add ¼ tsp. salt if using unsalted butter)
1 tsp. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 375°. In an oven proof bowl combine the apples, cherries, lemon juice, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 tablespoon flour and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Mix well and set aside. In a medium bowl combine the remaining flour, brown sugar, butter or margarine, and cinnamon. Mix well, it will remain crumbly. Sprinkle the crumble mixture over the top of the fruit and bake for 30 to 40 minutes. Cool slightly and serve. This can also be served cold. **(serves 6).**

LEMON BLUEBERRY COBBLER

1½ cup sugar
½ cup flour
1 tsp. salt
2 quarts blueberries
2 tbsp. lemon juice
3 tbsp. butter or margarine
2 cups sifted flour
4 tsp. baking powder
2 tbsp. sugar
1 tsp. salt
½ cup shortening
⅔ cup milk or non dairy creamer
1 egg, slightly beaten

Preheat oven to 400°. In a large bowl combine 1½ cups sugar, ½ cup flour, 1 teaspoon salt, blueberries and lemon juice. Mix well and pour into a greased 9x13 pan or a quart baking dish. Place mixture in the oven and bake about 15 minutes. While the mixture is baking, in a large bowl sift together the flour, baking powder, 2 tablespoons of sugar and salt. Cut in the shortening until the mixture becomes crumbly. Add the milk and slightly beaten egg to the dry ingredients. Stir until well blended. Take the hot blueberry mixture out of the oven and drop the topping mixture in 12 portions on to the top of it. Return the mixture to the oven and bake approximately 20 minutes or until the topping is brown. **(serves 10 to 12)**

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L'shanah tovah 5757

Things to do for the High Holy Days

By DEENA RESNICKOFF
Special to The CJN

These activities will help you to become even more involved in your family's Jewish New Year celebration. You'll also have a lot of fun.

SHANAH TOVAH GREETINGS:

Wish your family and friends Shanah Tovah with a big card. Find a piece of very large, heavy paper or even cardboard. You can try to fold it in half to look like an actual greeting card or just leave it as is. Decorate your "giant-sized Jewish New Year's card" to express to your friends and family what Rosh Hashanah means to you and the good wishes you have for them. Display your card somewhere in your home so they will receive your Jewish New Year's greetings.

THE FESTIVE ROSH HASHANAH MEAL:

Many of us gather together with our family and friends for a sumptuous meal. We set the dinner table with our finest dishes. If you had the job of designing fancy china for your family's Rosh Hashanah dinner what would it look like? Create your very own on some plain, white paper plates with crayons and markers. Try to design the "china" so it relates to your special Rosh Hashanah dinner.

SETTING THE TABLE FOR YOUR ROSH HASHANAH DINNER:

When your family sets the table for their festive meal there are some things that you would normally find on it and some things that you would not.

Unscramble the list of possibilities below. Circle the things you think you would find on your rosh Hashanah dinner table.

1. OURND HALCLAH
2. BCICYEL
3. LPATSE
4. PPASLE
5. KUCRT
6. EINW
7. KTCAJE
8. DLECANSKCITS
9. SSSNULGAES
10. YNOHE

HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY:

A memorial service called Yizkor happens during Yom Kippur to honor those people we loved and cared about who have died.

Draw a picture of someone you loved and cared about that has passed away. You could also write a brief passage about them, describing all of the things that made them special. Display your tribute to them in your home for everyone to see.

WHERE SHOULD OUR TZEDAKAH GO?

Sharing what we have with others who aren't as fortunate as we are is one way of making up for what we have done wrong. Who would benefit from your generosity?

ANSWERS TO "SETTING THE TABLE FOR YOUR ROSH HASHANAH DINNER" WORD SCRAMBLE:
1. Round Challah
2. Bicycle
3. Plates
4. Apples
5. Truck
6. Wine
7. Jacket
8. Candlesticks
9. Sunglasses
10. Honey

YOU WOULD CIRCLE:
Round Challah, Plates, Apples, Wine, Candlesticks and Honey

CONGRATULATIONS!

The CJN enjoyed all of the color Jenn & Josh cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Judy Bernstein of Toronto, Ryan Herblum of Thornhill and Emil Horvath of Toronto. Each will receive a cheque for $20.

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Kids' news

Book Review & cartoon too

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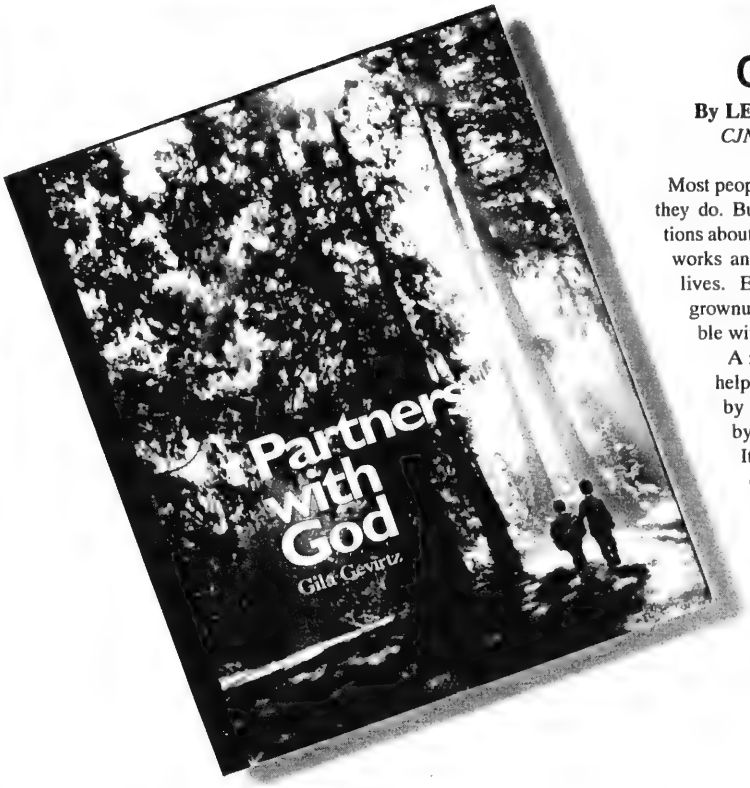

Book helps answer questions about G-d

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Most people believe in G-d – or say they do. But a lot of us have questions about what G-d is like, how He works and what He means in our lives. Even parents and other grownups sometimes have trouble with those questions.

A really good book that can help us is *Partners With G-d*, by Gila Gevirtz, published by Behrman House in 1995. It is full of beautiful colored pictures, parables (parables are stories that explain something), crafts, things to think about and ideas for projects.

For instance, you can make a chart of the mitzvot you did, like sending a get-well card, watering plants or reciting a blessing.

Partners with G-d is not only about laws Jews are commanded to perform. You learn that G-d is in everything, including in the human body, in nature and in everyday actions.

Many people wonder how G-d can allow terrible tragedies to happen. A whole chapter talks about how faith keeps us strong and able to cope with problems.

Although this book is written for children, there is a lot for you to discuss with your parents, and activities you can do with them or with your friends and other family members.

Kids, color in Jenn and Josh and send it to us. Write your name, address and phone number on the back. We'll put them into a hat and select three winners. Each winner will receive a cheque for $20.

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Al-Aksa prayers quiet despite call for protest

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM – Moslem prayers at the Temple Mount proceeded quietly last Friday despite Yasser Arafat's call to Palestinians to ignore the closure and converge on the Al-Aksa mosque.

Israeli troops reinforced roadblocks to prevent an anticipated 100,000 Palestinians from the territories from entering Jerusalem. But there were no clashes and only about 15,000 Moslems came to worship at the mosque – half the number that usually pray there on Fridays.

Analysts were puzzled by the small turnout, given Arafat's much-publicized call for a show of strength to protest the settlement policy of Benjamin Netanyahu's government's and the delay in resuming talks. Some said that strict enforcement of the closure prevented more Palestinians from arriving.

"Many of the regular worshippers might have stayed away because they were worried about the possibility of disturbances," speculated Chief Police Inspector Assaf Hefetz who positioned 2,000 police at the Temple Mount.

Others maintain that the poor showing was an indication of eroding support for Arafat. However, on Thursday, most Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem heeded Arafat's call for a general strike and shut down shops and businesses.

Arafat's speech last week to Palestinian legislators in Ramallah marked his first call for civil disobedience since the Oslo agreement was signed. Israeli officials were concerned that his words could rekindle the six-year intifadah that ended with the accord.

"The fact that Friday's prayers passed quietly doesn't mean a thing," said MK Chaim Oron of the opposition Meretz party. Oron said that the government's delay in implementing the Oslo accord could weaken Arafat's stand and lead to violence in the territories.

> *'The price could be more grave than the intifadah'*

"The price could be a clash that would be much more grave than the intifadah. I'm not sure the tools would be stones and barriers this time," said Oron, who charged the government with talking about negotiations while acting in ways that halt the peace process.

"I'm not worried about an intifadah," countered Rehavam Zeevi of the right-wing Moledet party. "Israel has the tools to fight an uprising. Anyone who threatens Israel with an intifadah is only threatening himself."

Zeevi also said that the small turnout at the Temple Mount "may be a sign that Arafat has lost his influence on Arab residents of Judea and Samaria."

Arafat's call to Israel Arabs to join the protests went completely unheeded.

In urging civil protests, Arafat charged that the Likud government had "declared war on us." His angry words came in response to delays in the resumption of peace talks, approval to build new apartments in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Sefer and the demolition last week of an East Jerusalem community centre supported in part by Canadian government funds (see accompanying story.)

Meanwhile, at Friday's cabinet session, Netanyahu took a step towards the resumption of talks, by appointing a special ministerial committee to lead the negotiations. The new body, to be headed by Netanyahu himself, will oversee the Palestinian negotiations in general and the Hebron redeployment in particular. National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon was reportedly furious at being excluded from the committee – and voted against it.

The new body will guide the recently formed steering committee – headed by Gen. Dan Shomron – that is charged with implementation of the Oslo accords. Shomron met his Palestinian counterpart Saeb Erekat on Thursday. They will meet again later this month, when the steering committee convenes for its first official negotiating session.

Haredim step up campaign against chief justice

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Security around the Jerusalem home of Israel's chief justice has been intensified as the city's haredi community stepped up its campaign against Aharon Barak and the Supreme Court.

An article this week in *Yeted Ne'eman*, the newspaper published by the Degal HaTorah party, blasted Barak as a "dangerous enemy" of religious Jews.

The haredi community has long complained that Barak and the Supreme Court have issued rulings that contravene the beliefs and needs of Orthodox Jews.

Religious Jews have assailed Barak about his rulings recognizing gay rights and women's rights.

But the hostility toward the chief justice boiled over with the court's recent decision to keep Bar Ilan Street, a main Jerusalem thoroughfare that passes through religious neighborhoods, open to traffic on the Sabbath.

The court's ruling overturned a decision by Minister of Transportation Yitzhak Levy of the National Religious Party to close the street during hours of prayer on the Sabbath and religious holidays. "Democracy is over. The people's rule is over," the *Yeted Ne'eman* article stated.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu came to Barak's defense.

"We are a nation of law and the Supreme Court is a cornerstone," he told Army Radio. "We won't allow harm to come to this important central establishment."

Finance Minister Dan Meridor condemned the sharp criticism of Barak.

"It is a system of grave incitement and I don't recall anything like it," Meridor, a former justice minister, told Israel Radio. "It is an attempt to shake the foundations of the rules of the game of Israeli society."

Leaders of Orthodox political parties, while denouncing the use of violence, said their community had a legitimate right to voice its views.

The real issue is the "delegitimization of the religious people in Israel," Knesset member Avraham Ravitz of the United Torah Judaism Party told Israel Radio.

Rule of law

Degal HaTorah is one of the two parties that makes up United Torah Judaism.

But others warned against an escalation of incitement that would spill over into violence, much like the climate that preceded the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in November.

Rabin's widow, Leah, said Barak should "fear for his life."

The Supreme Court justices did not comment on the latest attack in the religious newspaper, but a senior source in the Supreme Court said Barak was not concerned for his personal safety.

Barak is convinced that "these attacks against himself and the court will recede, and the voices of reason in the state will overcome them," a court source was quoted as saying in the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*.

The source said Barak was determined to preserve the rule of law in Israel and that "no individual will scare him."

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Syrian track stalled

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israel's contentious peace talks with Syria have come to a standstill despite Israeli and American efforts to revive them.

Mideast Analysis

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy have put out peace feelers, while American Secretary of State Warren Christopher and U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross have travelled to the region in an attempt to resurrect the negotiations.

But their efforts have floundered, and as of this week there were few signs on the horizon that Israel and Syria would be talking any time soon. The Syrian track is effectively frozen, posing the danger that Syria may resort to drastic measures to regain the Golan Heights from Israel.

This is not a fanciful scenario. Late last month, Israel and Syria exchanged bitter words, as both countries tested missiles and Syria held military exercises in Lebanon. And in an article in *Ha'aretz*, Ze'ev Maoz — head of the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University — warned that Syria may initiate hostilities to break the current diplomatic impasse. He added that Netanyahu's notion of making peace with Syria without giving up the Golan is a "fantasy."

Maoz's sombre assessment is shared by Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, who heads the Israeli army's intelligence research branch. In an appearance before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee in June, Amidror predicted that Syria would not continue with the peace process, and might even turn to an "aggressive policy," if it concluded that Israel had no intention of withdrawing from the Golan.

The previous Israeli government, led by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, accepted the concept of territorial compromise. Rabin and Peres were reportedly prepared to pull back to the international border, as opposed to the June 4, 1967 lines, in exchange for a full-fledged peace treaty.

Despite Israel's flexibility, Israel and Syria were unable to bridge their differences. Serious gaps remained with regard to the depth and timing of an Israeli withdrawal, security arrangements and water rights.

Last March, after a series of devastating suicide bombings in Israeli cities, perpetrated by Palestinian Islamic fundamentalists, Israel unilaterally broke off contact with Syria. Peres blamed the Syrians for the breakdown: Syria had neither condemned terrorism nor sent condolences to Israel after the bombings (which claimed the lives of 59 people). Furthermore, Syria was cynically supporting Hezbollah's increasingly effective military operations in southern Lebanon.

Israel's chances of renewing its dialogue with Syria, such as it was, have diminished with the ascendancy of a right-wing government in Israel which rejects the land-for-peace formula.

Netanyahu is supposedly ready to conduct negotiations with Syria "without preconditions." But according to his government's guidelines, the retention of "Israeli sovereignty over the Golan will be the basis for an arrangement with Syria."

Likud's policy, therefore, flies in the face of Syria's determination to wrest control of the Golan from Israel. At Syria's behest, the recent Arab summit in Cairo passed a resolution stating that the land-for-peace precept is the only way to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. Later, Syria's foreign minister, Farouk Shara, said that "any attempt to violate or change the basis of the peace process would not succeed."

The U.S. ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk, evidently agrees with the Syrians on this point. Syria, he suggested in July, is "prepared to normalize its relations with Israel" if Israel pays the price: a Golan withdrawal.

In a bid to get a new round of talks going with Damascus, Levy recently declared that Israel was ready for a compromise solution. But Netanyahu immediately distanced himself from Levy's vague remarks, leaving the strong impression that he is inalterably against territorial compromise.

In the aftermath of his election victory, Netanyahu — who has likened Syria to a terrorist state — claimed that Israel would be able to engage Syria in peace negotiations without reference to the Golan by pursuing sub-agreements on water and economic cooperation.

But President Hafez al-Assad of Syria has adamantly dashed these hopes, and Netanyahu has been forced to modify his position.

In August, Netanyahu offered the Syrians a "Lebanon First" proposal, under which Israel would vacate its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon in return for a promise from Syria to disarm Hezbollah and to guarantee the security of Israel's northern border. The Syrians contemptuously dismissed the plan as a public relations exercise, saying that Lebanon and the Golan are inextricably linked.

In response, Netanyahu backtracked, declaring his readiness to discuss "all outstanding issues" — Lebanon *and* the Golan — simultaneously.

Last week, after a protracted silence, Syria offered to resume the talks on the basis of the land-for-peace formula, and this is where the matter now rests.

Aug. 26

• Japanese Foreign Minister Yukihido Ikedo delivered a personal invitation from his prime minister Ryutaro Hashimoto to Prime Minister Netanyahu to visit Japan. Ikedo was in Israel as part of an extended tour through the regions.

• *Ha'aretz* reported Dr. Ya'acov Adler had been appointed the director of the medical unit of the United Department of Peacekeeping Operations. He will be responsible for determining the medical policy of peacekeeping operations throughout the world. It is the most senior appointment any Israeli has attained within the U.N. administration.

Aug. 27

• A court in Akko ordered Bashar Tarabieh, a U.S. resident, originally from the Golan Heights remanded for 48 hours to a hotel under house arrest. Tarabieh was arrested on suspicion that he carried out hostile activities against Israel.

Aug.28

• Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, a founder of the Hamas movement, was transferred to a hospital in Israel from a prison infirmary. He is serving a life sentence for planning terrorist attacks. There is concern among security officials that if the Sheikh were to die in jail, violent reactions could be sparked.

Aug. 29

• *Ha'aretz* reported that the defence establishment is monitoring warnings that Islamic Jihad is planning a "spectacular" terrorist attack inside Israel for the commencement of the school year next week.

Aug. 30

• The Jerusalem Post reported that a Givati Brigade soldier was killed in a close-range clash with Hezbollah gunmen inside the security zone in south Lebanon.

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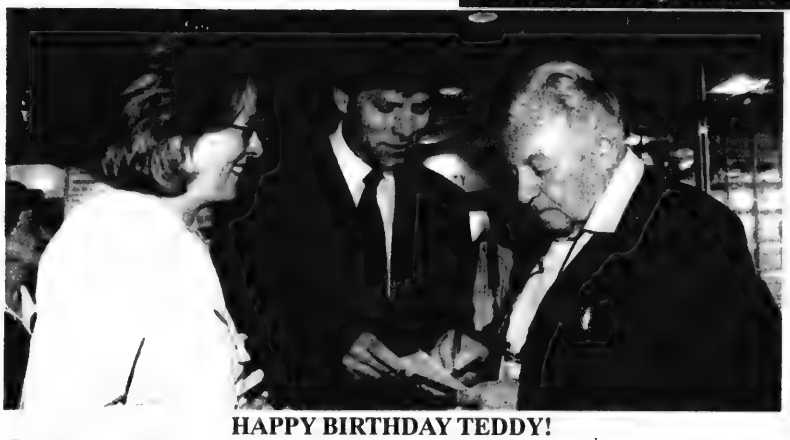

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Syria indicates willingness to resume peace negotiations

[Cont'd. from page 1]

An aide to Netanyahu welcomed al-Sharaa's statement and expressed hope that the Syrians would return to the talks without preconditions.

Meanwhile, Egyptian presidential adviser Osama el-Baz met this week in Paris with the diplomatic adviser to Israel's prime minister, Dore Gold, and U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross.

Gold described the meetings as "very useful."

The talks focused on regional issues, including a Middle East economic conference scheduled to take place in Cairo in November.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak threatened to cancel the conference if there was no progress in Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu phoned Mubarak to assure him that talks with the Palestinian Authority would resume soon.

The latest efforts to get Israel and Syria back to the negotiating table come against the backdrop of recent reports of Syrian troop movements in Lebanon, which security sources said were prompted by concern about a possible Israeli air attack.

The reported Syrian maneuvers came after Israeli government and military officials warned against possible longer-range Katyusha rockets falling into the hands of Hezbollah that could threaten northern Israeli communities, and after the recent test-launch by Syria of a new Scud missile.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai sought to calm any alarm, saying that Israel was not interested in provoking any hostilities.

Mordechai was speaking in Tel Aviv after a ceremony marking the recent successful test of the Arrow-2 anti-missile missile.

U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk, who was also at the ceremony for the joint Israel-U.S. missile project, said there was no need for panic.

"We don't think it's a situation that is likely to get out of hand," Indyk told reporters. "I think that President Assad has made clear that he is committed to pursue the peace process, as well."

PA urges Canada to help

[Cont.'d. from page 1]

City and government spokespersons said the demolition was not politically motivated, but simply part of a policy of prohibiting anyone from building without a permit.

But senior PLO official Faisal Husseini said that Palestinians had no choice but to build illegally, because the municipality's discriminatory policies make it virtually impossible for them to receive construction permits.

Canada's contribution to the community centre was mostly in the form of playground equipment. "There is not much vacant space in the Moslem quarter and not many facilities for playing," said Viveash.

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Netanyahu, Arafat may meet

by DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – If there are "no untoward events," there could be a meeting between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat "very soon," an official in the Prime Minister's Office said last week. He refused to elaborate, however.

In a bid to ease mounting tension, Israel and the Palestinians agreed to convene a new steering committee next week to further the implementation of Oslo II. Netanyahu also dispatched a personal envoy to Ramallah to see Arafat.

In a third set of Israeli-Palestinian meetings recently, Netanyahu's diplomatic adviser Dore Gold, along with Israeli negotiator Dan Shomron, met privately with top Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas.

At the session, both Shomron and Palestinian coordinator Saeb Erekat pledged the steering committee they jointly head would move the peace process forward.

"I think we need many less words and a lot more deeds," Erekat told reporters. "I need to say that Palestinians and Israelis want to be reassured about the status of peace ... by both sides being committed to the reciprocal implementations of the agreements that are signed."

"There will be more meetings ... We intend to work continuously and already next week there will be another meeting of the entire committee," Shomron told reporters.

"Our role as a steering committee is to solve problems and continue the peace process, to do this in a good spirit," Shomron said. "I believe after this meeting that we have the ability to advance all the issues."

Arafat agreed to the Shomron-Erakat meeting after a session with Western diplomats. Netanyahu's friend, attorney Yitzhak Molcho, met last week with Arafat and offered an apology for having Arafat's helicopter hover above the Tel Aviv area for 40 minutes during its flight Wednesday from Gaza to Ramallah. Arafat had interpreted this as a deliberate effort to humiliate him.

Officials said the delay was due to a civil defense exercise being conducted near Ben-Gurion Airport.

Cyprus used as transit point for Syrian chemical weapons

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Cyprus serves as a transit point for a clandestine Syrian effort to produce missiles armed with chemical warheads, intelligence sources and officials here said last week.

The intelligence sources, including those from Western agencies, said Syria has received at least two shipments of material for the manufacture of chemical weapons from the Greek Cypriot port of Limassol.

The shipments have arrived from Russia and Cuba, the sources said, with the Russian consignment reported in December 1995. Officials say other exporters to Cyprus might include several western European countries.

The sources said the CIA has been tracking the shipments, and U.S. officials have quietly asked the Greek Cypriot government to end the consignments. But the Cypriots have reportedly denied the allegations.

Western intelligence sources say Cyprus has increased cooperation with Syria and its terrorist allies over the past year, particularly since Israel signed a military cooperation accord with Turkey.

The new cooperation includes a joint defence accord between Syria and Greece, which has included Cyprus in the pact. Officials of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, have called on Washington to stop the Cyprus-Syrian cooperation. But they said so far nothing has been done.

"We draw their attention to this problem," said Resat Catlar, director general of North Cyprus's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Defence. "For some reason, they are not taking us seriously."

U.S. officials have expressed concern over the use of Cyprus as a base for terrorism and drug money laundering, but they have never made any official accusations.

In March, a State Department report on narcotics control suggested that Cyprus may be used to facilitate the transfer of sensitive items.

"Cyprus customs is considered an income-generating rather than a law enforcement agency," the report said. "Goods entering Cyprus can be re-exported legally using different customs documents, as long as there is no change in the description of the goods exported."

Police, army experts arrive in Canada

JERUSALEM – An Israeli delegation of police and army experts will arrive in Canada this week to purchase $700,000 in sophisticated bomb detection equipment from Canadian firms.

The cost of the equipment is being covered by the Canadian government, which offered the money to Israel following the spate of suicide bombings last spring.

Ottawa has also allocated $300,000 for the same purpose to the Palestinian Authority. An Israeli foreign ministry official said that Canada is the only other country besides the United States that has provided such aid to Israel.

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TAB news

Festival includes films of Jewish interest

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — This year's Toronto International Film Festival (Sept. 5-14) is presenting a rich and varied program of films of Jewish interest.

Themes run the gamut from the Holocaust and the Third Reich to klezmer music and the state of Israeli society following Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Andrzej Wajda, Poland's premier director (*Ashes and Diamonds, Kanal, Korczak*), directs *Holy Week*, set against the backdrop of the 1943 Warsaw ghetto uprising.

The heroine is a young Jewish woman who finds refuge in the apartment of a non-Jewish couple. Wajda uses this situation to delve into Poland's anti-Semitic past and to explore the nature of Polish-Jewish relations.

To Speak the Unspeakable: The Message of Elie Wiesel follows the famed novelist to his birthplace in a small village in the Carpathian mountains and retraces his harrowing journey to Auschwitz and Buchenwald.

Narrated by William Hurt, Judit Elek's documentary is both a meditation on the Holocaust and an evocation of the shtetl.

The Substance of Fire is about a conflict between a father and his three children. The father, a publisher whose world view is informed by the Holocaust, clashes with his daughter and two sons over the business sense of publishing a history of Nazi medical experiments. The film stars Tony Goldwyn, Timothy Hutton, Ron Rifkin and Sarah Jessica Parker.

Shine, an Australian-British co-production, paints a riveting portrait of David Helfgott, a talented but troubled pianist, and his stormy relationship with his father, a Holocaust survivor who stifles his son.

Grotesque fairy tale

The Ogre, directed by Volker Schlondorf (*The Tin Drum, Circle of Deceit*) and starring John Malkovich, views Germany's Nazi past through the prism of a grotesque fairy tale. The central character is a kind of European Forrest Gump who witnesses but fails to grasp the significance of seminal events swirling around him.

Conversations with the Beast, directed by the actor Armin Mueller-Stahl, is a fantasy which blends sharp dialogue with burlesque humor. It is about a series of improbable meetings between an American researcher and an aged man purporting to be Adolf Hitler.

The Arena of Murder, the only Israeli movie of the festival, examines the mood of Israel in the wake of a political murder which rocked the country and the Diaspora. Amos Gitai's documentary, filmed between December 1995 and March 1996, is set in several locales.

Jerusalem, a film by Swedish director Bille August (*Pelle the Conqueror, Best Intentions* and *The House of Spirits*), moves between Sweden and Palestine and turns on love, sacrifice and religious fundamentalism.

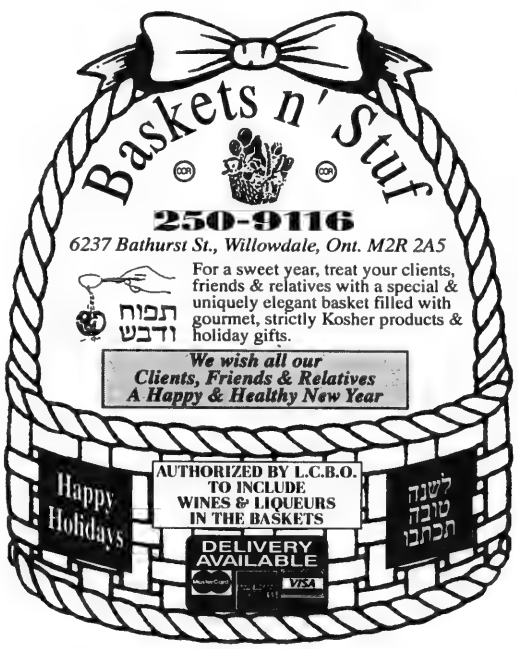
A Tickle in the Heart celebrates the rollicking music and chronicles the resurrected career of the Epstein brothers, who were once known as the kings of klezmer.

Infinity portrays the life and times of the legendary American-Jewish physicist Richard Feynman and the love he shared with a woman who would be his wife. Based on Feynman's memoirs, the film stars Matthew Broderick (who also directs) and Patricia Arquette.

For more information about the lineup, call 416-967-7371.

TEL AVIV TAPS TO BROADWAY BEAT

In the not so distant future, perhaps, Israelis won't have to fly to New York or Toronto to take in world-class performances of box-office breaking musicals. Three of Broadway's leading personalities – directors Jack Lee and Wally Harper, and actress Jane Summerhays – have set out, together with Tel Aviv University to help Israel produce the musical on a truly professional level. They recently concluded a four-week session at the university where scenes and songs were performed by the 25 Israelis – some pictured here – selected to participate in the program.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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*, April 1995

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Spielberg Shoah Film Up For Emmy Awards

Survivors of the Holocaust, a one-hour documentary produced by Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation in association with Turner Original Productions, and broadcast by TBS last January, has been nominated for three Emmy Awards, including the first President's Award. The Emmy Awards ceremony takes place Sept. 8 in Los Angeles.

Established earlier this year, the President's Award is given to the program "that best explores social, educational or medical issues and encourages and promotes changes that help society become familiar with and effectively meet the challenge."

Survivors of the Holocaust was the first public presentation of the foundation's work since **Steven Spielberg** founded it in 1994. In only three years, the foundation has videotaped the largest library of Holocaust survivor testimonies ever recorded. Its staff and volunteers, including Toronto historian **Paula Draper**, have conducted videotaped interviews with nearly 19,000 Holocaust survivors, while its database holds information on more than 35,000 survivors.

"It's very much a race against time," said Spielberg recently. "The majority of Holocaust survivors are in their 70s and 80s, and the window for capturing their testimony is closing fast."

The foundation is still seeking Holocaust survivors to interview as well as people interested in supporting its efforts. Phone 800-661-2092 or write Shoah Visual History Foundation, P.O. Box 3168, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3168.

* * *

Shalom Aleichem Portraits: David Libak, a 36-year-old part-time art consultant and dealer in north Toronto, returns occasionally to his native Russia where he has contacts with many artists. On a recent trip, he became excited on seeing two large framed oil paintings, each nearly a square metre in size, of the Yiddish author **Shalom Aleichem**, rendered by an octogenarian artist.

Libak is interested in finding a sponsor who will buy the portraits for a school, library or other institution in Canada. "They are good paintings, above average, I think," he said.

The portraits are being offered commercially. To arrange to view photographs of them and some of Libak's Russian paintings, phone him at 416-223-0457.

* * *

Artist Explores Jewish-Arab Roots: *Fresh Blood*, a video by Toronto artist **B.H. Yael**, uses belly-dancing as its central metaphor as it delves into issues of Jewish and Arab identity and – according to a press release – the "still radical perspective that Palestinians have a right to their own land."

In the 55-minute video, the Israeli-born Yael explores her maternal Iraqi-Jewish heritage and considers issues of "racialized identity." *Fresh Blood* also explores the bond between grandmother and granddaughter, and the author's metaphysical search for her father who survived the Holocaust.

Yael is an instructor at the Ontario College of Art. Her video is scheduled for screening at The Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall, Sept. 19 to 22, 8 p.m. nightly; and Sept. 22 at 4.

* * *

East and West: A series of five educational videos explores the connections between Jewish history and Eastern religious experiences. *Reconnecting East and West: Judaism and Eastern Religions* features segments on 2,000 years of Jewish life in India, the Jewish experience in China, Jews and the Dalai Lama, contemporary Jews who try Buddhism and Hinduism, and the dialogue between Jews, Hindus, Buddhists and Confucians.

The series features **Nathan Katz**, a Florida professor of religious studies; **Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi** of Aleph, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal; and Orthodox **Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg**, president of CLAL, the National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership in New York.

Each 90-minute tape is $69.95 (US); the set is $299.95. Summit Productions, 5770 Roosevelt Blvd., Suite 301, Clearwater FL 34620.

* * *

In Brief: An open house at Avenue Road Arts School, Sept. 8 from 1 to 5 p.m., features a sneak preview of upcoming classes and programs for children and adults. 416-961-1502.

• Master jazz violinist **Stephane Grappeli** performs at Massey Hall with guitarist **Bucky Pizzarelli** and bassist **Jon Burr**, Oct. 5, 8 p.m. Tickets $20 to $45. 416-872-4255.

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Israeli growth slows

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The economy is experiencing a slowdown right now, but is far from a recession, Israel's Finance Minister Dan Meridor told the Knesset Finance Committee last week.

"There is no doubt there has been a slowdown in the past few months," he said after the meeting.

However, he stressed, slower growth does not mean a recession.

Recently, the Central Bureau of Statistics predicted 3.5 percent to four percent growth this year, he said. While this is not the rapid pace of the previous few years, when growth reached seven percent, it is still quite respectable, he noted.

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel added that the previous high growth had been to some extent artificial, fueled largely by consumption and excess borrowing.

"The slowdown shows that part of the recent growth was unsustainable," Frenkel said.

Regarding the capital markets, Meridor said these could no longer be considered in crisis, since the government's intervention in the bond markets succeeded in stabilizing them somewhat.

TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Vienna Remembers Herzl: From Oct. 25 to the end of January 1997, the Vienna Jewish Museum is staging an exhibition on Theodor Herzl to mark the centenary of the publication of *The Jewish State*, his most important work. 43-1-535-04-31.

* * *

Philadelphia Jewish Heritage: The city of brotherly love is offering a special hotel package for Jewish travellers. With one phone call, you can make arrangements to see Art Speigelman's exhibit The Road to MAUS at the National Museum of American Jewish History, explore artifacts from the Bible Lands at the University of Pennsylvania Museum and find first-class hotel accommodations.

The package is available to the end of 1996 at seven hotels, with prices starting at $53.52 (US) per person, based on double occupancy. Philadelphia is home to the oldest Ashkenazi congregation in the Western hemisphere, the second oldest Spanish Portuguese synagogue, and the only synagogue designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. 1-800-611-5961.

* * *

Singles Events – Memphis: The fifth Jewish singles weekend sponsored by the Memphis Jewish Family Service, for participants around 30 years and older, takes place Oct. 11 to 14 at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Call Annie Trott or Bob Silver, 901-767-8511.

• Caribbean Cruise: The fourth Annual National Jewish Singles Cruise, for singles in their 20s, 30s and 40s, takes place Dec. 15 to 22, with a land package add-on Dec. 13 to 15 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Itinerary includes St. Thomas, St. Maarten, Dominica, Barbados and Martinique. From $1,199 (US). Bill Cartiff, 412-521-8010, ext. 371.

* * *

Paris By Internet: The largest collection of information about Paris is available at the award-winning internet address [http://www.paris.org/]. The Paris Pages contain information on all major attractions; maps of the Métro, RER and bus routes; listings of hotels, restaurants, exhibitions; even the weather.

* * *

Stonehenge's Age Revealed: Scientists have at last been able to reveal the true age of Britain's most famous prehistoric monument. Using radiocarbon dating techniques, they have proved that the mysterious stone circles on Salisbury Plain are 5,000 years old. It is the first time these methods have been used on a World Heritage Site. Another revelation shows that animal bones from the site were buried as relics and were already 200 years old before being put into the ground.

* * *

Hotel Happenings – Inter-Continental: Each guest room in this chain is stocked with vegetable-based soaps and other environmentally conscious bath amenities. Inter-Continental recently announced a $1-million (US) environmental program for its 177 hotels in 67 countries.

• Canadian Pacific: Children arriving at CP hotels across Canada have their own check-in areas, welcome packages and registration forms. "Their colorful, step-up check-in counter will allow them to be at eye level with our front desk agents," says CP official Brian Richardson.

• Regent, Bangkok: On request, this luxury hotel will pick up seasoned business travellers at the airport with its Chevrolet Presidential Van 2000SE, an "office on wheels" equipped with a VCR, TV, computer, fax, tape recorder, telephone and a removable writing table. "The new service enables the busy executive to make the most productive use of his time in Bangkok's sometimes hectic traffic situation," says hotel spokesperson Peter O'Colmain.

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Israeli minister discusses closure with PA official

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israeli Finance Minister Dan Meridor met with his Palestinian counterpart this week to discuss ways to ease economic hardships of the Palestinians caused by the closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Maher Al-Masri warned that if the closure continued, it would no doubt cause social problems that would cause a "derailing of the peace process."

Meridor gave no specifics of the talks with Al-Masri, but said, "there is a common interest to improve the economic situation in the territories under Palestinian jurisdiction and we will work together to promote this interest."

The current closure, which has been in place for some six months, was imposed by the previous Labor government after the first in a series of suicide bombings in February and March in Israel.

The ban, continued by the current government with some easing, has kept tens of thousands of Palestinians from jobs in Israel.

Palestinian officials say unemployment in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has reached an unprecedented 51 percent.

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TAB news

Consultant fumes over restaurant smoking ban

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Douglas Fisher, president of FGH International Inc., consultants to the franchise, food service, retail, tourism and hotel industries, is fuming over Toronto city council's recent decision to ban smoking in restaurants and bars.

As most of his clients are directly affected by the no-smoking issue, Fisher has studied it extensively and concludes that "a no-smoking legislation for restaurants and bars will have a negative impact on every segment of the hospitality industry.

"If restaurateurs could increase profits by offering a smoke-free environment, the smart operators would already be doing it. Good restaurateurs only earn 9.8 percent profit on a pre-debt, interest, depreciation and tax basis. Mid-market and high-end operators are unwilling to take the chance of losing market share and implement a non-smoking environment."

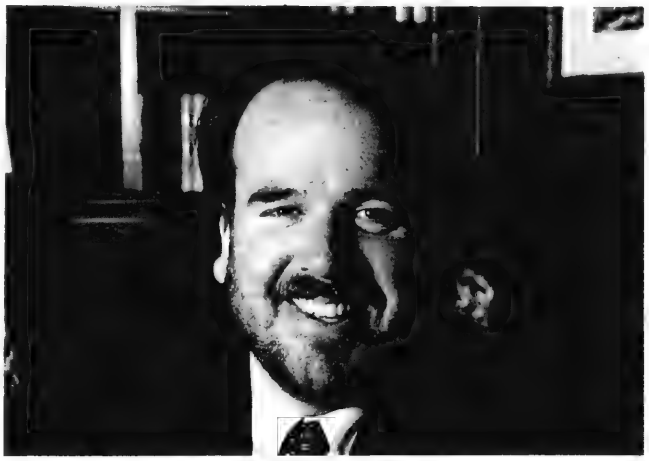
Fisher, who conducted an informal study with one of his clients, a restaurant in Scarborough, says that when the restaurant informed its customers that they were going smoke-free for a two-week trial, "business dropped 50 percent within two days and they lost 30 percent over the 14-day period. They did not attract any new non-smoking customers, but lost their customer base. Six months later the restaurant is still reeling with a 30 percent loss in business. No one expected the impact," says Fisher.

While the impact may be less on fast food operations, he says, smokers, who make up 30 percent of the population, will leave the city core to neighboring communities such as North York or Scarborough, where smoking is not banned. This will certainly have an enormous negative effect on other Toronto business sectors.

"If we have decided that smoking is bad, then it should be outlawed — it should be made 100 percent illegal. We should not take one little industry and make them pay for it. The bylaw is a big, unfair mistake."

Fisher, 40, originally from Montreal, learned the restaurant business from the ground up after leaving York University in the mid-1970s and going to work in a Utah restaurant as a dishwasher.

"From washing dishes, I moved to the kitchen and then went on to manage a restaurant in Ottawa. It was then that I decided to finish the education I had put on hold and after graduating from York University, went on to receive a master of science: hotel and food service management from Florida International University in Miami."



Douglas Fisher, president of FGH International Inc., believes Toronto smoking ban will hurt the restaurant and bar business.

After a stint operating Breakfast in Bed, a gourmet breakfast delivery service, Fisher, who is now married and has two young sons, began a contract, consulting in the hospitality and tourism industry. When he had built up a solid client base he started FGH International Inc. "on a shoestring." It now has two professionals working out of its north Toronto office, one in its 1-year-old Miami office and a resource base of associates.

The mandate of the 12-year-old company is to provide professional consulting services focusing on franchise development and strategic planning to the franchise food service, retail, tourism and hotel industries. It specializes in operational reviews, feasibility studies, market research and evaluations for independent operators, franchisers and international chains in Canada, the United States and abroad. As well, it provides litigation support and arbitration for clients.

"In Florida, our industry slows down in the summer; so that is when the demand for consulting is high. Restaurateurs seek advice when their business is slow and they have time to reflect on their busy season and focus on trying to build up business. No matter how successful a restaurant may appear, an external examination of its operating procedures is almost always beneficial for the operator, especially in an industry where innovations and new techniques are being developed on a continuous basis.

"Restaurants which appear successful as a result of high sales and long lines at the door do not always provide the restaurateur with the financial returns they desire or require. Financially successful restaurants should achieve an operating profit before debt of 10 to 15 percent of sales. If these profit margins are not being achieved, our services can assist the restaurant owner."

What they try to do, says Fisher, is pinpoint a cost problem, provide a practical solution and teach management how to implement that solution with the aim of totally eliminating the cost overrun.

"The menu is the number one sales tool at a restaurateur's disposal and it is essential that it works for, not against, the restaurant. Not only does our menu analysis ensure that selling prices are realistic, we make sure that the menu mix is appealing and satisfying to the clientele and that high profit and high margin items are strategically placed, in order to increase their sales while reducing the sale of loss leader items."

To assist him in his menu development, Fisher developed MenuManager, a software program used to help restaurateurs and hoteliers control their food cost. "The program breaks down recipes by cost and helps with inventory control and waste management. For instance, if someone wants to open a mid-market Italian restaurant, we first do a market study to determine the appropriateness of the site and capital cost requirements for development. This information enables my client to evaluate the potential of the operation while providing lenders and investors with an independent evaluation of the project.

"When the restaurateur is ready, it is then that we get into recipe development. Standardized recipes are the cornerstone to quality and quantity control. With that in mind, we have developed standardized recipes and implemented portion control systems in several restaurants and food service organizations. These systems ensure that consistency is maintained from one cook to the next, on a daily basis. We work closely with chef Dominic Zoffranieri, who is a big help in analyzing recipes."

In the last few years, says Fisher, there has been a big increase in the number of people seeking to purchase franchises. "We can help clients run a successful franchise and as well, we can help put together a franchise program for someone with a successful retail concept. These people need help with such things as market plans, franchise training programs, consultation with solicitors and development of operating and procedure manuals. We are there all the way through."

Fisher, who has been a consultant to among others, Druxy's, Exhibition Place, Guild Inn and several government ministries says his greatest joy is to take a successful company and help it grow.

"A number of successful American restaurant chains have come to Canada and have had difficulty because they do not realize the Canadian marketplace differs from the American marketplace. Our taste in food is different and we have different service standards. As well, they are often not prepared for our tax system. What works in Boston and New York des not necessarily work in Toronto — there are different demographics and different needs.

"Most of these companies have good concepts and could work brilliantly if they would tap into local knowhow. A Canadian consultant can tell them exactly what they need to know."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU, CH.F.C.
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Psychological test examines emotional well-being

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Don't worry," you may have consoled yourself when your report card listed an F. Or two. "So I don't have book smarts. I have street smarts."

As far as Dr. Reuven Bar-On is concerned, you may have been an early booster of emotional intelligence, which has become one of the buzz-phrases of the '90s.

Coined by two Yale University psychologists about 15 years ago, emotional intelligence is used to describe a wide range of attitudes like happiness, optimism, empathy and one's ability to deal with stress and interpersonal relationships.

It may sound warm and fuzzy, but Bar-On has devised a test that can measure a person's emotional quotient about as empirically as an IQ test can gauge intelligence.

Called the EQ-i, the 152-question quiz probes 15 different aspects of emotional well-being, including things like impulse control and self-regard. It takes between 30 and 45 minutes to complete and has built-in control elements to ensure a respondent is being honest.

Bar-On, a clinical psychologist based near Tel Aviv and a lecturer at Tel Aviv University, took 15 years to construct the test, which has been used on conscripts in the Israeli army and is being employed by the U.S. Air Force and several blue-chip companies, including AT&T, Subaru and Canada Life Assurance, to identify successful, motivated workers.

It's now in use in nine countries and will soon be available in seven languages. Here, the test will be marketed and its results analyzed by Multi-Health Systems Inc. of Toronto, established by Dr. Steven Stein and his wife Rodeen in 1983.

Bar-On was in Toronto recently to introduce the EQ-i at the American Psychological Association's annual convention.

In a *CJN* interview, he conceded the test is riding the crest of the hugely popular book *Emotional Intelligence* by U.S. psychologist Daniel Goleman, which stayed on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 40 weeks and has sold some 700,000 copies. It posited that very bright people can often be terrible navigators of their emotional lives, while those with lower IQs may be happy, even-keeled folks with great people skills. The book's argument — that a person's IQ and emotional health are separate but complementary — struck a huge chord.

"We've been dominated by IQ, and people were ready for something new," said Bar-On in explaining the popularity of the book and his test. "We have seen people with high IQs who don't really succeed, while those with modest IQs can do very well. So something was missing."

Powerful tool

Part of that something, he argues, was the need to recognize that a person changes. IQ scores tend to stay stable starting at about age 18; EQ, on the other hand, is fluid and changes with one's growth and life experiences.

Multi-Health describes the EQ-i as the first scientifically valid measure of a person's emotional health. An average score is about 100.

Bar-On describes the test as a powerful screening tool, both in the business world and in clinical assessment. It "gives a snapshot of where you are today and predicts your ability to succeed and cope with pressures. It measures ability to be aware of one's emotions and the ability to assert them in a non-destructive way."

His research shows that women tend to have better interpersonal skills than men and display more social responsibility, while men are better at handling stress. "But I can't say why," Bar-On adds.

Interest in the test has been "explosive," he says, and one for children is in the works in order to identify stress early.

"I feel good about being from Israel," Bar-On says, sounding very emotionally "centred" himself. "And I feel proud that I've developed something useful."

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Swimmer leads Maccabi team with two golds

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nir Rotenberg isn't making much of a to-do about his six-medal performance at the JCC Maccabi Youth Games in West Orange, N.J. recently.

Maybe it's his experience at other swim meets that has made him slightly jaded or perhaps he was still a little groggy after being awoken for a telephone interview at 10:30 in the morning.

Still, the 15-year-old swimmer had plenty to boast about after winning two gold, two silver and two bronze medals at the youth event that attracted athletes from across North America and Israel.

Rotenberg was first in the 50-metre freestyle, first in the 200-m breast-stroke second in the 100 free and 100 breast. He was also part of the 200-m medley relay team that won a bronze medal and a member of the 200-m freestyle relay team that also finished third.

Rotenberg racked up his best-ever time by a half-second in the 50-m freestyle and was one second off his best time in the 200-m breast-stroke. Not bad for a guy who wasn't even in top shape going into the meet.

For Rotenberg, participating in the Youth Games was a fun experience, a chance to meet new people and make friends from around the world.

He particularly enjoyed the red carpet treatment he got from the host family who billeted him, and speaking Hebrew with athletes from Israel.

As for the competition itself, well, he's faced tougher challenges at swim meets in Ontario, he says. A member of the York Swim Club, Rotenberg has swum against top athletes from other provincial swim clubs and he's even won more than the six medals he earned in Jersey.

Earlier this year, he qualified for the Youth Nationals in Nepean, Ont. Unfortunately, he didn't do as well as he'd hoped, finishing only in the top 35. "I was too excited, there was too much pressure," he says of his disappointing performance.

Rotenberg, who's going into Grade 11 at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate, started swimming when he was six back in Israel after a doctor recommended an aquatic lifestyle to help him strengthen his back.

After the family moved to Toronto when he was seven and a half, he continued to swim but he didn't take the sport seriously until he joined the York Swim Club about five or six years ago.

Now he trains up to eight times a week in sessions that last from an hour and a quarter to two and a half hours. On Monday and Friday, he trains twice a day.

"If I don't do it, I'll lose when I race," he explains. "I won't be at the same level as the competition. They do it. They swim even more."

Nir Rotenberg

During the swim season, Rotenberg competes in inter-club meets about every three weeks. But going in the Youth Games, he concedes he wasn't in the best condition and neither were the other Toronto swimmers, he said.

Their coach, Alison Lee, agrees with that evaluation. Many of the swimmers had been to summer camp and the only preparation they got was swimming in lakes.

Still, they finished with nine medals, a creditable performance under the circumstances, she said.

Lee, the aquatic director at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, said the swimmers "were running on heart and the desire to do the best they could even if they weren't in top shape."

Swimmers from Israel and Los Angeles, the competition's powerhouses, were "shaved and tapered," she said, referring to the practice of shaving body hair to give swimmers a better feel for the water.

"Nir is an excellent swimmer," she continued. "He was the leader. He has the desire to win. He really wanted to come in first and he motivated the others."

Rotenberg's gold medal performances motivated the other swimmers and his support helped create good team camaraderie, Lee said.

In addition to Rotenberg's medal haul, other Toronto swimmers finished in the top three: Beth Albert won a bronze in the 200-m backstroke; Jordan Chitley won a bronze in the 200-m butterfly; and Aliza Goodman won a bronze in the 200-m breaststroke.

The 200-m medley relay team — Rotenberg, Steven Jacobson, Albert and Anna Dewar — won a bronze while the 200-m freestyle team also won a bronze. It was composed of Rosenberg, Dewar, Albert and Marc Singer.

Toronto athletes grab 19 medals

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto's athletes are back from the swamps of Jersey with 19 medals, including seven golds, earned at the JCC Maccabi Youth Games.

Swimmer Nir Rotenberg led the way with six medals, including two gold, while runner Elizabeth Ben-Ishai captured two golds and tennis players Sean Weinberg and Samantha Gutstadt each finished first in their events.

Ben-Ishai's golds came in the 400-metre and the 800-m runs.

Other than Rotenberg (see accompanying story), Jody Naiberg earned the team's only other silver medal in the high jump.

In golf, Eric Herman won a bronze medal in the 13 to 14-year-old category while in the pool Beth Albert (200-m backstroke), Jordan Chitley (200-m butterfly) and Aliza Goodman (200-m breaststroke) each won a bronze. Two swimming relay teams also finished third (see accompaning story).

The boys' baseball team, the girls' volleyball team and the tennis team each won a bronze medal.

Jim Emery, captain of the Toronto team, said the opening ceremonies were among the best ever staged for a Youth Maccabi Games. Held at the Continental Airlines Arena at the Meadowlands, the event attracted more than 15,000 spectators and included a spectacular fireworks display and a tribute to the Israeli athletes killed by terrorists at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

The games were attended by 2,500 teen athletes from across North America and Israel. Toronto sent 90 youngsters to the games, which were held in West Orange, N.J.

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A Hebrew Tutor, Elementary Grades, Assoc./CHAT graduate, U of T Hebrew, Hebrew U. of Jerusalem. Call Andrea (416) 665-5978.

Bar Mitzvah lessons/tutoring avail. from young dynamic rabbi, top educator Call 905-731-2399 or pager 416-377-2028.

Hebrew lessons by an exper. teacher. Call 787-8503.

Hebrew lessons for children & adults, exper. qualif. teacher will tutor at her home. Please call Sarah 416-665-5559.

Music teacher with exper. in Canada & Russia gives piano & keyboard lessons. Alex 225-4025.

Piano for Beg. & Adv., by exper. teacher. Moscow Conservatory diploma, all RC grades. Galina 665-2002.

Piano lessons. Exper. piano teacher. ARCT RMT, children or adults, personal goals & exam. prep. Avenue Rd./St. Clair area. 928-6562.

PIANO LESSONS. Private, Royal Conservatory method & exams, teaching the love & understanding of music. Beginners welcome! Call 223-7506.

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Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

520 WINDOW COVERINGS

Shop at home. Verticals, venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, cushion rubber chrome, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, Free est. Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

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530 WINDOW CLEANING

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

STATELY FOREST HILL ROAD TUDOR
$2,195,000 Total reno! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

MINI MANSION — RETREAT IN THE CITY
Apprx 7,200 s.f.! S. Sharon Bobkin/Janie Lerner* 226-1987

ST. ANDREWS GORDON RD TO BE BUILT
Customize to your needs! O. Guvenal! S. Bobkin* 226-1987

TOWNHOUSE DUPLEX $749,000
Very unusual 2 2-sty units, total reno! D. Wagman* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE PLUSH LOT! QUIET ST
$[illegible],000 Renovated 6 bedroom home! Eleanor Wagman* 488-2875

HEART OF [illegible] SOLD EX! LOWTHER AVE
$549,000, stunning to[illegible]use! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

CLOSE TO WHAT MATTERS ON ST. CLEMENTS
$584,900 Spacious 4 bdrm - den & fam rm! L. Taylor* 226-1987

AVE RD/LAWRENCE CUSTOM 4 BDRM
4 Bths, fab kit fam rm, w/of fin bsmt! L. Stoneman* 226-1987

CEDARVALE SPECIAL — $449,000
Contemporary design! Sun-filled rooms! David Wagman* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS 50x125 SOUTH
Build or live in, 3 bdrm + studio! O. Guvenal* 226-1987

OFFICE SPACE/MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON
Freestanding bldg w/7 car pkng! F. Sversky** 488-2875

REDUCED TO $249,900 VENDOR SAYS SELL!
3 Bdrm, white kitchen! Elaine Lewis/Susan Goodman* 488-2875

AVENUE/LAWRENCE JUST $299K
Incredibly renovated! 3 bdrm, fin bsmt! F. Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED — ST. CLAIR/OAKWOOD
Spacious 4 bdrm home on quiet st! B. Singer** 488-2875

HURRY WON'T LAST DON MILLS/LAWRENCE
Lovely 3 bdrm t'home, end unit! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

YORK MILLS/OLD YONGE $1,295,000
Custom home to be built! F. Sversky** 488-2875

FOREST HILL REAL ESTATE INC. PRESENTS ...
Top quality custom homes by Destiny Rose! F. Sversky** 488-2875

DO YOU WANT PRIVACY? SECLUSION?
Then this home is for you! Call David Wagman* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS — ST. ANDREWS
Lovely 4,200 s.f. home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16TH 5,500 SQ. F. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin bsmt! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED•REALTOR
633-7373

SHEPPARD BATHURST
Cust. built 4 bdrm, 4 bths, liv & din comb, kit w/walk-out, fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

STEELES BATHURST
4 Bdrm. bung., up-dated kit, good size liv & din, fin. w/out bsmnt, dble drive, gar.

BATHURST FINCH $99,500
2 Bdrm condo, liv & din comb, w/out to balc, lndry ens.

FINCH WILMINGTON
Spac. 3+ bdrms, 2 kits, 4 bths, fam. rm, w/outs, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

WILSON BATHURST
2 Storey, 4 bdrm, oak kit, 4 bths, fam. rm, w/out, fin. bsmnt.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Bath./Clark New Townhome for Sale, 3 bdr., 2 1/2 bth., never lived in, sec., many up-grades,$199,000.416-650-5110

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $269,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View.

CLARK/BATHURST
Low floor large condo, 1,600 sq. ft. Must be sold.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

HARVEY KALLES
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NORTH

1ST AD! BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $998K
Superb prof. decorated 4200 sq. ft., 8 yrs. new, 5 bdrms., lib., fam. rm., 60' x 300' lot! **R. Greenberg*/A. Carmona***.

BAYVIEW — THE EPITOME OF STYLE AND DESIGN
Tudor Estate with grand proportions and luxurious appointments. **Wendy Azzarello***.

CALL CHERYL*/SAMANTHA GRAFF*
Original reno. by Jack Diamond, charming Victorian home, high ceilings 3 stry., 2nd flr. family room.

CALL CHERYL*/SAMANTHA GRAFF*
Bayview/Fifeshire 82' x 153' lot, Ranch bungalow, renovate or build new on quiet private court.

CALL CHERYL*/SAMANTHA GRAFF*
1st ad! $579,000. Denlow Estates, Kelbar built library & family room, 9 ft. ceilings, child safe street.

CALL CHERYL*/SAMANTHA GRAFF*
$509,000. York Mills/Leslie. Custom built home, wood floors throughout, large eat-in kit., plaster walls. Immaculate.

CENTRAL

FOREST HILL ON THE PARK
Extraordinary arch. provides ultimate privacy. About 7000 sq. ft. of sophistication $1,900,000. **Jeffrey Joseph****.

FOREST HILL TUDOR $975,000.
Picture perfect. Beautifully kept oak lib. & pdr. rm., 5 bdrms. + 3 WR. upstairs. Nanny qtrs. downst. **Jeffrey Joseph****.

FOREST HILL GEORGIAN $769,000.
87' front, ravine, circular drive, main den & 2 pc., new white/granite kit., nanny qtrs. **Jeffrey Joseph****.

CALL CHERYL*/SAMANTHA GRAFF*
Avenue Rd./St. Clair de[illegible] SOLD 3 stry., double garage 3 + 1 bdrms., family room, high ceilings, move right in.

LOWER VILLAGE CENTRE HALL
$699,000. 5 bdrms., library, inground pool, C/A., fin. lower level. Great opportunity. **S. Solomon***.

CALL SANDON SCHWARTZBEN**!
Prue Ave.! $599K! Custom built 5000' + fin. bsmt. Elmsthorpe Ave! $395K! 4 + 1 bdrms., mn. fam. room.

COUNTRY IN THE CITY $588,000.
Across from Cedarvale Park. 4 bdrms., fam. rm., central air, pool, fin. bsmt., a 10+. **Joel Laker***.

JUST LISTED — FOREST HILL $489,000.
Quiet cul-de-sac near W. Prep/Eglinton W. sbwy. Pretty Tudor, superior reno 4 bdrms. + nanny. **Jeffrey Joseph****.

MELROSE AVE. ALL DONE $478K
Totally reconstructed! Stucco ext., 3 large bdrms., combined kit./fam. rm., 40' x 107', fin. bsmt. **A. Carmona***.

CALL SANDON SCHWARTZBEN**
Yonge/Sheppard! $449[illegible] SOLD tacular 7 yrs. new on magnificent park setting! 3 + 1 bdrms., 5 baths +++.

SPADINA RD. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES (2)
$439,000 each. Victorian semis, 8 bdrms. + fin. bsmt. apt., just north of Bloor. **Paul Angyal***.

IN-TOWN DUPLEX $369,000.
2 & 3 bdrms., suites & in[illegible] SOLD t., updated, large deck & balcony, 2 car permit pkg. **Harold Hillmann****.

CHAPLIN ESTATES $339,000.
A real charmer, walk to [illegible] SOLD , 3 bdrms., powder rm., whirlpool bath, 2 car pkg., pool. **Harold Hillman****.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

STARTER HOME $229,900

Thornhill - Large semi on huge lot. Not backing onto tracks, 3 bd., 2½ baths, fin. bsmt., eat-in kit., C.A.C., ent. from garage. Move-in condition.

GORGEOUS BUNGALOW

Bayview & Finch - 4 bd., 2½ baths, fin. bsmt., hdwd. floors, C.A.C., security, fully renovated, ent. from double gar., mature trees. Move-in condition.

2300 SQ. FT. $299,900

Thornhill - 40 ft. lot. 4 bdrm., 2½ baths, combined living & dining room, ceramics & parquet, oak staircase, marble fireplace, huge family rm, Quiet court.

Call **Michael J. Saperia**, *Associate Broker*
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BATHURST-LAWRENCE — "EXECUTIVE HOME"
Custom built and beautifully decorated! Five bedrooms, circular stairs, finished basement, Pesach kitchen, deck, fenced yard and A-1 landscaping. **Asking Only $529,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566

EXCLUSIVE — 1ST AD — 4 BEDROOM BUNGALOW
Clanton Park area, large finished basement with full apartment, centre hall plan - shows well. **Asking Only $319,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566

99 LAURELCREST AVE — "A BEAUTY"
New custom built home! 5 bedrooms, six washrooms, finished basement, marble kitchen plus plus! Stunning & bright! **Asking Only $575,000.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY - $179,900. Beautiful corner unit. Fab. view! 2 pkg. + 2 lockers + 5 appls.
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Homelife/Bayview Realty Inc.

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PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL PROM.* $209,900.00
120 Promenade Cres.
Apt. #102
Monarch Model - large corner suite - 1,442 s.f. app. Absolutely gorgeous, 1st floor, 2 b.r. - 2 bath. Walkout to large private patio, newly painted, meticulous condition.
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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst/Lawrence Large 1 bdrm. + den or small bdrm., re-painted, refreshed & renewed, eat in kit., lndry./storage, gym, sauna, whirlpool, 24 hr. sec., $1149. incl. pkg. & util. Leave message. 739-0105.

North York (Bath./Antibes) Luxury 2 bdr. Condo with 2 wshrms. & pkg. Call 905-771-6666 from 6-8pm or lve. msg.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Mature female, n/smoker, Bayview/Steeles, furn. room, pkg., a/c, lux.bldg., secur. 221-4439.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

2 bedroom, 1 bath, bright, clean apartment available for rent at Bathurst/Sheppard with underground parking, $ 850./mo. 635-5031.

Bathurst/Wilson large lux. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, garage, Oct. 1st, $1180./mo. 787-6886.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Egl., immac. 1 bdrm., a/c, balc., secur., avail. Nov. 1, $1,000 + util., 416-484-6161.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

Furn. 2 Br., Condo., Nov. 1- April 1st, Bath./Steeles, **Primrose,** 5 appl., Call 665-8303.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Spacious furnished room in a home, suits female, $350./mo. parking incl., lndry. facil. and use of kit., fam. rm., etc. close to TTC. 661-7127

84 ROOM WANTED

Wanted, furnished room, Northwest area, widower, (no bsmnt.), Call 661-7459.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

THORNHILL GEM — HILDA / CLARK

4 + 1 bdrms., 2 storey, 4 baths, fin. bsmt., large principal rooms, approx. 2,300 sq. ft., shows well, a must see! ACT NOW! Only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BALMORAL / FAYWOOD – NEW LISTING. ACT NOW !!!!!!!
Stunning 4 yrs. new home — immaculate! 4 + 1 bdrms., fam. rm., 4 baths, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., fam. size kit., w/o to deck w/hot tub, only $439,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK – HUGE 58.50 X 150 FT. LOT
Fabulous building lot in the heart of the city. Existing bungalow is 3 + 2 bedrooms, vendor will rent back, only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!
4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & win., stone frplc. Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – BUY $319K OR RENT $1690 mo.
For sale or for rent — 3 + 2 bdrm. bung., hrdwd. floors, new furnace, fab. loc., **very attractive financing available!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / WILSON – RENOVATION & ADDITION!
Spacious 3 bdrm. bung., hardwood floors, fam. size eat-in kitchen. Reduced to $249,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – IDEAL FOR RENO
60 ft. front, spacious bung. on prestigious street, needs some work, asking $319,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!

Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – LOTS OF HOME, LOW PRICE!
New reno + addition, 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, jacuzzi, finished basement, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — BEAUTIES LIKE THIS DON'T LAST!

Stunning renovated executive home! 4 + 1 bdrms., fam. rm., library, dream kitchen, heated inground pool, only $589,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ALEXANDRA WOOD – RARE OFFERING IN HEART OF CITY
A castle! Prestigious 8 bdrm./8 bath home backing onto ravine. 65' x 240' lot, inground pool, basketball court, offered at $1,460,000. One of a kind! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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AVENUE RD. / BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
If you like elbow room you'll love this one! 70' frontage, fab. building lot in prestigious location, approved for 5,330 sq. ft. (approx.) new home, asking $419,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON — REDUCED
3 bdrm. home on 40 x 125 ft. lot, only $199,000 — double garage, new windows, fin. basement. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON – REDUCED TO $549,000
3,400 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 50' frontage, 5 + 2 bdrms., library, fam. rm., 6 baths, 2 kit., dream kitchen, upgrades galore. Won't last at this price! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK AREA – SUPERB HOME, QUIET STREET
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bung. on 50' lot. Fam. size kit., bsmt. totally renovated, sep. entry to self-contained apt., asking $299,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE

Aruba Time Share, deeded, Caribbean Palm Village, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, lock off unit, first flr., Weeks 51-52 (Xmas-New Years), sleeps eight. 5 Star resort, one mile to beach. $20,000.00 U.S. (407) 496-7939.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village Deerfield, Upminster, 1 1/2 corner, new carpets and flooring, new verticals, enclosed patio with closet, outside window awnings, second floor, beautiful view, near pool. $33,000.00 U.S. (954) 419-9170 (Fla.).

Boca Raton, Century Village, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, CAC, new furnishings. Call 416-663-2433.

Ft. Lauderdale, Sunrise Lakes, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, upgraded condo. excellent condition, completely furnished, ready for occup. $42,500.00 Call Sharon (Days) 1-800-340-4341, (Eve.) 204-334-7566.

Century Village, Deerfield Beach, 1 1/2 furnished corner, air conditioned apt. Second flr., exc. condition. (514) 488-8282.

The Hemispheres. Beautiful 3 bdrm., fully furnished, completely renovated, on ocean, parking included. 416-488-0442.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

A 1 bdrm. + den, 2 bath furn. 3rd flr. apt. in Miami Beach, aces ocean, security, across rom Shul, 1 blk. south of Belle Harbour shops, n/smoker, refs., nin 4 mos., $2,000./mo U.S. Call 787-1552 or 787-2916.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Indian Spring, Boynton Beach, fully furn. condo for seasonal lease, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2nd flr., overlooks canal & golf course, full golf membership incl., Call 508-993-8045.

Miami Beach South, large 1 bdrm., 2 bath, clean, cheerful, $1,000 U.S. mo. 905-889-1584.

Miami Beach., 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700. US, 4 month minimum, also for Sale. 416-783-3288.

Ft. Lauderdale, near Oakland Blvd., 1 bdrm., 2 bath, kitchen, liv. rm., den, compl. furn., screened balcony. 667-8029.

Hallandale, 3 lsl.,lge. 1/1 tiled, water view furn/unfurn.,avail. Nov.1st-6 mos.,2 yr.lease. Call 954-456-8016 (after 7pm) .

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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EXCEPTIONAL BUYS
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QUADOMAIN BUILDING, HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA
Spectacular ocean & intercoastal view, 2 bedroom on beach for sale or rent, fully furnished, Kosher. Call (416) 633-4141.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

3 bdrm., 2 bath, adult family, Dec. 15 - March 15, Collins & 52nd St. area. Steven (day) 416-703-1099, (eve.) 416-483-5552.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Brand new luxury cottage, 2 story with bsmnt., 2 pkg., 5 bdrms., living rm., dining rm., kitchen, family room in bsmnt., located in Natanya, close to shopping & beach, 30 min. from Tel Aviv, Call 905-738-1553 or 905-764-3438 evenings.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Georgian Bay, 4 bdr. Home on Georgian Bay in Meaford, decks & principal rooms prov. a breathtaking view of the lake. 3 bth, jacuzzi, eat in kit., fam. rm., din. rm., liv. rm. with frplce., gas forced air, central air, golf, boat, fish & ski. **Reduced for quick sale $339,900.** Call 905-848-3778, 519-538-5129 wknds.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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I Need Your Help - experiencing explosive growth, key leaders needed, very lucrative. For info call 416-812-6789 (24 hrs).

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising sales, Full Time & Part Time, top commissions, fax resume: 905-709-3099.

Qualified Hebrew language and Judaica teachers required for Hamilton school (3 hrs. per week), starting September '96. Competitive salary, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Fax resume to Dr. Ronnie Miller at 905-528-2994 or mail to Dr. Ronnie Miller, Temple Anshe Sholom, 215 Cline Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario, L8S 4A1.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Man looking for full-time work, own van, for job with transp. co., or school bus, or to help seniors, Many years exper., refs. 905-771-0500.

Superintendent, cleaner avail. with refs. Call 416-782-7592.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

Day Care by exper. ECE teacher, safe, warm, environment, all ages, full time, nutritional kosher meals. Bathurst/Centre area. 905-771-0500.

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Cleaning lady looking for live in or out work, honest. 535-0675.

Cleaning lady with exper. looking for a job. Call 285-8955.

Exp. Polish cleaning lady for houses or apts. Refs. 699-3265.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Exper. cleaning lady looking for work, refs. Call 289-4392.

Experienced Nanny, loving, kind, seeks position to live out, refs. Call 656-6974.

HCA,elderly/disabled, babysitting. Certified, refs. 780-9611.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT; PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish lady speaks English with experience to clean houses & offices. Call 242-7804.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Nanny/Hskpr, live-in, legal, 2 children,Thornhill.905-764-9915

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA seeks job, good refs., Sheila. 248-2948.

Exper. HCA with refs., live out position to take care of elderly or disabled, will work night, days or weekends. 782-5046, leave message.

Lady looking for job to take care of elderly, refs.650-5882.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Jewish Connections. We have the right *connection* for you! Photos. 661-7154.

Come View our Photos & Biographies. At A NEW CHANCE, Toronto's most affordable Jewish dating service. 416-398-3991.

Transportation Required. Working Mom (Bathurst/New Westminster) seeks transportation to Associated Hebrew School (Atkinson Campus) for son in JK P.M. Will compensate if you are willing to help. Please call Barb at (905) 886-1702.

Mature 39 yr. old woman with own car wishes to help seniors or anyone needing help with errands, appt's., etc. 256-4815. $10. per hr. or to be arranged.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Documentary film maker seeking family histories and interviews from both Cdn. & Soviet born Jews who have traced their roots to the Russian pale. Musicians of particular interest. Write c/o "Out of the Pale", 131 Albany Ave., Toronto, M5R 3C5, or call Jack (416) 977-0569.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Ideally looking for 30-50 yr. old gay Jewish male, clean shaven, non-drinker, non-smoker, not using drugs, HIV neg., agreeable to prove it, pref. bi-lingual (French), attr., slim, with long clean hair, well groomed & elegant, sensitive, graduated from Univ., well in touch with himself, his feelings & insightful into the development of his relationship with others, likes music, dancing, singing, cooking, able to keep a kosher kitchen, going to movies, theatre, ballet, hiking, enjoying socializing with friends, dining out & the sun on the beach of a "Club Med". If you feel that you're romantic, ready to share in good & bad times, a lifetime relationship & you resemble some of this description, you are someone that I would be delighted to meet. I'm Univ. post-grad, prof., 49, look early 40s, 5'8", 140 lbs., gay Jewish Sephardic male, with black mid-length hair, clean shaven. Call 925-9872 # 4343.

Jewish male, 60's, prof., attr., 5'8", very fit, with warm heart, family values, considerate, seeking financially ind. compatible woman, 50-56, to share life & laughter. CJN Box 6814.

Jewish man 51, traditional, wishes desperately to have children with a Jewish lady. Please write to me & let's talk things over. CJN Box 6810.

Slim, pretty, petite, fit Jewish female, well traveled , sense of humour, seeks a successful cultured man of intell., warmth & integrity for friendship, romance & eventual partnership, age 50-60. CJN Box 6813.

Vancouver, DJW, 49, 5'7", good looking, slender, prof., with warmth & wit, active in the community, many friends, would like to meet an estab. man, warm & affectionate & optimistic. CJN Box 6809.

Very attr. physically fit 5'3", 120 lbs., intelligent, useful, vivacious brunette Jewish woman of European descent, seeks a refined gentleman who is 5'8"+, and in his late 40's to mid 50's. Please encl. recent photo and phone #. CJN Box 6803.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr., prof. female, 39, seeks prof. cultured male for serious relationship. Please state info. in reply. CJN Box 6812.

Attention: Good Men 60+, my mother is just too special to miss out on. She's attractive, witty, independent, fun and warm. She has many interests and a heart of gold! If you are sincere with similar attributes, please write. CJN Box 6808.

ATTRACTIVE, Petite Jewish Lady, early 40's, no dependents, with sincere & genuine qualities. BALABUSTA. Searching for an ESTABLISHED, REFINED JEWISH GENTLEMAN, 48-58, who is romantic & kind, for a CREATIVE & SERIOUS relationship. Please reply to CJN Box 655, Canadian Jewish News, 6900 Decarie Blvd., Suite 341, Montreal, Quebec, H3X 2T8.

Elegant, classy lady, 58 yrs. old, looks 45, has own business, no children, likes quality things in life, would like to meet a well-established gentleman, 60-65, who knows how to treat a lady. CJN Box 6734.

European lady, 39, independent, attractive, seeks settled, smart, honest, handsome businessman, 45-55, for long-term relationship. 399-9655, leave message.

Honest, caring & loving male, 49, seeks honest lady for relationship. CJN Box 6797.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Markowicki (Marks)
and
Kerry D. Adler

Tova & Amnon (Markovetski) and Joyce (Carson) & Ted Adler take great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their children, Cindy of Toronto to Kerry of Montreal.
The wedding will be held in Toronto on November 23rd of this year.

BENSIMON, Gary and Pam are happy to announce the arrival of their baby son, born Aug. 27, 1996. Welcomed with love by grandparents Anne and Bill Lieberman and Mary and David Bensimon, and great grandparents Syla and Morris Lieberman, Solk Bensimon, and Lillian Zimmerman.

Harvey & Roz Moscoe and **Lionel & Janice Mausberg** are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Tiffany Tova** to **Jason.** Proud Buby is Dora Solomon, excited brothers & sister are Jesse, Jamie & Jody. **Mazel Tov to All!**

Stephen and Gail Victor of Ottawa and **Albert and Eva Stal** of Toronto are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Jodie** and **Jeff.** Proud Bubbies are Rhea Victor and Thelma Steinman of Ottawa, and Regina Propper of Toronto.
Mazel Tov to All!

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

Kelly Wolfstadt on August 17, 1996, late of 298 Hidden Trail
Bessie Goldhart on August 16, 1996, late of 285 Cummer Ave.
Lily Platt on August 18, 1996, late of 65 Gloucester Grove
Freda Gryfe on August 19, 1996, late of 15 Tangreen Court #1102
Helen Kartowska on August 19, 1996, late of 55 Ameer Avenue #916
Philip Godfrey on August 19, 1996, late of 3303 Don Mills Road #404
James Silverberg on August 20, 1966, late of 41 Christine Crescent
Ida Lipson Salsberg on August 21, 1996, late of 4266 Bathurst Street #608
Kelly Ritchie on August 21, 1996, late of 19 Lower Village Gate #402
Howard Elpern on August 20, 1996, late of 10391 North West 5th Court
Eva Gold on August 22, 1996, late of 625 Avenue Road #301
Toby Greenspoon on August 22, 1996, late of 180 Torresdale Avenue
Messody Benzaquen on August 23, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst Street #421

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Poliak, Anatoli on August 20, 1996, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd.
Bernstein, Lily on August 20, 1996, late of 10 Menin Rd.
Richmond, Hymie on August 21, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
Gril, Leonid on August 20, 1996
Nahmiache, David on August 22, 1996, late of 50 Snowshoe Ave.
Willen, Gerald (Gerry) on August 22, 1996
Olshansky, Leya on August 23, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
Levin, Leah on August 23, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Newman, Samuel on August 23, 1996, late of 93 Alexis Blvd.
Snyder, Benjamin on August 25, 1996
Balsam, Harvey on August 26, 1996, late of 30 Risa Blvd.
Stulberg, Rose on August 26, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
Katz, Alfred on August 26, 1996, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
Wessely, Alexander on August 27, 1996, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Colton, Josephine, beloved wife of the late Harry Colton, passed away August 23rd, 1996, proud mother of Rabbi Lawrence & Roberta Colton, & Richard & Judy Colton, cherished grandmother of Howard Colton, Carey Colton, Amy Colton & fiancee Jason Brooks & Craig Colton. Josephine was a Co-founder & former President of Automatic Apartment Laundries. Devoted long standing board member of Temple Israel & its sisterhood, & a member of ORT. Donations may be made to the Josephine & Harry Colton Fund, c/o Temple Israel, 5725 Walnut Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, Michigan,48322, or Hospice of South Eastern Michigan, 16250 Northland Drive, Suite 212, Southfield, Michigan, 48075.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of monuments to the memory of the late **Rose and Sam Greenglass** will take place on Sun. Sept. 8th at 11 am at Dawes Road Cemetary, Drilger Section 3. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY DYKOPF ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst S. of Steeles)
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FLORENCE FELDMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MERLE GORDON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Friendly Sons of David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILLIAN B. FISH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 12:30 p.m.
Beth Tzedec Cemetery
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH GELBER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 12:00 noon
Roselawn Cemetery
Eitz Chaim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Bella Immergluck ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workmen's Circle Section
(Arbeiter-Ring)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
A. Melville (Mel) Isenberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:40 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Roselyn Kazman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Samuel Majerovits ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St. north of Major Mackenzie
Maramorasher Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MENDEL SHAMES ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
WILLIAM SHIMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH SWARTZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 2:45 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Palmerston Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

We invite family and friends to join us at the unveiling of a monument to our beloved father & best friend
LEON (Lolek) REIN ז"ל
Sunday, September 8th, 1996 at 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Michael, Ron & Evie

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM RAPAPORT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lithuanian Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EUNICE LIPCHITZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 8th, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The Inside Back

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My father lives alone and refuses to be placed where he can get the help he needs. He has fallen several times during the past three months. One time, he was on the floor for two hours and fortunately I came to visit and called 911. He had cracked his ribs. His judgment is poor and I worry about him all the time.

The doctor told Papa that he should not live alone. His medications can cause dizziness. His house is messy and he is not getting proper nutrition. I help him when I can, but I know he would be safer in a nursing home. How can I convince him?

J.P.

Dear J.P.,

If your father has the capacity to make decisions that do not threaten his life or anyone else, you cannot impose your will. Just state your own concerns and be clear about what you can and cannot do for him. There may be other options – a security system, a neighbor, or the postman might ring his doorbell daily, just to make sure all is well.

Most people dread the thought of losing their independence. The thought of their child taking control is particularly painful. You may want to seek help from someone who is his peer and less personally involved to help him realize the risks in his living alone.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

You can now send your letters through e-mail. The CJN e-mail address is
102574.1304 @compuserve.com
Through Compuserve directly, our address is **102574,1304**

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS Inglis FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

TWO-POTATO SOUP

Russets and sweet potatoes combine in this hearty yet low-calorie soup.

3 1/2 cups canned unsalted chicken broth
12 ounces (about 3 small) russet potatoes, peeled, chopped
1 10-oz. (about 1 large) orange-fleshed sweet potato (yam), peeled, chopped
3 large garlic cloves
1/2 tsp. minced fresh rosemary

Combine first 4 ingredients in heavy large saucepan. Cover and simmer over medium-low heat until potatoes are tender, about 20 minutes. Transfer mixture to blender or processor and puree until smooth. Return soup to saucepan. Stir in rosemary and bring to simmer. Season to taste with salt and pepper. 4 servings. *(Can be prepared 2 days ahead, refrigerate. Return to simmer before serving.)*

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

- Opinions -

The Supreme Court and religious issues

By DAVID ELIEZRIE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The long-simmering debate about Israel's Supreme Court has come out into the open, with haredi newspapers attacking its president Aharon Barak as being dangerous to both Judaism and democracy.

While the tone of some of the articles crosses the lines of decency, the issues raised are important and need airing.

It was the court's decision to block implementation of the closure of Jerusalem's Bar-Ilan Street during Shabbat prayer times that acted as the catalyst for the public debate.

The court split on ideological grounds. The majority, led by Barak, elected to establish yet another public commission to examine the issue. The lonely voice of the court's only religious justice, Tzvi Tal, stood in opposition to the majority.

The court's decision illustrates the judicial activism practised by the Barak court. In a legal system lacking the clear guidelines of a constitution, this type of judicial intervention has been both good and bad. It has arrested abuses of human rights; but on the other hand, it has at times forced an uncalled-for secular mandate on sensitive religious issues.

In the United States, there is also a debate between jurists on the left, who believe in reinterpreting the Constitution, and those on the right, who see it as an unchangeable document. But both groups work within constitutional limits.

In Israel, the judicial playing field has no limits. Israeli law is a mixture of different legal traditions. Commonly, Israeli justices will refer to Turkish, British, talmudic and modern American case law to support their opinions.

The fault-lines in Israel run not left to right as in the United States, but from religious to secular. And the Supreme Court is clearly stacked in favor of the secular.

For decades the court has practised judicial tokenism. There has always been a religious justice so that the government could claim that the Jewish legal tradition was being represented. However, this religious influence was always checked by the fact that it was restricted to just one voice.

Religious justices have made distinguished contributions to the court, but have felt frustrated by their minority status, which harms the case for equal protection under the law.

The situation is reminiscent of the policy in the American South prior to the civil rights movement. One could certainly find a black judge or police officer in various places – but these were never more than token appointments.

Israel's court functions both as a Court of Appeal and as a Supreme Court. Many cases are heard by only three justices.

In the present situation, judgments on sensitive religious issues are handed down without the voice of tradition being heard. Many cases that come under appeal are adjudicated by only three justices; a religious justice is not necessarily present on the bench. The result has been that many of the judgments passed have heightened religious-secular tensions in the country.

Had a religious justice participated in the court's deliberations, chances are some of these tensions could have been avoided.

Close to one-third of Israel's population is religiously observant, and an additional significant percentage is traditional. If Israel's Supreme Court is to be truly representative of the society it serves, it must have four or five religious justices on the bench and not just one.

An infusion of religious justices would bring about a greater balance in the court, turning it into a place where distinguished scholars can adjudicate difficult legal issues seeking precedents from both contemporary and Jewish law.

As long as the current situation continues, as long as Israel has an activist court with a sole religious voice – one justice out of 14 – that court will likely go on handing down decisions that deepen division in Israel.

By ANDREW M. SACKS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

One hallmark of a true democracy is an independent judiciary, and Israel's Supreme Court has had the courage in recent years to act, even when its decisions have not evoked wide popular applause.

An independent judiciary requires that the public, the police, the executive branch and the legislature honor – even while not always agreeing with – court decisions. But our haredi political parties see things differently.

The Supreme Court recently ruled that Bar-Ilan Street be kept open to traffic on Shabbat pending a final decision. Recognizing the magnitude of the issue, it further ruled that the whole subject of street closings required more study.

This wasn't to the liking of the haredi parties and over the past week, haredi newspapers have blasted the Supreme Court, alternatively referring to it as "a branch of Meretz" and a dupe of the Reform and Conservative Jews.

But this hackneyed rhetoric isn't the whole story.

There are reports that several MKs from religious parties have drafted legislation requiring Supreme Court judges to win Knesset confirmation. Knesset approval would also be required for those already serving on the bench.

United Torah Judaism MK Rabbi Avraham Ravitz was quoted as saying: "We may have to enact very clear and explicit legislation regarding the authority of the Supreme Court... We need to fix it."

And Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, Shas' spiritual mentor, reportedly said that the time had come "to rein in the Supreme Court because its actions make religious Jews feel as if we are still in exile."

Yet the charge that the religious community is not represented by the courts is unfounded. A recent survey revealed that over 30 percent of judges were educated at religious schools.

And what of the rabbinical courts? The entire Jewish population is being held hostage to the rabbinical courts in countless matters of personal status, over which these courts reign supreme. Often, for example, these courts leave women at the mercy of men who refuse to grant them a divorce.

They keep secret "black lists" of those they will not allow to marry, and retroactively invalidate conversions to Judaism when it suits their purposes, sometimes years after the conversion took place. They subject couples to humiliating hearings on matters of the most personal nature.

Why, since these courts also "serve" the entire Jewish populace, should we not see Masorti/Conservative, Reform, Meimad, and women representatives serving as judges? Why not require Knesset approval of the rabbis who serve these courts?

Some seeking to bolster the haredi position point out that in the United States, federal judges are confirmed by Congress. But this is hardly a fair comparison. Congressional approval of judges is essentially pro forma (except in the case of Supreme Court justices). And even then theology is rarely an issue. Republicans routinely approve Democrat appointees, as Democrats approve Republican ones.

Woe to the American system should it set quotas on the number of Jewish, Christian or agnostic judges; or if Congress were to compromise the independence of the judiciary because a minority of fundamentalist religious fanatics rejected the court's authority.

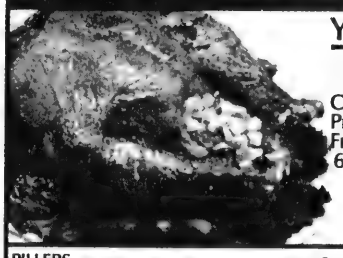
In Israel, we are witness to daily haredi outbursts. The post office in Jerusalem's Geula neighborhood employs only men. The Super-Sol supermarket in Givat Shaul has a dress code for its women customers. Female employees working at the Ministry of Education are not allowed to bare their arms if they want to make it safely to and from their cars. Now these same self-righteous vigilantes seek to manipulate one of the few bastions of independence that forms an essential part of Israeli democracy.

One can only hope that a majority of our 120 MKs will see the folly of giving in to this approach.

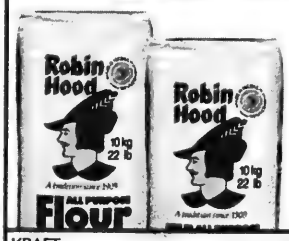
CLOSED MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1996
LABOUR DAY

Prices Effective from
Sun. Sept. 1, 1996 until
Sat. Sept. 7, 1996

HIGHLAND FARMS



YOUNG OVEN READY
TURKEYS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario, Canada Grade A
Frozen
6 - 14 lb. av. wt.
1.99 LB
4.39 kg



ROBIN HOOD
FLOUR
All Purpose
10 kg Bag
6.99 EA

PILLERS
ALL BEEF SALAMI
375 g Chub 3.49 EA

KRAFT
MIRACLE WHIP
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Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A, Fresh
1.99 LB
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Product of Ontario
No.1 Grade
Fresh
2.18 kg 99 LB

SUNLIKE
FRUIT JUICE & DRINKS
Case of 12 x 300 ml Bottles
2.99 EA

SCHNEIDERS
TURKEY BREAST
Cooked or Smoked
Freshly Sliced at the Deli 17.61 kg 7.99 LB

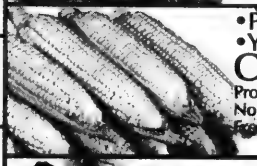
BROCCOLI
Product of Ontario
Fresh
Large Size
79 EA

BLUE WATER
FISH
Value Pack
Assorted Varieties
Frozen 500 - 700 g Package 2.99 EA

AVIVA
SUNFLOWER SEED OIL
1 L Plastic Bottle 2.49 EA

SEALTEST
•SOUR CREAM, 500 ml Tub
Regular & Light
•COTTAGE CHEESE, 500 g Tub
1%, 2%, 4%
1.69 EA

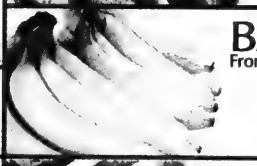
GALILEE
PROCESS CHEESE
•Coloured
Assorted Varieties 227 g Stick 2.99 EA



•PEACHES & CREAM
•YELLOW
CORN
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
10/1.99

UNICO
TOMATO PASTE
156 ml Tin 3/1.00

MANISCHEWITZ
EGG NOODLES
Assorted Varieties 340 g Bag .99 EA



BANANAS
From the Tropics
.64 kg 29 LB

CLOVER LEAF, SKIPJACK
CHUNK LIGHT TUNA
In Water 170 g Tin .99 EA

MANISCHEWITZ
DRY SOUP MIX
Assorted Varieties 170 g Bag .99 EA

SUNLIGHT
DISHWASHING DETERGENT
Liquid 950 ml Plastic Bottle 1.99 EA

UNICO
BEANS
Assorted Varieties
540 ml Tin
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PEACHES
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
3 L Basket 2.99 EA

YELLOW SHIRO PLUMS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
2.18 kg 99 LB

TIDE, ORIGINAL
POWDERED LAUNDRY
DETERGENT
12 L Box
7.99 EA

KOSHER PRODUCTS ONLY
AVAILABLE AT DUFFERIN STORE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Monday thru Friday: 8 am to 10 pm
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We reserve the right to limit quantities

DUFFERIN ST. AT SUPERTEST RD. (SOUTH OF STEELES AVE.)

BRIDGELAND RD. AT KENNEDY RD.

LAWRENCE AVE. E. AT BENNETT RD.

WE BELIEVE

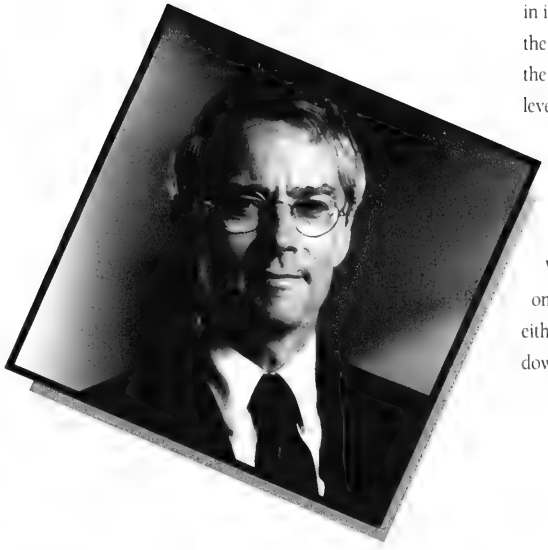
We **believe** *that*
our community **embodies**,
expresses, *and*
perpetuates
our Jewish values.

The NEED for MEAN

The way ahead presents us with a challenge: to become the community we need to be, a community that expresses and embodies the Jewish values that are as old as time and remain as timely as ever.

Life Is Good

By almost any measure, Toronto's Jewish community has never had it quite so good. Our population has doubled in less than a generation. There are now nearly 170,000 of us. We have worked hard and it shows: in impressive educational achievements; in the success we have enjoyed in business and the professions; and in an unprecedented level of economic prosperity.



Ideals Jews have always held sacred continue to shape our lives:

Our desire for community continues. We choose, by and large, to live close to one another, mostly within a few blocks on either side of Bathurst Street from right downtown to up beyond Steeles.

I believe ***that the Jewish community of Toronto is vibrant and strong. But it cannot be taken for granted. Our continuing support is mandatory.***

Lawrence Bloomberg

Our commitment to Jewish family remains strong. Family is at the heart of our lives, and research shows that Toronto's Jewish families are more stable than those in the general community and the country as a whole. Our desire to affiliate with the community's institutions has led us to renew old shuls, to create new ones, and to build new schools up north. It has us seeking and finding a full spectrum of opportunities to live a Jewish life, regardless of where in the city we live or where we locate ourselves on the spiritual continuum.

We live as Jews in a city and a country where racial hatred in general, and anti-Semitism in particular, are not tolerated. We live in a world where Israel, while by no means secure, has embarked upon a path to peace.

Yes, life here is good. And yet, it isn't quite good enough.

Something Is Missing

For all we have to celebrate, there is considerable cause for concern. Having attained so much of what we wanted, we have yet to get what we need. As Jews. As a Jewish community. We live somewhere between what we were and what we must become.

The Toronto of our parents was far less comfortable and secure. But it had its pluses: common origins in Europe; common struggles to make a home and build a community; a common cause in the support of Israel and of Jews in peril elsewhere in the world. Those were tougher times. We can see now that they were also simpler times. Some would say better times. We knew who we were, and we were clear about what we valued.

ING

Those days are gone. Today, we live in a community in transition.

- Our community draws Jews from across Canada and around the world by the tens of thousands, yet it is so difficult for them to feel at home here.
- Our increasing diversity could be a source of strength, yet, instead, it has become divisive.
- We live so close to one another, yet we often feel disconnected.
- We respond to the limitless number of community causes that appeal to our individual concerns, yet we seem to have lost our shared ideals.
- We feel deeply about the future of Israel, yet our commitment is eroding in the face of impending peace and growing economic prosperity.

In the past, we were bound together by who and where we were. Let us hope that in the future we will rediscover and redefine who we are and what we value.

We Are What We Value

The way ahead presents us with a challenge: to become the community we need to be, a community that expresses and embodies the Jewish values that are as old as time and remain as timely as ever.

G-d. Torah. Israel.

Justice. Tzedakah. Peoplehood. Knowledge. Freedom.

These are the values that define us as Jews and as a Jewish community. Together, they are the foundations of Jewish life. They provide the framework for building a Jewish community.

The time has come for a reaffirmation of these core values as the basis for renewing and revitalizing Toronto's Jewish community. We need to harness the power of our ideals and redefine our sense of community — for ourselves, for our children, for the future.

I believe *in the centrality of the Jewish family. This community works to support the health, strength, and continuity of Jewish family life.*

Michael Rosenberg

I believe *that one of our community's greatest strengths is its spiritual diversity — there's room for each and every one of us to practise our faith as we see fit.*

Zameret Kleiman

I believe *in this community because it provides help and hope for the 21,000 Toronto Jews who live in poverty.*

Michael Bregman

The PILLARS of Our COMMU

Houses of worship. Homes for the elderly. Educational institutions. Cultural and recreation centres. Health and human services. Programs that build Israel and rescue Jews in peril around the world. These are the pillars of our community. They reflect our ideals. Embody our priorities. Enable us to translate the principles of Jewish life into practice: Spirituality. Education. Culture. Well-being. Advocacy.

The quality of our lives as Jews and the success of our community depend on the strength of our institutions. And today, that quality is imperilled, that success is in jeopardy. Changing needs and a growing range of demands are challenging the capacity of our community's institutions and services to respond.

Spirituality: Our Belief Endures

We remain a community whose spirituality is expressed in the observance of our faith. Essential rituals endure: lighting Shabbat and Hannukah candles; attending seders; fasting on Yom Kippur; celebrating the holidays.

As the community has become increasingly diverse and dispersed, new synagogues have sprung up; others have been reborn. In Thornhill and downtown. Out on the Danforth and in Bathurst Manor. In the Beaches and in Kensington Market. We have become a community searching for and finding new ways of practising our faith.

The newly emerging spiritual and community needs must be met. At the same time, the older, more established synagogues require sustained support.

Education: The Pursuit of Knowledge Continues

How should we live our lives? How must we raise our children? How should we conduct our affairs in the world, and relate to one another? How can we make sense of existence itself? The search for answers to these and so many other questions is at the centre of Jewish life.

We begin our quest for knowledge in childhood and continue it for a lifetime. Our system of Jewish education is extensive. For our children, there are Orthodox, Conservative and Reform day schools, Hebrew immersion and after-school activities. For adults, a wide range of programs promote life-long learning. Special programs are dedicated to immigrants, to people with disabilities, and to seniors.

And yet, for all there is, it is simply not enough. The community wants more. More schools with more places to accommodate the growing number of children whose parents want them to have a Jewish education.

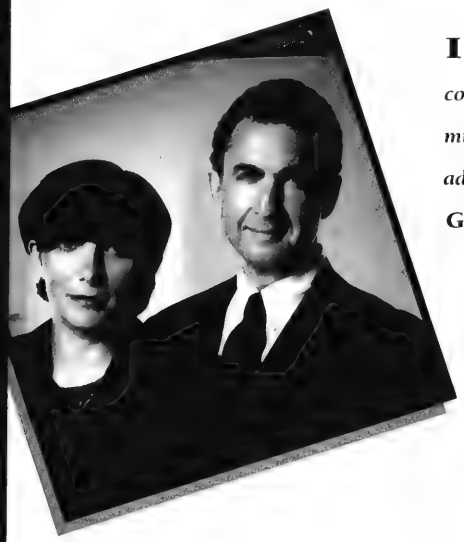
I believe *that our commitment to quality education will ensure the future of our Jewish community.*
Dale Lastman

I believe *that our community must rise to the challenge of change — economic, political, and societal. We have to think differently, respond differently, act differently.*
Elaine Todres

UNITY

I believe *that our principles, our rights, and our freedom are protected through the force of this community's collective voice — and action.*

CAROLE STERLING



I believe *that a cornerstone of this community is our shared culture — Jewish music, dance, theatre, literature, art. It all adds up to a celebration of who we are.*

GERALD SCHWARTZ

ADVOCACY: WE MUST STAND UP

The strength of our community and the safety and security of our individual lives are determined, in large part, by the power of our collective voice.

Injustice. Inequity. Immorality. We must be vigilant in speaking out against what's wrong. And speaking up for what's right. On our own behalf and on behalf of other minorities. To do otherwise is to neglect our responsibilities as Jews and as a Jewish community.

Our community is consistently vocal on the political, humanitarian, and social justice issues that affect Jews and Canadian society as a whole. Against anti-Semitism and all other forms of racism. For human rights. For freedom from repression for Jews in Arab and Moslem countries. For the prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

CULTURE: OUR STORY SURVIVES

Culture works. It gives expression, form and meaning to our hopes and dreams, our thoughts and fears. It explains us to ourselves, and to others. It establishes common bonds and captures our collective imagination.

Jewish culture, so central to Jewish life, is integral to our community centres and programs. At summer camps and in youth groups. In festivals to celebrate Jewish film, literature, music and dance. In exhibitions of Jewish art and lectures by Jewish thinkers.

Our daily lives are filled with details of our culture and history. A Hebrew song about hope. The story of Moses or the Holocaust. A photograph of the Negev sands, the joy and sorrow of the Western Wall. The sweetness of apples and honey. The comfort of chicken soup. A child's draidle...

Our hearts are in these details. Our lives are in the continuing tale.

WELL-BEING: HUMAN NEEDS GROW

As a community, we give comfort to the vulnerable. Help to the needy. Hope to the less fortunate. Here, at home. In Israel. Wherever Jews are in need.

Our willingness to respond to others' needs is reflected in the number and variety of institutions and initiatives addressing pressing problems. We provide kosher food for homebound seniors, counselling for Jewish youth and their families, funds for the economically disadvantaged, language training and employment assistance for immigrants, and care for children at risk in Israel.

But serving those in difficult straits is only half the story. A relentless need also exists for services that bring and keep the community together, such as social programming for older people, recreational opportunities for youth, singles programs, and missions to Israel.

Despite all the services we have in place, the demand for them cannot be met. The infrastructure of our social programs is bursting at the seams. More and better facilities are needed. Now.

Our VALUES *in* ACTI

UJA Federation is charged with a vital mission: to preserve and enrich Jewish life in the Greater Toronto Area, and to perpetuate our community's identification with Israel. In other words, to translate our values into effective, collective action.

I believe *the results we need come from the institutions that serve the special needs of our community — particularly in the areas of healthcare and education.*
LAWRENCE TANENBAUM

I believe *that the quality of our care for the vulnerable is a measure of our success as a Jewish community.*
LORRAINE SANDLER

Over the past 80 years, UJA Federation has played a central role in building one of the world's strongest Jewish communities. Today is no different. UJA Federation is pivotal to achieving meaningful results. Results that reflect what we value. As Jews. As a Jewish community.

MORE KNOWLEDGE Our children must have access to a Jewish education. UJA Federation ensures they do. Subsidies are provided through the Board of Jewish Education for parents who can't afford full day-school tuition fees.

Toronto's 21 day schools and 40 supplementary schools enable over 16,000 children to start their education in a Jewish environment. Ninety per cent of our community's children receive some form of Jewish education. The result: a deeper Jewish identity and greater pride in our heritage.

MORE JUSTICE Freedom. Tolerance. Equity. These are principles of Jewish life. UJA Federation funds Canadian Jewish Congress to undertake advocacy on many public and social justice causes: Initiatives to promote government financial support for day schools. Relentless vigilance in the fight against anti-Semitism. And cooperation with other ethnic and religious communities on common causes.

ON

A strong voice is our best defence against threats to our security and our most effective tool in protecting the rights of Jews here, and everywhere.

MORE COMPASSION For too many in our community, these are tough times. One in seven Toronto Jews lives in poverty. Jewish immigrants arrive here without language skills, a place to live, or employment opportunities. Jewish young people are dealing with a whole range of unprecedented problems. Among our seniors, quality of life is often jeopardized by the absence of simple, human contact.

UJA Federation must continue to play the leadership role in meeting these multiplying needs, through support for essential human services. And, most important, by identifying community service priorities and allocating resources to them.

STRONGER FAMILIES The family is the building block of a strong Jewish community. In Toronto, our family structures are under stress. More divorce. More children living in single-parent homes. More economic pressures as a result. And our youth, struggling to find themselves, are too often plagued by substance abuse and emotional trauma.

UJA Federation works to promote stronger Jewish families. Jewish Campus Services and The Young Leadership Cabinet of UJA enable young adults to maintain strong ties with their peers. Jewish Family and Child Service ensures that families have access to the counselling they need, and youth have services and programs to help them get through troubled times.

URGENT RESCUE Every year, tens of thousands of Jews in distress are rescued and resettled in Israel. But freedom from danger and instability does not come without staggering costs. Housing, employment, social services, and education are needed to help immigrants build new lives.

UJA Federation enables the Jewish Agency for Israel to provide these essential services. UJA Federation missions to Israel offer Toronto Jews firsthand knowledge of the country's daily challenges — and of the heroic success Israel has achieved in meeting them.

MORE TZEDAKAH There is a bottom line to building our community. It takes money to support it. Toronto's UJA is recognized as one of the most effective and efficient fundraising organizations anywhere. Our community's quality of life is internationally admired.

The measure of our success in the years ahead will be the extent to which we believe in our community, in each other, through our support of UJA Federation.

I believe *that our community promotes Jewish continuity. At home, we strengthen our identity through education. Abroad, we help rescue Jews who are not free to practise their faith.*

JACK CARR

I believe *that the fate of Israel and the fate of our community are inextricably linked. Our Jewish community is integral to building a stronger Israel, for today, for tomorrow, for always.*

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UJA Federation also supports, through the Jewish Agency, essential social and education programs.

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- Outreach for homeless youth
- Project Renewal to revitalize Israeli cities

DOMESTIC

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- Associated Hebrew Schools
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- Beth Jacob High School for Girls
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- Bialik Hebrew Day School
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- Board of Jewish Education
- Canada Israel Committee
- Canada Israel Foundation for Academic Exchange
- Canadian Jewish Congress
- Committee for Yiddish
- Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto
- Community Integration Program
- Eitz Chaim Day Schools
- Holocaust Remembrance
- Jewish Book Fair
- Jewish Camp Council
- Jewish Campus Services
- Jewish Family & Child Service
- Jewish Immigrant Aid Service
- Jewish Information Service
- Jewish Students' Network
- Jewish Toronto "Internet Web Site"
- Jewish Vocational Service
- Jewish Women's Federation
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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Bloor JCC gets $750,000 donation. *Page 7*

Tuition fees at Toronto day schools up an average of 3.5 percent. *Page 8*

Lloyd Axworthy unveils Wallenberg bust at Earl Bales Park. *Page 24*

Junction shul invaded by a dybbuk for a new TV show. *Page 31*

Coast to Coast

Canada's first shared house of worship opens in Waterloo in an atmosphere of harmony and cooperation. *Page 38*

Israel & the Jewish World

No-fly zone expansion tightens the screws of its containment policy against Saddam Hussein. *Analysis.* *Page 42*

IDF undergoes a quiet revolution among mid-level officers. *Page 45*

TAB news

Photo exhibit at the Koffler Gallery depicts the grand parades of the city. *Page 49*

Sports news

Jarvis Collegiate phys ed coach Marv Pearl retires after 33 years. *Page 54*

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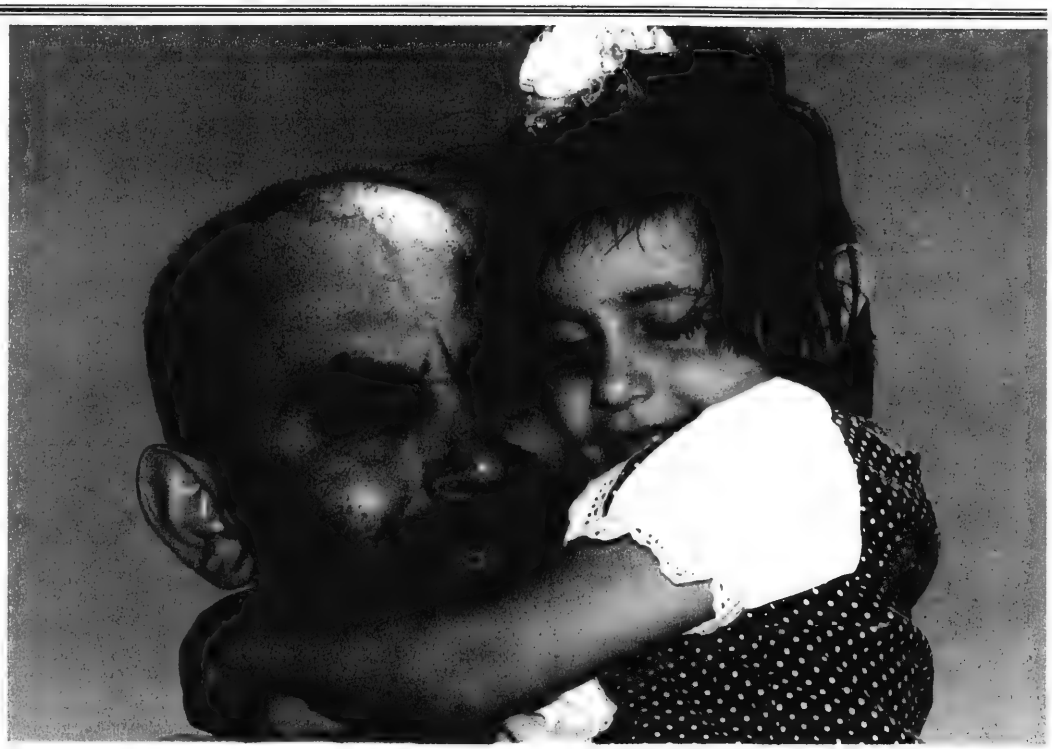
Shabbat: Erev Rosh Hashanah
Candlelighting 7:15
Elul 29, 5756
Havdalah: 8:20



[Photo by Avi Hirschfield]

A new beginning

Editorial

Father and daughter tightly embrace, their souls almost visibly enfolding into each other. Surrounded by a corona of heaven's deepest blue, Victor Tzadekov hugs his young daughter Lena. They are from Chechnya.

At the height of the Chechen war against Russia, during which more than 80,000 people were killed, Tzadekov sent his wife and two children to safety in Israel. But he was left behind, unable to get out of Grozny to rejoin them, assumed by a frightened and grieving family to have been lost forever.

The photo above captures the sweet, poignant pleasure of their reunion in Mitzpeh Ramon, Israel, after a separation of nearly six months. The power of the photograph has a special meaning at this time of the year.

The imagery of Rosh Hashanah is predominantly sombre. We think of soul-searching and introspection, of repentance and resolve, of the entire world, as it were, passing like an obedient flock before the shepherd, before God's judgment. In our hearts and through our prayers, we ask for a just and merciful inscription for the coming year.

But we sometimes lose sight of the fact that the holiday, in its rich, mimetic symbolism and in its thoughtful homiletics, is also very child-oriented.

At home we eat a variety of sweet foods, which most children tend to enjoy, as an unsubtle statement of hope for the upcoming year.

In synagogue, we read from the Torah and from the prophets, four other connected statements of hope, all inspired by children. On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, the Torah reading deals with the birth of Yitzhak. It was on Rosh Hashanah, we believe, that God made the promise of Yitzhak's birth to Sarah, his mother. In thematic tandem with the Torah portion, the Haftorah relates the heart-rending story of Hannah who ached for and cried a painful, desolate prayer to have a child. Her prayer was ultimately answered.

The Torah reading for the second day of the holiday tells of Akedat Yitzhak, the binding of Isaac as a sacrifice to God. The Haftorah describes Rachel's inconsolable lament for the exile of her children.

Our sages believed that after the destruction of the Temple and the dispersion of Israel from its land, the Shehinah, the Divine Essence, did not go into exile with the great

Continued on page 44

CONGRATULATIONS

We are pleased to announce that Richard Ambrose of Thornhill, Michelle Green Echenberg of Montreal and Mimi Fleiss of Don Mills are the "winners" of our Rosh Hashanah photo contest. Their photographs appear on the cover, back page and page 2 of the greetings supplement in this issue. The readers' response was overwhelming and gratifying. We received more than 200 photos. Over the next few weeks we will publish some "honorable mentions" in the See JN. Thank you.

The editor

Our offices will be closed on Yom Kippur

Advertising deadlines for the Sept. 26 issue are: Classified and organization ads Sept. 17 at noon, display ads Sept. 18 at noon.

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L'Shanah Tovah 5757

L' Shanah Tovah

Rosh Hashanah greetings

Message from the president of the State of Israel Mr. Ezer Weizman

During the past year the Nation of Israel has experienced monumental tragedy, historic changes and significant growth.

On Rosh Hashanah, we pray for a better year to come, for peace and well-being and for the values we wish to see come true. Let us learn from the past and look ahead to a better future.

The State of Israel remains committed to securing peace with our neighbors, while maintaining security for all our citizens.

We will overcome the obstacles and create a sturdy society. In order to do so, we must dedicate ourselves to healing the rift within ourselves, to strengthening our nationhood and unity. The differences between us must never erupt in a self-destructive manner. Dialogue, compromise and fraternity must rule our behavior.

In educating our Jewish youth here and abroad, we must redouble our efforts to instil the sense of peoplehood and unity, while at the same time, inspiring our children with our rich and loving traditions, language and culture. Too many of our youth suffer from educational malnutrition and from apathy.

Israel must become a magnet drawing Jewish youth and Jewish families from all over the world, from distressed and underprivileged countries as well as from Western ones. The Hebrew language must become the symbol of our culture and a unifying force.

Ezer Weizman

Let us work towards that future in this year 5757 and in it may we see the fulfilment of our personal and national aspirations.

* * *

Message from the prime minister of the State of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu

With the approach of Rosh Hashanah 5757, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy New Year.

The Days of Awe have traditionally been a time of introspection and soul-searching, when we gaze back even as we eagerly anticipate the future. In this spirit, I would like to share with you my thoughts on Israel and the Jewish people.

First, we must bring security and peace; the two are inseparable. Peace with security means restoring hope and optimism to our nation and removing the burden of war and terror. Recent years have been filled with unprecedented acts of brutality and violence directed against innocent Israeli civilians. These are incompatible with the paece process.

As we pursue contacts with our neighbors, we shall act to preserve the nation's vital interests. Jerusalem, our eternal capital, shall remain undivided under Israeli sovereignty. In the coming year, we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of our reunification with the walls, the alleyways and ramparts of our beloved Jerusalem. It is from Jerusalem, the object of our people's longings and tears over the millenia, that we derive our strength of purpose and national fortitude.

A strong and secure Israel also requires a free and vibrant economy. Embarking upon a program of privatization will free Israel's entrepreneurial spirit from the stifling shackles of overregulation and government interference. A more competitive and efficient economy will enable Israel to flourish in the increasingly competitive global market place. Opening up the Israeli economy will not be easy, but the benefits will be vast.

One of the engines of our economic and national revival is the continued arrival of tens of thousands of new immigrants each year. This historic return to our homeland is the fulfilment of the age-old visions of the prophets of Israel and the realization of Zionism. The Jewish people are coming home, bringing with them vitality and creativity.

Yet even as we celebrate Israel's continued growth, we must view with alarm the trends in Jewish communities worldwide. The plague of assimilation and ignorance is wreaking havoc upon our people, snatching our finest and brightest youth. The "People of the Book" are in danger of becoming the "People Who Do Not Read the Book."

Benjamin Netanyahu

At this hallowed time of the year, it becomes especially clear that the surest guarantee of our future lies in understanding and cherishing our heritage. We need to intensify and expand Jewish education. We give our youth the tools to be productive members of society, but we must also give them the tools to be proud and faithful Jews. We Israelis are committed to working with you in the Diaspora. Together, we can overcome the dire threat posed to our people's continuity.

Wishing you a Shanah Tovah, and a year of blessings and peace.

MORE ROSH HASHANAH GREETINGS.
See page 6.

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Netanyahu-Arafat meeting marks turning point

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – On the face of it, the long-awaited, painfully orchestrated Netanyahu-Arafat meeting that took place last week produced little of substance.

Analysis

Nevertheless, it would be very wrong – and certainly premature – to write off this meeting as unimportant. This was a diplomatic encounter of the kind where the fact that it took place at all is much more significant than any specific items that were discussed.

Both diplomatically and domestically, this meeting may prove in the not too distant future to have been a Rubicon for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu – a line that once crossed, cannot be crossed back.

After talking for a little over an hour, Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat told waiting reporters that the many issues on the agenda between them would be taken up by various joint committees.

There was no specific word about the delayed redeployment of Israeli troops from most of the West Bank town of Hebron. Nor was there any news about prisoner releases or about easing the closure Israel imposed on the territories earlier this year.

"We have to take into account the needs and requirements of both sides on the basis of reciprocity and assurance of the security and well-being of both Israelis and Palestinians alike," Netanyahu said at a joint news conference after the meeting.

"I want to repeat here once again our commitment to security cooperation with Israel and our commitment to cooperate with Israel in all aspects in accordance with the agreement signed," Arafat said.

The meeting at the Erez Crossing, which marks the border between Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip, involved none of the hugging and hand-shaking that characterized the Palestinian leader's meetings with Shimon Peres when he was foreign minister and then prime minister.

And it was even less warm than the more reserved meetings Arafat had with Yitzhak Rabin.

The most the Likud prime minister could do, it seemed, was to provide the photographers with a perfunctory handshake. There were few smiles or other gestures between the two leaders. But since Netanyahu, as recently as February, pledged not to meet with Arafat, something of major political importance transpired last week.

And an additional reflection of the significance of the meeting is that it was largely arranged by Terje Larsen, the Norwegian diplomat who was instrumental in brokering the initial Oslo contacts between the previous Labor government and the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1993.

Now head of the U.N. mission in Gaza, Larsen helped orchestrate days of marathon sessions between the Israeli and Palestinians officials who worked out the preliminaries for the summit. He also shuttled between the offices of Netanyahu and Arafat, ultimately securing their agreement to meet.

Larsen announced last Wednesday that the joint Israeli-Palestinian steering committee – which oversees implementation of the self-rule accords – would convene Thursday to begin dealing with the issues separating the two sides.

In Washington, President Bill Clinton welcomed the meeting. "It reflects their continuing commitment to resolving their differences through negotiations and to securing a lasting peace," he said.

On the Israeli political front, the fact that key figures in the Likud and its coalition partners were blasting their leader's "betrayal" at the very moment that the meeting was taking place exemplifies the domestic political complexity of the move Netanyahu has made.

Science Minister Ze'ev "Benny" Begin, who is opposed to the self-rule accords, said Netanyahu was capitulating to blackmail and was acting in violation of the government's basic policy guidelines.

Uzi Landau, the Likud chair of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, accused Netanyahu of abandoning all his campaign promises. Knesset member Rehavam Ze'evi of the right-wing Moledet party said Netanyahu had agreed to the meeting so that he could "bring something sweet" to talks scheduled with Clinton this week in Washington.

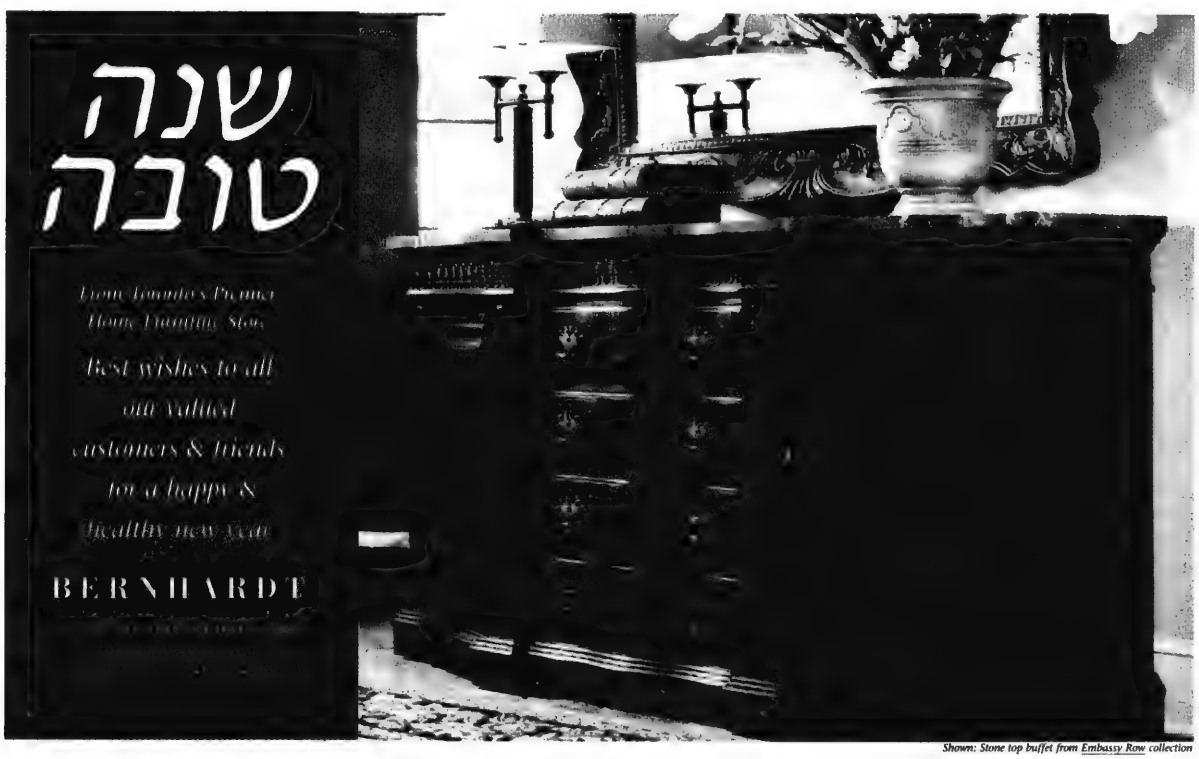
Netanyahu, who had said he would meet Arafat only if he deemed it in the national interest, justified his actions.

"I said that when I feel it is appropriate to meet with Arafat, I will," he said at a Tel Aviv news conference. "I know this will be a difficult process," he added, "but I know where we are going. I have a plan, a compass. Sometimes you have to move a little to the right, to the left, but I know where we are going."

He announced that Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai would meet with Arafat to continue discussions.

JTA correspondent Naomi Segal in Jerusalem contributed to this report.

Full international coverage starts on page 39.



Shown: Stone top buffet from Embassy Row collection

Greater Toronto Area

Celebrating Rosh Hashanah in Kiryat Shmonah

It was a smaller community then, approximately 15,000 people, and like most communities in Israel, a melange of cultures and customs. The main admixtures were Moroccan and Romanian, an unlikely combination anywhere else on earth. But in Israel, in Kiryat Shmonah in 1971, it was beautiful and it made sense.

Kiryat Shmonah is the northernmost city in Israel. It sits like a tiny starling in an open-air nest, contented but exposed, on the western edge of the Hula Valley between the hills of Lebanon and the heights of the Golan. Because it was mid September, the heat of the day, even at its hottest, was pleasant.

The bus station was near the end of town heading north on the main road toward Metulla. It was a busy place that day. People were leaving the city ahead of sundown to celebrate Rosh Hashanah with extended families or friends in other parts of the country. Most of the 125 North American students studying that summer in the Jewish Agency's ulpan dormitory in the heart of the city had already left for more southerly destinations.

One of those students, however, was at the bus station to greet a traveller rather than to become one. He was waiting for his friend to arrive from Jerusalem.

The bus pulled into the Jerusalem bay in the bus station. Three people stepped down. She was the third. His heart soared higher than the heights in the northern sky when he saw her. A bottle of grapefruit juice he gave her to slake a dusty thirst. The flowers were a graceful compensation for what he knew would be a clumsy, self-conscious greeting.

That evening, they were guests at the home of Saadia Levy and his family. Saadia was the caretaker at the dormitory. Taking care of a school in which 125 North American university graduates lived meant that Saadia always had a lot to do. He was a short, stocky man in his early 60s, with a full head of curly brown hair. He wore glasses in which the lenses were so thick it made his eyes appear as small brown peas. But his smile was a rich and wonderful thing to see, his teeth shining in perfect whiteness and symmetry.

Saadia came to Israel from Spanish-speaking Morocco. Three of his six children were born in Kiryat Shmonah. He was a gentle, patient man who always extended himself for the students at the ulpan. His name in Hebrew meant God's helper. In this man, it was so true.

The two student guests were seated to Saadia's immediate right at the table which had been specially elongated to accommodate the children, daughters- and sons-in-law, grandchildren and, of course, the two guests. Saadia's oldest son sat to the right of the guests.

No celebration in which the students had ever participated back home in North America prepared them for what they were about to experience that happy, loving, noisy, Rosh Hashanah evening in the home of Saadia Levy in Kiryat Shmonah.

Never in their lives had they been served so much food, in such varieties, so delicious, so interesting and so colorful. At the outset of the meal, a bottle of very sweet, sacramental Carmel wine and a twisted challah were placed in front of each of the students.

Saadia always received the first portion of each course. But he only nibbled at his food. He was almost entirely focused on ensuring that his company had enough to eat. In that regard, he competed with his wife. The two students were served next, after Saadia. In fact, no one else received any food until the students had finished at least half of their current serving. Not counting the numerous salads on the table, they ate their way through 11 different courses.

At the end of the evening, the two students returned to the dorms. Due to the amount of food they had consumed, the walk home was difficult. But it was mostly downhill and under the canopy of a million stars. As they walked, they felt tremendous gratitude for the generosity of God's helper and for the magical way in which the new year had begun.

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Greater Toronto Area

Report criticizes 'inordinate delay' in war crimes cases

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A senior Justice Department official made an error in judgment when he met a Federal Court judge to to discuss three war crimes cases, but he was motivated by concerns over "inordinate delays" in the proceedings, a report released last week concludes.

As a result of the March 1 meeting between Ted Thompson, assistant deputy attorney general for civil litigation, and Federal Court chief judge Julius Isaac, there is now a public perception of misconduct. In addition, Thompson has lost the confidence of his colleagues and he should be reassigned to new duties in the Justice Department, states Charles Dubin, former chief justice of the Ontario Court of Appeal.

In a 45-page report prepared for the Justice Department, Dubin concluded that Thompson never attempted to influence the outcome of the cases.

"Thompson wanted to draw the attention of the chief justice to the department's proposal for a reference [to the Supreme Court on legal issues], the problems the Department of Justice was having with respect to the progress of the cases which were then pending in the Federal Court and the impact of the delay on revocation proceedings yet to be instituted," Dubin wrote.

However, Thompson crossed "a fine line between the administrative and adjudicative functions of a court or a judge."

He said it was inappropriate for Thompson to discuss the three

Charles Dubin

cases with Isaac, though it would not have been inappropriate behavior to bring the department's concerns over scheduling future cases to Isaac's attention.

Lawyers for the three alleged war criminals seized on the meeting to request a stay of proceedings in the cases. They argued that the meeting was so egregious that it cast doubt on the principle of judicial independence. Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen accepted the proposition and ordered the proceedings halted. The federal government is appealing the decision.

In analysing the background to the March 1 meeting, Dubin noted that the three men — Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck — were accused of concealing their wartime activites, including the execution of civilians.

In January 1995, federal authorities began proceedings to strip them of their citizenship as a prelude to deportation. But "over a period of 13 months, only one day had been allocated to hear argument and that has permitted only a portion of the argument to be heard on one of three motions pending, all of which were preliminary in nature and preliminary to the revocation proceedings themselves," Dubin wrote.

"The end of the motions, let alone the applications for revocation [of citizenship] was nowhere in sight," he said.

Dubin noted that "in cases such as these, delay is welcomed by the [alleged war criminals] who do not want to lose their Canadian citizenship and be deported. It is quite understandable that the proceedings would be vigorously resisted by counsel for the [three men]."

Examining the impact of the delays, Dubin points out "the three revocation cases pending in the Federal Court were to be followed by several others and the slow progress of the three pending cases was having a direct adverse impact on them.

"There is a societal interest that proceedings once commenced proceed expeditiously. By reason of their very nature, that is particularly so in these cases. If matters are complex, more time must be assigned for argument," Dubin wrote.

Dubin's report was welcomed by Canadian Jewish Congress, which, along with other Jewish groups, has consistently criticized federal authorities and, more recently, the courts for the slow proceedings in the cases.

"Dubin concludes that the government initially acted with sensitivity towards inordinate delays on these cases," Keith Landy, Congress' honorary legal counsel, pointed out.

Bernie Farber, Congress' national director of community relations, said Dubin and Cullen exhibited a tremendous difference in attitude to the pace of proceedings in the cases. What Dubin saw as "inordinate delays," Cullen saw as normal, Farber said.

"Dubin's report confirms what we've been saying about the way the Federal Court is proceeding. He used stronger language than we do," Farber said.

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Many challenges await in 5757

Rosh Hashanah message from Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Goldie Hershon

Goldie Hershon

As we look towards the New Year 5757, many challenges appear on the Jewish agenda: the fight against anti-Semitism and racism nationally and abroad; the prosecution, denaturalization and deportation of suspected Nazi war criminals still resident in Canada; the promotion of national unity; advocacy on key national social policy and equity issues; Jewish continuity; and, of course, support for the state and people of Israel.

Among these issues, most are common to Diaspora communities. But one is not. The issue of Quebec separation and Canadian unity is preoccupying Canadians these days and the organized Jewish community is no different, particularly in Quebec where CJC's national headquarters are located.

The referendum on sovereignty last fall was too close for comfort and the narrow margin of victory means that we must overcome any sense of fatigue and renew our efforts to fight for national unity. To support national unity we must speak repeatedly about the benefits of being Canadian. Canada is one of the greatest countries in the world. Unfortunately, separatists would choose to divide our nation. As Jews, we benefit from a strong Canada.

Meanwhile, the fight against anti-Semitism and racism remains a human rights issue. From groups like the Heritage Front to neo-Nazis in our own Canadian military, these remain sources of concern. While hate is spread in many different ways, we now must pay close attention to the Internet and the likes of Ernst Zundel polluting cyberspace with his views. The pursuit of suspected Nazi war criminals in our country is not getting any easier. Time continues to run out and our judicial system has proven to be a serious deterrent, letting men with blood on their hands free in some cases because of procedural issues. We can't let up the pressure on our federal government.

In the Middle East, we pray that the search for peace will continue, allowing Israel to flourish in an atmosphere of harmony and shalom. May the Jewish homeland grow from strength to strength.

It is not our role to advise the Israeli government how to conduct its affairs. While we support peace, it is clear the Israeli government, like any other in the world, has as its first responsibility the protection of the lives of its citizens, its way of life and its territorial integrity.

As we go to synagogue during the High Holy Days, let us all pray for a year of goodwill and coalition building between communities. We must all work together in making this a better world in which to live.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

* * *

Message from the chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Israel Mr. Chen Ivri

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are two of the most important holidays of our people. These are days of spiritual elation, days of examination of our conscience and days of soul searching. During the 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the most solemn days of our tradition, our soul searching acquires a sublime value. We rigorously examine our conscience, our acts and our conduct.

On the eve of the New Year, we once again reflect upon our lives. We look to where we have been, we look also to where we had hoped to be. This is as true for nations as it is for individuals.

Year in, year out, through celebration and crises, the bond between our two nations becomes ever stronger, symbolizing despite vast distances of geography an unseverable union of purpose and history of common cause.

That bond and its immeasurable strength, are exemplified in the relations between our two communities. We are deeply grateful to you for your help, support and understanding which have been your constant hallmark.

As we approach the eve of the New Year full of hope, daring to dream of possibilities which only months ago were remote and distant aspirations, resolved to act in every manner reasonable and responsible to try to make those possibilities come alive, we are thankful for the kinship which we share with the Jewish communities around the world.

On behalf of the government of Israel, its people, and my family, I extend wishes for health, happiness, fulfilment, rewarding life and the answer to our prayers — peace. Shanah Tovah.

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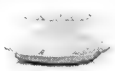

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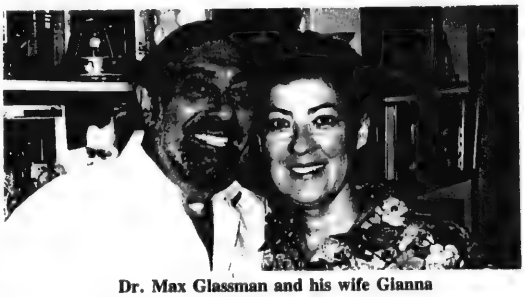
Greater Toronto Area

Bloor JCC gets $750,000 gift

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter



Dr. Max Glassman and his wife Gianna

TORONTO — The Bloor Jewish Community Centre (Bloor JCC) last week announced that a major step has been taken towards its future financial health.

The downtown centre received a pledge for $750,000 from one of its longtime members, Dr. Max Glassman, and will name the facility after him and his family.

The $750,000 contribution goes a long way towards meeting the Bloor JCC's $5-million fundraising goal. Together with other pledges and $750,000 from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, the Bloor JCC has accumulated almost $3 million in pledges since it became an independent entity in May 1995, said Bill Emery, the Bloor JCC's executive-director.

A former branch of the Jewish Community Centre (JCC), the Bloor JCC had for years faced the prospect of being sold to meet the JCC's enormous financial obligations, which on its dissolution reached about $15 million.

As part of the bail-out of the JCC by the federation (the federation paid all the JCC's creditors), the Bloor JCC became an independent body controlled by a members' group. It assumed a $3-million mortgage owing to the Bank of Montreal as its part of the JCC's debt. The federation provided $750,000 over three years to help pay down the mortgage interest.

Meanwhile, the members group launched an ambitious fundraising campaign aimed at raising $3 million to pay off the bank debt, $1 million for renovations and a further $1 million to operate programs and for other contingencies.

Funds received pursuant to the pledges (cheques have already been received) go first to paying down the centre's bank debt. Since it became independent in May '95, the Bloor JCC has paid off $300,000 in interest and whittled down the principal by a further $300,000, Emery added.

The mortgage should be down to $1.5 million in about a year-and-a-half, making it payable out of operating funds. At that point, renovations to the building should begin and be completed in three to six months, he said.

"We're amazed and thrilled by the support we're getting around here. When you ask people, they have been extremely supportive and generous," he said.

The centre has received quite a few $5,000 donations as well as several for $50,000 — not all from current Bloor JCC members, he added.

A former air force pilot, Glassman has been a member of the Bloor JCC and its predecessor, the YMHA, on and off since 1937.

"I'm privileged and blessed by God to be in a position both financially and psychologically to be able to support an organization, both for the Jewish and the general community, that has such a positive impact from early childhood until the later golden years," he said.

"I believe the Bloor JCC is deserving of tremendous commendation, particularly in bringing a great deal of goodwill to the Jewish community from the general community," he added.

For Glassman, founder of the Queensway Medical Centre, the Bloor JCC is a family facility. He works out at the centre four times a week, running on the track or treadmill, lifting weights and enjoying a sauna. He's also a regular worshipper at the centre's chapel.

His wife, Gianna, has been a member for about 13 years. Their daughters, Jordana Glassman and Shoshana Weiman, also work out at the centre.

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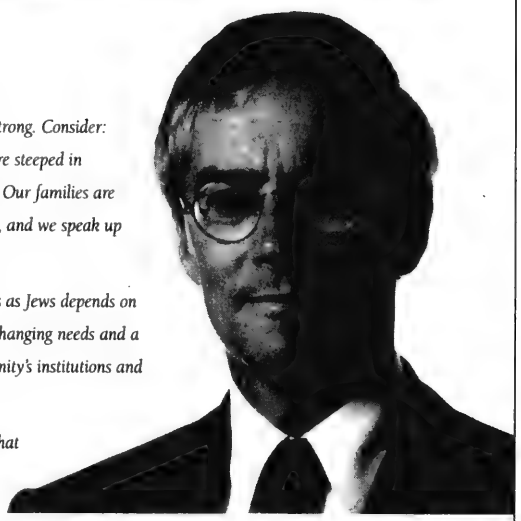

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Greater Toronto Area

Tuition fees up at most day schools

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For kids, it's time for new notebooks and pencils, but parents of the more than 10,000 students in Toronto's Jewish day school system may be reaching for the aspirin around now.

That's because tuition fees at most of the community-funded schools are up, but the increases are described as in line with rises in inflation and cost of living.

Just three of the 13 schools under the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE) are reporting no tuition increase over last year.

Here's how things break down:

- At Associated Hebrew Day Schools, tuition per child has gone from $6,550 last year to $6,950, a rise of 6.1 percent.
- At Beth Jacob High School for Girls, fees are now $9,575 per child, from $8,975 last year, up 6.7 percent.
- Tuition at Bialik Hebrew Day School has gone from $7,100 to $7,250, a rise of two percent.
- Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) has seen the sharpest rise, along with Beth Jacob High School. Fees are up 6.7 percent, from $8,975 a year ago to $9,575 per student.
- Eitz Chaim Day School's tuition has risen from $6,650 to $6,900, an increase of nearly 3.8 percent.
- There has been no increase at Leo Baeck Day School. This year's tuition is $7,600 per child.
- There has also been no increase at Ner Israel Yeshiva. Averaged out among all grades, including room and board, fees stay in the $11,500 range.
- The smallest increase has been at Netivot Hatorah, where tuition has gone from $7,350 to $7,400, up less than one percent.
- Or Haemet has seen no rise. Tuition stays at $6,150 per child.
- Fees at She'arim Hebrew Day School for the learning disabled have gone up from $11,350 per child to $11,750, a 3.5 percent increase.
- Also up sharply is tuition at Ulpanat Orot Girls' School, from $9,675 to $10,275 per child, a 6.2 percent rise.
- Fees at United Synagogue Day Schools are up nearly three percent, from $6,900 to $7,100 per child.
- Tuition at Yeshiva B'nai Akiva Or Chaim has risen by 6.2 percent, from $9,675 to $10,275.

The average increase across the system is 3.5 percent.

"That's not out of the ordinary," remarked Bernard Shoub, director of school finances at the BJE, in comparing this year's round of increases with those in previous years.

Shoub said a "key factor" in an analysis of tuition will be how costs break down between those who pay full fees versus those parents who receive financial assistance from the community. The figures for this academic year won't be out for a few months.

Last year, the numbers told two stories. The percentage of students receiving financial assistance was down for the fourth straight year, but the actual number getting subsidies was up. That was because there were more students in the system.

In the 1995-'96 academic year, 41 percent of BJE-funded day school students — or about 2,800 kids — received subsidies, ranging from full assistance to a few hundred dollars.

Shoub said subsidies also vary from school to school. At some, just 10 percent of students receive aid, while at others, the ratio can get as high as 85 percent.

There are many complex factors behind tuition increases, Shoub said.

Student population continues to increase

One is class size and the distribution of students. If a school has a cutoff of say, 25 children per class, and a certain grade grows to 51 students, then the class size grows from two classes of 25 students to three classes of 17 students. So while the Jewish student population continues to increase, especially in the suburbs, how students are spread out can often translate into higher costs.

Another factor is the mix of teachers. Junior teachers earn less than those with seniority. But, Shoub said, teachers' salaries have not increased dramatically over the years.

Other factors, Shoub noted, include leftover strains from the recession, ongoing government cutbacks and depressed fundraising in the community generally.

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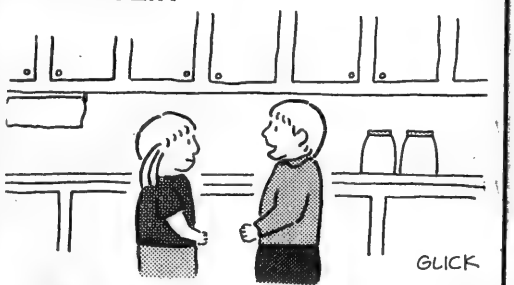

"On Rosh Hashanah it's fun to start the meal by dipping apple slices into honey – it's the one time of year when Mom and Dad actually want us to eat sweets before dinner!"

Greater Toronto Area

Consul General Kinar completes first year

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — So far, after one year in Canada, Jehudi Kinar has experienced nothing to compare with the shock of having a German ex-SS man come up to him and ask for forgiveness.

Sure, there have been anti-Semites who have called open line radio shows and spouted anti-Jewish propaganda, and there's been frustration at a major Toronto newspaper's coverage of the Middle East, but overall, Kinar is pleased with the way his first year in Canada has gone.

For Kinar, serving as consul general for Ontario and the West was a stroke of good fortune. "I always wanted a North American experience and I consider myself lucky," he said, referring to the two years he served in San Francisco before moving to Toronto.

Kinar clearly enjoys the warmth, hospitality and fervently-Zionist atmosphere in Toronto's Jewish community and he endorses the reputation of Toronto in Israel's Foreign Ministry as a strong supporter of the Jewish state regardless of the party in power.

Kinar jokes that his posting to Toronto from San Francisco was a natural. After all, the cities follow each other alphabetically and even the telephone area codes run consecutively, with San Fran's 415 followed immediately by Toronto's 416.

All joking aside, Kinar said he is happy to remain in North America after two previous postings to Holland and West Germany.

So far in his first year in Canada, Kinar has seen more of the country than most longtime citizens. He's visited Vancouver twice, and seen Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon and Winnipeg.

He has met with the local Jewish communities and political leaders, discussed the Middle East with newspaper editorial boards and representatives of the electronic media and attempted to cultivate interest in Israel among Canadian businesspeople.

One of his pet projects is to showcase the non-political, non-military side of Israel by bringing cultural ambassadors of the Jewish state — musicians, authors and artists — so that Canadians will see Israel's human face.

Kinar has also dived headlong into community life. One of the first programs he attended as representative of the Jewish state was the memorial to slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He's also been invited to three Yom Hashoah commemorations, prompting him to suggest the consolidation of the services into one large community event.

And he's willing to drop diplomatic niceties when it comes to tackling Israel's strongest critics, in particular, the *Toronto Star*.

Shunning diplomatic language, Kinar said "the *Toronto Star* is an example of a paper that lost its perspective when a new [Likud] government was elected ... They are frustrated that the Israeli public didn't take their advice" by re-electing the Labor government of Shimon Peres, he said.

Other papers level criticism at Israel, but the *Star* is more critical of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu than of Yasser Arafat and Hafez al-Assad, he suggested.

Newspapers should not withhold criticism, but "it should not all be one-sided," he added.

Thankfully, Kinar said, the *Star*'s attitude is not duplicated in other newspapers and the electronic media show balance when reporting on the Middle East.

Speaking of his former posting, Kinar said he believes San Francisco bears some similarities, and many differences, to Toronto.

While both communities are about the same size, the Jews of San Francisco are much more assimilated than those of Toronto. The Jewish education system here is much more extensive and widely used. Attachment to Israel is stronger in Canada and there is a larger Orthodox community and more Holocaust survivors here as well, he said.

Jehudi Kinar

Holland and Germany are two different kettle of fish. From 1976 to '81 Kinar served in the Hague and from 1983 to '88 he worked in Bonn.

It was while living in Germany and attending an "Israel Day" event hosted by the town of Laupheim, near the Swiss border, that his encounter with an ex-Nazi took place. After Kinar had addressed the crowd and discussed Israel, a man approached him and said, " 'You are the first Jew and Israeli I have met since the war. I was an SS officer and I want to apologize.' "

Taken aback, Kinar could do nothing else but shake the hand that was offered him, but he declined the SS man's request to be forgiven.

"It's not for me to forgive," Kinar told him.

Though Kinar is a representative of the Jewish State, he also had a personal stake in the SS man's request. Born in the early part of the war, Kinar was 16 months old when his parents hid him with a Dutch woman.

Although he has almost no memory of those early years, Kinar recalls being reunited with his parents and sister at age 5, after they'd survived Bergen-Belsen.

One of his first memories dates back to 1948 when Israel declared its independence and crowds of Jews flocked to the Amsterdam concert hall to dance horahs in celebration.

Even then, at age 7, Kinar felt that Israel was the place for him.

Raised in a modern Orthodox home that was fervently Zionist, Kinar later attended university in Geneva, Switzerland, studying to be an interpreter. He went on to complete a masters degree in political science and authored a thesis in 1968 on Israel's technical assistance to African countries.

In Geneva, the former Bnei Akiva activist chaired the Jewish Students Union and met many Israelis through the World Union of Jewish Students.

In 1969, he made aliyah, joining his many aunts and uncles who had fled Germany before the war. Five days after he arrived in Israel, he met his future wife, Ruti.

Kinar joined the Foreign Ministry in January 1970 but left after two years to join an investment company. Two years later, he rejoined the ministry, this time to stay.

Over the course of years, he's served in a variety of capacities, including in the department of international cooperation and as a deputy director of information.

When asked to serve in Germany — he speaks fluent German — he hesitated at first. How would he react when he met people in their 60s and 70s who were adults during the war, he wondered.

Now, looking back on his Germany experience, he calls it "very interesting."

He took the opportunity to discuss Israel and the Holocaust with young Germans. He found the generation whose grandparents were adults during the war receptive to hearing Kinar's description of the Jews' experience of the war and to questioning their grandparents, he said.

Still, old attitudes die hard. Kinar recalls one jarring experience for his wife, who was talking to a friend in Hebrew when a shopkeeper asked what language they were speaking.

When she replied "Hebrew," the shopkeeper said, "But you look so normal."

At the state level, his tenure in Germany was anything but uneventful. Trade ties increased and a number of firsts were recorded: the visit by then prime minister Shimon Peres to Germany; the visit by then president Chaim Herzog to Germany; the visit by the German president to Israel; and the visit to Israel by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

As for his first year in Toronto, Kinar can't point to a particular highlight, saying, "It's been a continuous highlight because of what the community is doing in supporting Israel and each other."

Kinar feels he can serve as a unifying link between community groups. "If I can be helpful in bringing them together through Israel, I see that as part of my work."

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Diplomacy is honorable...

It was inevitable. That it occurred some 80 days after he became prime minister delighted some and dismayed others. But the first handshake between Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat is now a matter for history.

According to a survey of Israeli public opinion conducted by the Dahaf Institute for *Yediot Aharonot*, 82 percent of Israelis believe Netanyahu's meeting was "a correct step." Thus, the prime minister was able to ward off criticism of his meeting from both inside and outside his own party, secure in the knowledge that the broad mainstream of Israeli life was behind him as he extended his hand across the table toward the Palestinian leader.

Such unequivocal public backing is crucial. It will enable him to negotiate, to honorably engage in diplomacy with the Palestinian Authority, at his pace and according to his own clearly-stated policy parameters, from a demonstrated position of strength. It will also enable him to resist being tugged and pushed by the extremists within the society for whom any negotiations or diplomacy with the Palestinians is anathema.

Peace has always been one of our people's chief aspirations. Its place is central in the prayers that will emanate from our hearts and form on our lips as we usher in the new year tomorrow. May God crown with success the efforts of Prime Minister Netanyahu on behalf of the people of Israel. And may peace be achieved this year, for all years to come.

...demagoguery is not

Also worthy of our prayers is the preservation of Canada. Resorting once again to his favorite tactic, Premier Lucien Bouchard last week raised the anti-separatist bogeyman of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, only to shoot him down with a flurry of dissimulations and prevarications. He accused the prime minister of personally attempting to heighten tensions in Quebec through an assortment of tactics which included, among others, "fanning the flames" of partition and sending federal cabinet ministers to Quebec City to "gloat" over job losses. As reported in the press, Bouchard said, "Quebecers are ready to express their opinion on the *underhanded manoeuvres of Jean Chrétien*...to say what it thinks of the undemocratic antics of the leader of the Liberal party...Let him explain *why he no longer believes in democracy.*" (Our emphasis)

It is an old trick, a time-worn ploy practised by the desperate. But it won't work. As we have written in this space numerous times, Quebec secession means Canada's disintegration. The federal government, provincial governments, municipal governments and every individual who believes in Canada and loves it, have the right, if not the obligation, to oppose that disintegration.

We commend the federal government for learning the lessons of the Oct. 30 referendum, for showing unwavering resolve in the fight for Canada, for not retreating to the sidelines. We especially commend the prime minister for championing a strong, distinct and assertive Quebec within a strong, federated and assertive Canada. To be so vilified and so ruthlessly attacked in the province of his birth must cut a terrible, deep wound. He deserves our support even as Canada deserves our prayers as we greet 5757.

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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Rosh Hashanah 1894 the first High Holy Day services in Calgary were held in the Bow River Masonic Lodge Hall. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

'Brainless' demolition of Palestinian Centre

The Jerusalem municipality's recent decision to launch a pre-dawn demolition of a recently renovated Palestinian community centre with a children's playground was ill-advised, brainless even, and mean-spirited.

The renovations, which were deemed necessary by Jerusalem municipal inspectors, were funded by the Canadian Embassy, the World Vision Charity and a Swedish church. Jerusalem's Likud mayor, Ehud Olmert, defended the action because the Palestinians lacked the necessary building renovation permit, a permit the Palestinians claimed was submitted but ignored.

This legalistic and unworthy demolition diminished the lofty spirit of Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary.

Beverley Stern
Toronto

'Honorary Aryan' at 1936 Berlin Olympics

In his enlightening article on the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936, Rabbi Gunther Plaut omitted an essential component: the Reichs-Commissioner for the Olympic Games, Exzellenz Theodor Lewald (August 1860 - April 1947, Berlin).

According to the Nazi laws for the "protection of the German blood and honor" as decreed in September 1935, the Reichs-Commissioner was a "Mischling" of the first degree, since his father, though baptized, was fully Jewish by descent. As well, the Lewald family of East-Prussia was widely renowned: the Reichs-commissioner's paternal aunt was the writer and battler for women's rights, Fanny Lewald (1811-1889).

Adolf Hitler tolerated Theodor Lewald's presidency of the Games and indeed his notable presence, because the International Olympic Committee would have refused permission for the Games' venue in Berlin.

In documentary films of the Olympic Games of 1936, one can witness Adolf Hitler himself striding next to Exzellenz Theodor Lewald, heir to a singular Jewish cultural heritage, across the field to the high podium. There Lewald took his place next to the Führer, Hermann Goering, Paul Joseph Goebbels and the rest of these criminals.

Unlike others of paternal Jewish descent, Theodor Lewald was not persecuted during the years that followed, but he was also not "elevated" to the level of an honorary Aryan. Since Lewald was married to the daughter of a Lutheran bishop, his status was that of living within the bonds of a "privileged mixed marriage" and he was not required to wear the Star of David either.

Klaus J. Herrmann
Concordia University
Montreal

Calling KZ Bisingen prisoners

The town of Bisingen is planning an exhibition in November about the concentration camp and production of oil during World War II in Bisingen/Baden-Wurttemberg (August 1944 - April 1945).

I am looking for information about former prisoners who were in the KZ Bisingen: number of prisoner, nationality, religion, town and date of birth, profession, date and reason of deportation, stay in KZ (where and how long).

For this exhibition, I am looking for photos (survivors: photo of that time and a present photo), personal documents or memoirs.

Christine Glauning
Heidelbergstrasse 9
Hausanschrift 72406 Bisingen
Tel: 011-49 74 76/896-0
Fax: 011-49 74 76/896-80

Antennae down

In our Sept. 5 issue, we carried a letter on the Kielce pogrom from Hanna Sokolski of the Canadian Polish Congress. The letter appeared to use what we consider to be a classic device in anti-Semitic discourse, namely, to identify someone parenthetically as a Jew who may have changed his name and identity. Unfortunately, our antennae were down and we missed the use of this device.

Though a legitimate case can be made for omitting such a letter, it is useful at times to read.

We think our readers will get the message.

The Editor

Heine's passport to proper society

J. Freeman (*CJN*, Aug. 15) says that he does not know whether Heinrich Heine was a Jew and also that Heine said that the Germans would take it out on the Jews.

Heinrich Heine was a Jew who converted to Christianity "without ever ceasing to be a Jew." His original name was Harry Heine, but he usually signed his work H. Heine only.

I do not know whether he predicted that the Germans would one day take it out on the Jews, but I do know that he said: "Christianity is a passport to European Society."

Vera Yehros
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Rosh Hashanah in the Sephardi communities

By SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN

In most Ashkenazi communities, Rosh Hashanah is celebrated with festive meals that include apples dipped in honey. In Sephardi communities, it is celebrated with a meal that is prepared without salt or vinegar. In both, the challah is dipped in honey instead of sprinkled with salt after the Hamotzi.

The Sephardi mother does not remind her family about this culinary symbol, preferring instead to surprise them and thus provoke their questions. The meal includes dishes that are specific to Rosh Hashanah and is preceded by a mini-seder which is explained in the "sheet of honey."

During the mini-seder, certain foods are eaten whose Hebrew names allow puns, such as karet (leek): *she ikartu* ... may (our enemies) be exterminated; krah (pumpkin): *she ikara* ... may (the decree of our extermination) be ripped. Or symbolic foods are served, such as pomegranates: symbol of abundance ... may we be as numerous as the seeds of a pomegranate; the head of a fish or a lamb ... *she ny'heh barosh ve lo bazanav:* may we be at the head and not at the tail.

In some communities, people do not eat hazelnuts, because the numerical value of the Hebrew name *egoz* is 17, the same as the numerical value of *chet*, sin.

In Iraq and Yemen, it is the custom to slaughter a lamb to symbolize the sacrifice of Isaac read on Rosh Hashanah.

Rosh Hashanah is a time for internal musing, for introverted thinking, meditation and repentance, all inspired by *pachad* (fear of G-d) and *k'nia* (submission (to the will of G-d), since on that day, Yom Hadin, Jews are being judged.

In Morocco, they follow the custom of *chatarat nedarim*, the cancellation of promises and vows made to family and friends during the year. In symbolic expiation of our sins, men hit children and women on the back with branches of the *arava*, (willow) and in the synagogues, they do the same with fellow congregants.

Rosh Hashanah falls after the month of Elul, which is called *chodesh rachamim*, because we believe G-d is near us and is listening to us even more than usual. In Kurdistan, this is the month when community leaders intervene between husbands and wives who are going through difficult times in their marriage, in order to reconcile them. It is a tradition which is strictly followed to this day among Kurdistani Jews, who are known to have a very low rate of divorce.

To ensure that one's "mazal" will not sleep, most Jews do not have their usual afternoon siesta, which, in the hot countries of the Mediterranean is a hard thing to do.

In Jerba, the rabbis, anticipating boredom and impatience during the long services on Rosh Hashanah, remind their congregants on the Shabbat preceding Rosh Hashanah of the passage of the Brit Kehouna, written by the Jerban rabbi, Yacov Cohen. In the "Brit," he explains to those who pray that it is better to pray a little, but with *kavanah* — with all one's heart and mind — rather than a lot, but mechanically.

The Jerbans read all of the 150 Tehillim (Psalms) twice to get to 300, which is the numerical value of *kaparah* (atonement). The money the synagogue makes from the auction of honors is used to buy winter clothes for the poor. They auction the privilege of taking the Torah out of the Aron Hakodesh, the seven aliyot, the placing of the *rimonim* (the decorations) on the handles of the Sefer Torah by the children and the Haftorah.

According to Sephardi tradition, no one tells the *tokea* (the one who blows the shofar) how many or what kinds of blasts to blow. He is the fifth man to be called to the Torah so that he can sell his aliyah and get the money for reading the Torah and not for blowing the shofar, since this is a privilege for which the *tokea* does not accept payment.

In Syria, they blow 101 blasts of the shofar instead of the customary 100, because 101 is the numerical value of the name Michael, called Sar Israel, Prince of Israel, as we read in the Book of Daniel (12:1):

"And at that time, shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people; there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, and at that time, thy people shall be delivered, everyone shall be found written in the Book."

Thus, as Jews pray in the synagogues of Syria, they offer an additional blast of the shofar, hoping that Michael, their champion and protector, hearing the number of blasts corresponding to the gematria of his name, will listen to them, fight for them and have them included in the Book of Life for the coming year.

Hearing the sound of the shofar, which is the central religious obligation of the holiday of Rosh Hashanah, is depicted in a painting dated between 1450 and 1470. The scene is of a community in northern Italy. The painting is from the Rothschild Miscellany at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. [Reprinted from *The Jewish Calendar 1944*]

Opinions

Infighting doesn't solve anything

During the 18 days that I spent in Israel in the second half of August, I noticed changes since my three-month stay there the previous summer.

By Viva Press

In Tel Aviv, I went straight to Kikar Malchei Yisrael, which is now called *Kikar Rabin*, Rabin Square. The Memorial to Yitzhak Rabin stands in the middle of the sidewalk on Ibn Gvirol Street that converges with three other streets onto the square. Last summer, there was no memorial. Rabin was then campaigning for peace. But now, in the middle of the sidewalk on Ibn Gvirol Street, a poster size picture of Rabin stands behind two glass cases with candles inside.

Fresh flowers surround the site and behind the picture, a silver, spray-painted barrel covered in bullet holes has an Israeli flag projecting out of one aperture. Stickers, posters and slogans cover the cement walls and columns of the buildings with messages of peace, of the martyred and of despair. The most ubiquitous is *shalom, chaver*, goodbye, friend.

Rabin's assassination highlights the ideological differences among Jews. Jews against Jews has evolved into physical confrontations in the streets of Jerusalem. Haredim want Bar Ilan Street, a main thoroughfare that bisects their neighhborhoods, to be closed on Shabbat. Secular and Masorti groups are strongly opposed to the Shabbat closing.

When I got to Israel, a group of my friends told me that the Haredim not only throw stones but have now resorted to throwing dirty diapers at other Jews for violating the Sabbath laws in their area. I didn't believe them.

It is common knowledge that the Haredim's response to passing traffic on the Shabbat is their urgent and loud chanting of "Shabbos, Shabbos," as they try to repulse motorists. But I question the act of throwing things, whether it be stones or diapers, to hurt a fellow Jew. Isn't it written in the Torah that we should treat others the way we would like to be treated? And so, on my first Shabbat afternoon in Jerusalem, I walked with a friend of mine to Bar Ilan Street.

We got there at 5:10 p.m. There were already about 50 or so Haredim, men and women, boys and girls, lining the street. The occasional car drove past. One or two slogans were shouted out. I thought I was in the wrong place. This was a peaceful demonstration, if a demonstration at all. But as time moved on, more and more people came to the street. My friend told me it was getting closer to the time. Six o'clock is when the action really starts.

And then, at about 5:50 p.m. the first of the left-wing Meretz party convoy of cars appeared. The less Orthodox Jews, especially those affiliated with Meretz, provokingly drove through the haredi neighborhoods on Shabbat honking their horns and waving Israeli flags to rile the Haredim. As the cars slowly moved along the street, the chanting of "Shabbos, Shabbos," increased in volume. I felt as though I was at a sporting event. The response of the screaming horns to the frenzied chantings reminded me of a game at the Sky Dome or Maple Leaf Gardens when the fans rally behind their teams. But I was in Jerusalem. And here were Jews deliberately mocking other Jews.

During the hour or so that I spent at the scene, the police had to use force twice to control the haredi crowds. One Meretz supporter was pulled from his car when he stopped at a red light and a couple of photographers were pushed and shoved. I got one push myself.

Jerusalem is not only the scene of the conflict of Jews against Jews. The old, long-standing feud of Arabs against Jews also continues. En route to the Old City, I noticed how new a part of Jaffa Street looked. When I pointed this out to the friend I was with, he told me the new store-front windows were put in after the bus 18 bombings. I was in the spot where they had taken place. These parts of Jaffa Street, like other locations in the country, serve as memorials to victims of terrorism whether or not there is a formal monument in place.

When I left Israel at the end of August, the Haredim had not yet gone through with a mass demonstration they had planned at that time, to obstruct 30 junctions throughout the city. They were intent on throwing their opposition to a court ruling that Bar Ilan Street should not be closed. This demonstration was delayed because of organizational problems. A compromise has yet to be reached.

On my flight home from London to Toronto, I sat beside an Australian woman. After telling her that I was on my way home from Israel, she told me how much she respects the Jewish people because of the turbulent history we have gone through. I'm glad she hasn't heard of our escalating internal conflicts. It would be embarrassing to tell her that with all the prblems we face in the outside world, we make matters worse by infighting.

A new year

With Selichot having begun and Rosh Hashanah a few days away, my thoughts turn to the very source of our Jewish existence, our Bible.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Last Shabbat, the Haftorah (the prophetic selection read after the Torah reading) contained a saying that many readers find difficult to understand. The prophet Isaiah proclaims that when the people of Israel suffer, God too is suffering (63:9).

It seems like a strange concept, for what does it say about God's omnipotence. Isn't the Almighty, as the name suggests, all-powerful? Why does an Almighty God have to suffer, and why would the Sovereign of the world allow a Holocaust to happen, an event of such proportions that it nearly wiped out the Torah's "chosen people"? These are difficult questions — and no one will expect a column such as this to answer them. But such questions are important to us, for on their answers depends the possibility of belief in a merciful and just God, whose true nature will always escape human understanding.

With the image of a suffering God, the prophet no doubt meant to convey the sense of God's closeness to Israel. When we are persecuted, God is filled with anger, even wrath, especially when there is no one to help. In this sense, Isaiah says that the Divine Presence too is afflicted. God thus appears as both powerful and vulnerable, In the prophet's view, these two Divine characteristics are clearly compatible, even as they are compatible in the human being — and the poet uses human language to convey what is essentially inaccessible.

For Isaiah, God struggles forever with human evil and its consequences. Israel is not the only nation to suffer its effects, but Israel is of special Divine concern. God interferes in history only when ultimate disaster may thwart the Divine purpose — but in the process the Eternal too suffers. For the human race has from the beginning caused God anger and disappointment. Hence the metaphor of the Eternal who is afflicted while history takes its human course.

If all this sounds difficult, it is. Religion does not deal with simple answers, with always clear-cut yes-and-no, black-and-white. God's ways are often hidden from us, and it is the function of faith to bridge the gap. This is the season to rev up our spiritual batteries and face the difficult questions of our existence.

One last reminder: If you are only an occasional visitor to the synagogue, don't expect the rabbi and chazzan to perform spiritual miracles for you. It won't work, and you'll leave disappointed. You've got to bring yourself — as a participant, not a bystander. That way you'll get more out of Rosh Hashanah.

The substance of this article is taken from Rabbi Plaut's latest work, The Haftarah Commentary.

Jewish life on and off campus

It is the beginning of a new school year and the McGill campus is bustling with activity as first-year students with expressions of confusion and fear on their faces get their first taste of university bureaucracy.

By Hartley Lachter

I remember my first few days at university, waiting in lines for ID cards, going to orientation sessions, talking to different academic advisors (who never really gave me anything I would call advice) and feeling overwhelmed by such a *big* place.

For Jewish students, there is the added concern of where to go for the first Shabbat dinner and how to tap into the Jewish student community. However, Jewish students are often concerned with more than just Jewish life on campus. They are also interested in the Jewish community in general, whether it be going to political rallies for Jewish causes, teaching elementary religious school part time, finding kosher food and of course, going to shul.

University can be a very defining time in the life of many young Jews, simply because the decision to get involved with Jewish activities on and off campus is completely up to the students themselves. For many, this is their first time away from home, where things like Shabbat dinner and High Holy Day services just happen.

Shabbat dinner invitations

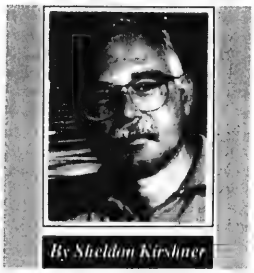
When you get to university, you have to *make* these things happen. Though there are some Jewish students who go off to school and never have anything to do with Judaism, there are still a considerable number of students who make Jewish social and religious activities a top priority. If you go to a synagogue which is located near a university campus, you may see some of these interested Jewish students at services for Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and other holidays.

As a Jewish student, I have always been impressed by how welcoming the Jewish community is to university-age Jews. I have never heard of anyone who did not get at least three invitations for Shabbat dinner on their first visit to shul after coming to a new city to go to school. After a hectic week trying to navigate the ins and outs of the university system, a nice meal in a real house with a real family is *very* appreciated.

However, I have always found it a little curious that as much as congregation members are delighted to see Jewish students at shul, they are also amazed. Almost every other student I have asked has said that people at shul are usually surprised even to see students on the High Holy Days. Perhaps this is due to a misconception that university is a completely separate world unto itself which prevents students from getting involved in non-university activities. Perhaps it is a common assumption that all Jewish students lose touch with their Judaism while they are at school. Whatever the case may be, Jewish students want to feel welcome rather than unusual. Though the university community is distinct, it is not exclusive, and Jewish students, if properly encouraged and supported, can become a vibrant part of any Jewish community.

The Kirshner File

Historic buildings at serious risk



Like memory, architecture is an integral component of a culture. Buildings, particularly distinguished ones, unlock the key to a civilization at a given point in history. All too often, unfortunately, buildings rise and fall, succumbing to the ravages of time or falling victim to religious rivalries, maurauding armies or simple neglect.

Today, in Europe and in the Middle East, a number of historic buildings, notably synagogues, are at serious risk. If preservation efforts are not undertaken soon, they will collapse, never to be seen again except in glossy, inanimate coffee-table books.

The World Monuments Fund, a private, non-profit, New York City-based organization dedicated to identifying imperilled heritage sites around the world, has published a list of endangered buildings of Jewish interest. They are:

•The White City, Tel Aviv. There was a construction boom in Tel Aviv in the 1930s. Architects fleeing Nazi tyranny designed an ensemble of buildings inspired by the Bauhaus movement. Its leading exponent was Erich Mendelsohn. Today, these buildings — some 1,000 in number — are threatened by development. City hall is preparing a plan to protect them. But in the meantime, some of the buildings are being levelled.

•Prozna Street, Warsaw, Poland. Four large tenement buildings, once in the heart of the Jewish district, are in a dangerously decrepit state. Nearby construction projects may further destabilize them.

•Boskovice, Czech Republic. One of the best preserved Jewish quarters in Eastern Europe, with 150 buildings. It has been designated as an urban conservation area.

•Subotica Synagogue, Subotica, Yugoslavia. One of the finest surviving examples of the architecture of the late 19th century Secessionist movement. The roof has been fixed, but the rest of the building is in dire need of restoration.

•Rabbi Shlomo Ibn Danan Synagogue, Fes, Morocco. One of the best preserved synagogues in North Africa. Constructed in the 17th century. It is not maintained, and furnishings are at great risk.

•Etz Hayim Synagogue, Hanina, Greece. Built in the 15th century. The centre of Crete's Jewish community before the Holocaust. The building is in very poor condition.

•Slonim Synagogue, Slonim, Belarus. One of the grandest shuls in the region. Built in the Baroque style in 1642. Now used as a warehouse. The Belarus government has expressed an interest in preserving the building.

•Pfaffenhoffen Synagogue, Pfaffenhoffen, France. The only surviving synagogue predating the French Revolution. Listed as a national historic monument. Requires urgent repairs.

•Mad Synagogue, Mad, Hungary. Restored in mid-1970s, but interior needs extensive repair and conservation. Dates from about 1795.

•Paradesi Synagogue, Cochin, India. Sole functioning shul in area. Erected in 1568. Requires massive repairs.

•Tempel Synagogue, Krakow, Poland. One of the few intact synagogues left in Poland, it was commissioned in the early 1860s. Restoration work has begun.

•Pinczow Synagogue, Poland. Dating back to the 17th century, it is one of the most artistically significant Jewish buildings still unrestored in Poland.

An original work

Before xenophobic restrictions curbed the flow in the 1920s, the United States welcomed nearly a limitless number of white immigrants, including Jews, with open arms.

For the newcomers, the overriding challenge was how best to adapt to life in America. All too often, as they discovered, the key to their acculturation was not only an acquaintanceship with English and local customs, but interestingly enough, a willingness to buy consumer goods.

At first glance, this thesis may sound somewhat trite and perhaps irrelevant. But after you've read Andrew Heinze's *Adapting to Abundance* (Columbia University Press, $35 US), an original work of social history, you may well be forced to revise your view.

More than 20 million immigrants settled in the United States between the 1870s and 1914. Among them were hundreds of thousands of Jews, mainly from Eastern Europe. Eager to establish themselves, they responded to the condition of mass consumption, recognizing that, as consumers, they could begin to move toward the goal of fitting into the mainstream.

Through the marketplace, they had the opportunity almost immediately to adapt to their new surroundings, writes Heinze. While the English language was an essential avenue into American culture, habits of consumption were an easier point of entry.

The prospect of consumption attracted everyone, regardless of religion or ethnicity. But Jews were particularly driven toward the acquisition and manufacture of consumer goods, and Jewish neighborhoods in American cities offered them a range of products that would have been simply inconceivable in Eastern Europe.

The piano in the parlor — an ideal of home furnishing in the late 19th century — was a major symbol of social status. Clothing, too, was an important symbol of cultural transformation. Clothes were a means by which Jews announced their desire to adapt to the norms of the day, a sign of Americanization. "The new suit of clothes," Heinze observes, "gave physical form to the essentially spiritual undertaking of aliens striving for membership in a new society."

Eventually, the Sabbath evolved into a day for shopping, except, of course, among the truly Orthodox. The legion of stores in New York City's Lower East Side was vivid testimony to the importance of shopping in the Jewish calendar.

The increased prospects for consumption enabled Jewish women to increase their already strong influence in the family. Through their role as consumers and managers of household consumption, they smoothed the transition to Americanization.

In America, then, Jews moved from a world of scarcity to a world of abundance. And as consumers, they were able to blend into a society with which they and their offspring could identify.

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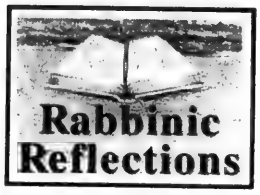


A still small voice

BY RABBI DAVID ROSENBERG

Rosh Hashanah ushers in the season of divine judgment and human repentance: "On Rosh Hashanah their destiny is inscribed and on Yom Kippur it is sealed...but repentance, prayer and tzedakah cancel the stern decree."

The famous prayer, Unetaneh Tokef, proclaims the awesomeness of this time in a pair of contrasting images: "The great shofar [of judgment] is sounded; a still, small voice is heard."

The still, small voice recalls Elijah's experience at Mount Horeb after his victory over the prophets of Baal (I Kings, chapter 19). There, Elijah shares with God his rage at the people of Israel for forsaking God's covenant. God responds with an awesome display: "There was a great and mighty wind...but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind – an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake – fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire – a still, small voice."

Rabbi Levy ben Gerson (Gersonides, 14th century) writes in his commentary to this passage that God desired to moderate Elijah's wrath. God presented wind, quake and fire as emblems of an unwarranted, violent response to the backslidings of Israel. He chose "a still, small voice" – a milder form of discipline. Elijah was too angry to pay any heed and simply reiterated his condemnation of the Israelites. God then told Elijah to appoint Elisha as prophet instead of him. Elijah's wrath had gone too far.

It is tempting for those of us who are traditionalists – as it was for Elijah at Horeb – to call down the wrath of God upon the vast majority of our people who will not bear the yoke of the mitzvot and especially upon those who teach and preach accordingly. However, the still, small voice of God's discipline at Horeb suggests we leave off condemning and take up gentle persuasion – particularly in an age when Jews see religious behavior as a private matter of conscience.

If most Jews do not find kashrut, for example, compelling, let those of us who do so, advocate the practice of kashrut with love. In the meantime, both the observant and the non-observant are part of our community in all its messy complexity.

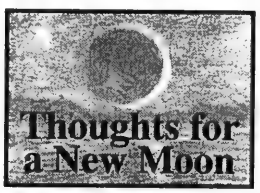
Let me illustrate with an example from my community (London). Federation has proposed that the Reform temple and local day school co-locate with the JCC. This proposal would not be acceptable to Temple Israel without provisions for a kitchen for the temple's own use. Such a kitchen, functioning independently of the communal, kosher-supervised kitchens, would not be considered kosher in a halachic sense. However, the Temple feels as a matter of what it sees as religious principle – the principle of autonomy – that it should be able to conduct a kitchen that does not conform with the Halachah.

An Orthodox rabbi could easily have obstructed the proposal. Instead, I have responded by helping to craft a policy that will enable the Temple to use its own kitchen for its purposes and will still maintain the kashrut and communal aspect of the JCC's kosher kitchens. I have done so out of the conviction that if Federation's proposal withers on the vine, then the entire community – including my synagogue – will be weakened. I have done so knowing that beyond the great shofar of judgment may be heard the still, small voice of God.

The great shofar of judgment calls on us to look into ourselves and rededicate ourselves to God and our fellows. The still, small voice lovingly teaches us that the path of repentance – for each of us and for our people – must be undertaken with humility and mutual respect.

Rabbi David Rosenberg is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Tefilah in London, Ont.

Change essential part of life



By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we read the Torah portion where God "remembers" the matriarch Sarah and the promise made that she will bear a child. The story of the birth of Isaac unfolds. On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, we read of the binding of Isaac by his father Abraham and the attempt to sacrifice Isaac to God. The first story speaks of life beginning and a promise fulfilled, while the second story documents the line walked by father and son between life and death.

Sarah's voice is silent during the "binding," but is she truly absent? What is Sarah's connection to our New Year?

The story of Isaac's birth is unusual, since Sarah was of advanced age and had already undergone menopause. It is fitting that this story be read every Rosh Hashanah, for it reinforces the notion that any life can undergo change at any stage — it is never too late. Sarah's reaction to the birth is understood to be extremely joyous, and yet one can also read hesitation and uncertainty in her responses.

Changes, although positive, are changes nonetheless, and we are creatures of habit. It may be unsettling to introduce alterations into our lives, as joyous as they may be. The 10 days of repentance between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the time we introduce changes into our lives. We understand Sarah's unbridled joy as well as her hesitation.

Silence of Sarah is deafening

The second Torah portion, the binding of Isaac, centres on Abraham, Isaac and God. Sarah is absent. The story focuses on one man's struggle with his God, and yet the silence of Sarah is deafening.

Immediately following this text the Torah tells of the death of Sarah and many commentaries connect the two events. Sarah could not survive the trauma and the betrayal she experienced during that episode. Her husband, her son and her God together were walking the fine line between life and death, but Sarah could not endure. Her death was a reaction to the events around her and not a judgment against her.

We believe that the world in its entirety is judged on Rosh Hashanah and its fates are sealed on various days throughout the year. The fates of human beings are sealed on Yom Kippur. We grapple with this concept and conclude that if we are "good," we are granted a positive decree; but we are guilty of simplification.

The Torah forbids us to live our lives in isolation either from our families or from the world at large. We are constantly reaching to events which occur beyond our spheres of control and these reactions play a part in our fate. In taking stock of our lives, we must never ignore the impact of our actions upon others.

Sarah teaches us both the joy and the difficulty of embracing change. She also shows us the frailty of our imprint on others. On Rosh Hashanah, while we are evaluating ourselves, we must also remember those whose lives we touch.

Jewish Life

Many excellent Internet sites for the High Holidays

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Sometimes it's crucial to pull over to the shoulder of the Highway and examine where you've been, where you're going and whether you really are taking the right route. There are many excellent sites on the Internet that help you to do just that – prepare for the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Of the numerous sites which summarize the customs of these holidays, a favorite is Neat Customs of Rosh Hashanah **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/customs.htm]**. There you'll find the proper Holiday greeting ("May you be inscribed and sealed immediately for a good life"), a guide to holiday foods (a round challah, a fish head, beets, leeks and more) and the tradition of refraining from sleeping on the afternoon of Rosh Hashanah. The Jerusalem Talmud says, "If one sleeps at the year's beginning (Rosh Hashanah), his good fortune likewise sleeps."

There are many other sites that explain these traditions such as Project Genesis' links at **[http://www.torah.org/learning/yomtov/]** Virtual Jerusalem's at **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/]** and the several articles starting with The Month of Tishrei at **[http://members.aol.com/jewfaq/holiday1.htm]**.

Another good overview of Rosh Hashanah rituals (including the traditions of Reform Jews) was prepared by Temple Israel of Westport, Connecticut **[http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/ct/ct004/Target.html]**.

And Montreal's Joseph Ohayon is creator of the Sepharade Page where you can find a French-language summary of the laws of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in addition to some short stories about the holiday season **[http://www.webcom.com/rel/ROSHHA.html]**.

The focus at this time of year is *tshuvah* or repentance. Ohr Somayach's Rabbi Michoel Schoen examines The Concept of Tshuvah **[http://www.virtual.co.il/ education/education/ohr/special/ roshhash/rosh94.htm]** and Eliezer Segal writes about the connection between repentance and the choice of the Book of Jonah as the Torah reading on Yom Kippur afternoon **[http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/950921_Jonah.html]**. (And while you're in the neighborhood, check out some of Prof. Segal's essays about the Days of Awe at **[http://acs6.acs. ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#RH]**.)

Central to holiday services of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is the Hebrew religious poem, the *piyyut*. Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary examines the history of the *piyyut* **[http://www.jtsa. edu/pubs/parashah/5755/rosh hashanah.html]** and then takes a very personal look at the *piyyutim* he finds in his own cherished machzor handed down to him by his father.

For something a bit different, take a look at Holidays with a Twist **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/holidays.htm]** put out by The Student & Academics Department of the World Zionist Organization. This is a collection of essays with titles like You Don't Have a Prayer and The Highest Holidays - A Survival Guide. ("...sitting in an Orthodox Shul, I was aware of two emotions: One of absolute awe watching everyone swathed in a tallit swaying and shouting, the other, absolute boredom...") These articles are provocative and conversational and are bound to generate discussion about the true meaning of prayer and repentance as we enter the Days of Awe.

Also included in this site is the I.L. Peretz' legend *Neilah in Gehenna* **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/neilah.htm]**. This is the tale of the amazing Cantor of Ladam who could not only bring his congregation to repentance but was able to do the same for the denizens of Hell.

Another timely story with a would-be chazzan as the main character is the chassidic fable *The Cantor and the Righteous Man*. **[http://www.jcn18.com/rh570001.htm]**.

Like most Jewish festivals, Rosh Hashanah has no shortage of traditions centred around food such as dipping an apple in honey on the first night of the holiday. There is also a tradition of eating a new fruit on the second night of the holiday. For some people, this means venturing down new supermarket aisles in search of strange, exotic delicacies which can be puzzling to the novice. So if you want to understand more about the passion fruit, loquats or ugli fruit you've just bought go to **[http://pathfinder.com/@@Qm0AgwQAkRTtO8vC/thrive/eats/zucchini.07-19-96.html]**.

And to uncover the mysteries of what to do with your guava ("Don't peel guava because the edible rind has a large concentration of vitamin C") papaya, moya or star fruit, take a look at **[http://www.aloha.com/%7Eritt/]**. Finally, let's not forget the pomegranate, one of the tastiest (and messiest) of all the New Years' fruits. **[http://www.fatfree.com/foodweb/food/pomegranate.html]**.

As for the meals themselves, the Epicurious food site **[http://www.epicurious.com/e_eating/e06_jewish_cooking/recipes/recipes.html]** offers meal-planning tips and full recipes for both holidays. The Hungarian Rosh Hashanah Dinner starts off with gefilte fish followed by chicken fricassee, egg barley with mushrooms and concludes, of course, with honey cake. The Yom Kippur American Break-the-Fast Meal offers challah, herring with sour cream, lick-your-fingers kugel and cheesecake.

Enough with all that reading. If you prefer to *hear* about the holidays rather than squinting at a computer screen, then don't miss the "613.org" site. **[http://www.613.org/roshyomkippursuccot.html]** This page is full of audio files on such topics as Reflections on the New Year, Women, Yom Kippur and the Future of American Jewry and The Essence of Kol Nidra. Please note that some of these lectures run over an hour.

I enjoyed Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald's five-minute *Story of Divine Judgement*. **[http://www.613.org/njop-roshstory.ram]** As for music, there is the chassidic melody *Darkecha Elokainu* from the Yom Kippur liturgy. **[http://www.613.org/music/darkecha.ram]**

(To hear these files, you'll need to download the free RealAudio software from **[http://www.realaudio.com/products/player/index.html]**. If you have a 14.4 Kbps modem, you'll find the audio quality passable. If you have a 28.8 Kbps or faster connection, you should enjoy music-quality audio.)

Speaking of music, perhaps the most famous tradition of this time of year is gathering in synagogue to hear the haunting tones of the shofar.

If you've always wanted a shofar of your own, you can order your one right on the Jewish Highway. The Lark In The Morning Company of Mendocino, Calif. **[http://www.mhs.mendocino.k12.ca.us/MenComNet/Business/Retail/Larknet/Winds]** will sell you an Israeli-made extra large Yemenite Shofar for US $240...not including the Lucite stand.

If you're not in the market for a shofar but can't get enough of the sound of that instrument, no problem. Just type in **[http://www.613.org/shofar14.ram]** and have a "blast."

And on that note, I would like to wish all my readers and their families Shanah Tovah U'metukah, a good and sweet new year and May you be inscribed and sealed for a good life.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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A Message from the Director

At this season of looking before and after, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to the community from the York University Centre for Jewish Studies.

The last year was one of unprecedented growth at the Centre. New faculty appointments in Jewish teacher education and Hebrew Bible, as well as our October conference, CREATING THE JEWISH FUTURE, promise to make 5757 at least as exciting.

At York we offer two undergraduate Jewish Studies programs – a Bachelor of Arts and a combined Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education – to some four thousand students. Areas of focus include: Hebrew language and literature, classical Jewish texts, Jewish education, Jewish thought and history, Jewish community studies (especially Canadian community), Holocaust, Sephardic culture, Jewish women's studies, Jewish film, and Jewish sport and recreation. In addition, we sponsor a variety of programs open to students and faculty and to the public.

At this time, I want to thank publicly all those who have helped to enhance the activities of the York Centre. I hope that we may continue to enjoy broad community support, and I invite you to participate in creating the Jewish future through the York Centre for Jewish Studies.

Michael Brown

The Campaign

York University, one of Canada's largest and most influential institutions of higher learning, has recently embarked on a major fund-raising campaign. Mr. Martin Goldfarb, Chairman of The Goldfarb Corporation and a long-time member of York's Board of Governors, has assumed the chair of the Centre for Jewish Studies Campaign Committee. Recently Goldfarb noted that "York is the university of choice for over four thousand Jewish Canadians." With its special programs in Canadian-Jewish Studies, Jewish Education, and Sephardic Studies, he said, it "serves the Jewish community better than any other in Canada." The Centre for Jewish Studies participates in the State of Israel Bonds Double Mitzvah program. Among Centre supporters are the federal Program in Multiculturalism and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

If you would like to become a friend of York's Centre for Jewish Studies please contact Professor Michael Brown at (416) 736-5823.

Martin Goldfarb, Centre for Jewish Studies Campaign Chair, and Prof. Irving Abella, Committee member

Standing: Henry Koschitzky, Sandra Brown, Prof. Alex Pomson, Saul Koschitzky, Prof. Sydney Eisen. Sitting: President Susan Mann, Mrs. Golda Koschitzky

The Program Grows

PROFESSORSHIP IN JEWISH EDUCATION

Funded by an endowment grant from the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation, the Faculties of Arts and Education have appointed Dr. Alex Pomson as the university's first professor of Jewish Education.

NEW APPOINTMENT IN HEBREW BIBLE

Professor Carl Ehrlich, who teaches Hebrew Bible, will be joining the Division of Humanities and the Centre for Jewish Studies beginning this September.

HOLOCAUST STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

The Berek and Regina Gertner Scholarship in Holocaust Studies has been established by their family and friends on the occasion of the Gertners' fiftieth wedding anniversary.

BAR ILAN ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP

The Arnold and Leona Finkler Scholarship has been established at Bar Ilan for a York student on the year-abroad program.

DISTANCE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Together with faculty at Waterloo University, the Centre is developing a new Jewish Studies Distance Education Program to be available for credit to students across Canada.

RUSSIA-CANADA EXCHANGE IN JEWISH STUDIES

The Centre has initiated the first exchange in Jewish Studies between Canadian and Russian universities.

PARCHMENT

Parchment, the Canadian Jewish literary annual, is now located at York's Centre for Jewish Studies.

Scholarships and Prizes 1995-96

Benarroch-Hazan Scholarship and Prize in Sephardic Studies
Shoshana Sandberg
Rachel Haik

Alan S. Berg Jewish Studies Award
Osnat Baroz

Molly Eisenberg Memorial Award in Judaic Studies
Chana Javasky

The Arnold and Leona Finkler Family Foundation Scholarship for Study at Bar Ilan
Deborah Lev

Gertrude and Jack Friedman Memorial Award For Study in Israel
Shawn Cramer

Hebrew University Exchange Scholarship
Lori Shapero

Shoshana Kurtz Book Prize in Jewish Education
Judith Shapero

Metro Toronto Lodge B'nai Brith Prize in Canadian Jewish Studies
Jennifer Laverty

Samuel Rosen Book Prize
Elliot Michaelson

Abraham I. Silver Scholarship for Study in Israel
Adina Lubek

Leonard Wolinsky Scholarship for Study in Israel
Adina Lubek

Joseph Zbili Award for Hebrew Studies
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York students at Hebrew University with Professor Michael Brown, December 1995.

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LEONARD WOLINSKY LECTURES – February 16-17

The series will focus this year – the year of the fifteenth Maccabiah – on Jews in the world of sports. For further information, contact Professor Joe Levy (416) 736-5823.

Centre for Jewish Studies at York University

Centre for Jewish Studies Executive Committee

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Michael Brown, Humanities and Hebrew
Michael Creal, Humanities
Sydney Eisen, Humanities and History
Joseph Levy, Atkinson College/Nursing
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For further information, please contact:
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Greater Toronto Area

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Abraham still a true model

By RABBI MAURY KELMAN

After living in Israel for some three years, I am beginning to truly appreciate the first pillar of Judaism, Abraham. While our forefather introduced God to the world, he is perhaps best known for his incomparable hospitality which lovingly

Guest Voices

touched all who came in contact with him. A wealthy farmer with real estate holdings in swanky suburban Hebron, Abraham nevertheless was constantly on the lookout for guests, personally preparing meals for weary travellers on the Mesopotamia-Canaan superhighway.

While I clearly will never reach Abraham's boundless level of hospitality, I have had the opportunity over the past three years to open my own inn. Of course, I don't get paid for putting up guests, but my home has somewhat resembled a lodge, with guests whom I barely know mysteriously appearing to favor me with their company. In fact, one of the advantages of my living here has been my uncanny knack for suddenly discovering new friends and bosom buddies, or rather of their knack for discovering me. Recently, my phone rang. After I had spent three minutes trying to locate the cordless apparatus, an unfamiliar voice nearly shattered my right eardrum.

"Maury, how ya doin'? It's Melvin calling."

My mind quickly traversed through all the events of my life, unsuccessfully searching for any sign of a Melvin. Having just hung up on a certain Herman who claimed to have gone moose hunting with me in Algonquin Park and was thus entitled to stay with me during his two-month sojourn in Israel, I was in no mood for games.

"Melvin who?" I queried.

"Why, it's Melvin Mermelstein," he responded matter of factly. "You must remember me. We used to ride the same bus in Grade 3 to school. Well anyways, I just got to Israel and I figured I'd look you up. Old times sake, you know. Well anyways, I don't really know anyone here, and it's my first time here. I figured you'd love to hear a familiar voice from the old country. Well, anyways, to come to the point (by this time I had already figured out the point), I thought that for old times sake, it'd be great if I could stay with you while I'm here."

"To tell you the truth, Melvin, three guests just left and —

"Oh, you're such a great guy. I was debating whether to call you, but I knew you'd come through. I'm at the airport now, so just tell me how to get there. And by the way, I kind of forgot my money so I'd appreciate it if you could just pay the cab driver when he gets to your place. Thanks a lot — you're much nicer than that guy from my Grade 4 play who hung up on me when I called him in Paris."

Jealous of more practical former schoolmates in Paris, I endured Melvin for three weeks. He even bought me a pint of milk upon his departure ("for old times sake") and left me three socks. I'm still waiting for my phone bill, but I'm sure I have nothing to worry about, as Melvin assured me that most of the calls were within Israel. I also thought it was thoughtful of my long-lost friend to assure me that he would extol my hospitality to all that he knew, letting them know that I had the perfect place to stay in Jerusalem.

For an inexplicable reason, this year seems to have attracted the most traffic to my apartment. Perhaps my friends have misinterpreted the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations to mean that I am supposed to host 3,000 guests during the course of the year. In fact, I recently received a phone call from an Egyptian acquaintance dreading the upcoming "Egypt 4200" celebrations and his expected 4,200 guests. I can only pity the Edenites who will have to endure some 5,760 guests during the Spanish inspired and much awaited "Eden — Celebrating 5760 Years of Expulsion."

Whatever the reason may be, the guests continue to come, with some of them even reserving three days beforehand. While most guests have given the accommodations four stars, I cannot be content with a rating below the Laromme or King David hotels. Thus, in an attempt to improve services, I have decided to take a number of steps. To ease the registration process, I am thinking of installing a toll-free number.

Guests will no longer have to place their dishes in the sink. In addition, visitors will no longer have to fold up the couches or pick up their dirty laundry left strewn around the apartment. Fully uniformed chambermaids with prim bonnets are now being trained for the intricacies of those tasks. I have just concluded a deal with one of the finest Belgian confectioners to produce exquisite pillow mints. If guests desire more privacy, they have the option of asking me to leave for a maximum of six days.

In short, I will go to all lengths to ensure that my company feels in no way inferior to visitors plunking down hundreds of dollars to stay at other high class inns. While I feel confident that these improvements will encourage maximum capacity, one can never predict the whims and strange behavior of some people who may actually prefer the King David.

Thus, I have come up with the perfect solution to attract even greater numbers. Recognizing that some guests may feel a twinge of embarrassment with the array of towels they have taken from hotels, I have decided to leave my towels anonymous. As I say in my new North American marketing campaign, "Come Stay With Me — Even The Towels Are Free."

Rabbi Kelman lives in Jerusalem. He is the director of Yavneh Olami.

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Greater Toronto Area

Zigler finds a new niche at Bernard Betel

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In her early 40s and newly divorced, Barbara Zigler decided her life needed a new direction.

With three teenagers at home, she completed Grade 13 and went on to get a social service diploma from Centennial College.

"I sought a new path and I have not looked back," says Zigler, 57, now coordinator of volunteer services at Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, a non-profit, multi-purpose centre for independent seniors.

"Luckily not long after I graduated, the centre had an opening. I had worked there as a student and I was taken by its warmth and hospitality."

Ten years later, Zigler says, the people at the centre are like her second family. "That is a big family," she says with a laugh. "Four hundred volunteers, most of whom are members of the centre, oversee 36 different committees, including special events, an abuse program, public affairs or social action. What I do is look after the recruitment, training and placement of these volunteers.

"A number of committees and activities are open to members only. Members man the information desk and sit on the membership committee, ritual committee, volunteer committee, ways and means committee and food services committee to name a few. Non-members may teach English as a second language, help out in the health clinic, do office work or be a friendly visitor."

As well as facilitating ways and means, the in-house fundraising committee, Zigler coordinates day trips and longer tours and is in the midst of developing a leadership training program in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

"I also do social work on an informal basis. I mediate and help volunteers on various committees work things out. Sometimes they just need to talk to someone else in order to see things differently. I get to know the members. I know when they need an arm around their shoulder or an ear to listen to them."

Barbara Zigler

Zigler, who lived with her grandmother as a child, says she has always liked older people "and I love working with them. I find this a tremendously gratifying position. A lot of the members have suffered losses and come to the centre depressed and a little lost. To see them move on to become highly functioning and motivated is very satisfying. They see coming to the centre as a reason to get up and get out of bed. Its really a two-fold thing. They are helping themselves and helping us at the same time."

She credits staff at Bernard Betel for appreciating the volunteers. A volunteer Bill of Rights ensures such things as the right to be treated as a co-worker, not just free help; the right to a suitable assignment; the right to appropriate training; and the right to sound guidance and direction.

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Wolfe Fellowship awarded

TORONTO — The 1996-'97 Ray D. Wolfe Fellowship in Jewish Studies has been awarded to Dr. Sharon Green, according to an announcement from the University of Toronto.

Green, who lives in Thornhill, was chosen from among the best newly-awarded PhDs in Jewish studies in an international competition. The fellowship provides a year of financial support to enable new PhDs to prepare their research for publication.

A Canadian, Green received her PhD from Brandeis University. As a Ray D. Wolfe Fellow, she will focus her efforts on the publication of her thesis, *The Problem of Love in the Work of S.Y. Agnon.*

While at U of T, Green will also teach a third-year undergraduate course in the department of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations on Contemporary Israeli Literature in Translation.

Green has given lectures for such organizations as the American Academy of Religion, the Art Gallery of Ontario and U of T's Jewish Studies Program.

She has translated, edited and introduced such works as *And They Will Call Us: Poems of the Holocaust* and contributed "The Golden Age of Yiddish Literature: From the Late Nineteenth Century Until the Outbreak of World War II" to *Yiddish Panorama: A Thousand Years of Yiddish Language, Literature and Culture.*

Dr. Sharon Green

The Ray D. Wolfe Fellowship in Jewish Studies was endowed by the late community leader Ray Wolfe and by Rose Wolfe, the current chancellor of the University of Toronto.

Super Sunday

UJA telephone blitz benefits community

Hundreds of UJA Federation volunteers made thousands of calls Sunday to the community on behalf of the community. It was Super Sunday, a yearly September tradition and Jewish Toronto's most successful one day fundraising event.

Super Sunday is a key component of the UJA Federation annual campaign to raise money for essential services in our community and Israel and for the rescue of Jews in danger around the world.

"Super Sunday is especially appealing to newcomers to UJA Federation," noted Debbi Stern, who co-chaired the telethon with her father Don Rafelman. Stern was also happy to see how many people brought family and friends along to help out.

But the real magic behind Super Sunday comes from volunteers who return year after year to show their support and rally the community.

David Green, who has been campaigning for UJA Federation for five years says he enjoys the challenge of reaching non-contributors, a major priority in this year's campaign. "There is a mutual involvement between the campaigner and the person on the other end of the telephone," explained Green. "Both parties are providing each other with the opportunity to perform an important mitzva."

Fay Gold has been a campaigner for as long as she can remember. "UJA Federation is an extremely important cause," said Gold. "No other organization embraces such a diversity of projects in Canada and in Israel."

Since 1988, Paul Silvertown has been doing what he calls "selling the UJA product with all my heart." He sees campaigning as "an opportunity to network with other community-minded individuals."

According to social worker Eva Ingbor, "the most important aspect of Super Sunday is acknowledging that any gift, regardless of amount, is important because it demonstrates one's commitment to the community."

Betty Gerstein sums it up this way: "Super Sunday is all about reaching out to the community. There are many people who would commit their time and money if only they were approached."

(above)Veteran Super Sunday campaigners Morris Flicht (left) and Stanley Davis.
(right) UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein poses with UJA's Super Sunday Superhero.

Community Partners

Nurturing Jewish identity

Glennie Lindenberg and Howard Price have more in common than being co-chairs of UJA Federation's Professions Cabinet. They both feel that volunteering for the community plays a large role in defining their Jewish identities.

Glennie Lindenberg

Lindenberg first got involved with UJA Federation in 1982 as a member of the Business and Professional Women's Network. "It seemed like a tailor-made avenue for me," recalls Lindenberg who became chair of the Network two years later.

After rising through the UJA Federation ranks as co-chair of the New Leadership Council and Women's Campaign, she became President of Jewish Women's Federation in 1994.

"When I was approached for the presidency I knew it was an opportunity that I had to take," explains Lindenberg. "I believe JWF is an important voice representing women in the Jewish community."

Lindenberg's dedication remains strong in her new role and she believes the Professions Cabinet is "a sound structure for getting people more connected to the community."

"It's very simple," she says. "I'm very fortunate to be in a position to give of myself. I consider it a privilege."

So does Dr. Howard Price, who started his UJA Federation volunteer career as a canvasser shortly after he began practising 15 years ago.

Although he admits he was never comfortable asking people for money, Price believes in "getting down to the nitty gritty."

"Jews have to help each other and if that means calling people up for donations...so be it."

Price considers himself fortunate to be the grandson of Jewish immigrants who ended up in Canada. "It was the luck of the draw that I'm not somewhere else having a rough time, instead of here."

"No matter how bad things may be getting for physicians," says Price, "we've got it a lot better than those who rely on the community for support."

And so Price remains focused on doing what he can for the community. "Part of being Jewish," he stresses, "is helping each other." If we lose that, we've lost our identity."

Dr. Howard Price

Sephardic presence strengthens community

UJA Federation and Toronto's Sephardic community have begun sowing the seeds of a new partnership as part of an ongoing initiative to build bridges with diverse segments of Toronto's Jewish community.

Jacques Sayegh

Sephardic representatives and UJA Federation officials met recently to discuss ways of tapping into the strengths of Toronto's growing Sephardic community.

"We've made it a priority to form a mutually beneficial relationship that will enrich the entire Jewish population of Metro Toronto," explains Dr. Harry Krakowsky, Chair of UJA Federation's Community Cabinet.

There are more than 30,000 Sephardic Jews living in Toronto, many of whom have recently emigrated from Montreal and Israel. The community, made up of Jews from Morocco, Spain, Iraq, Turkey and Yemen, among other countries, has six synagogues, a rabbinate headed by Rabbi Amram Assayag, a library, various associations and a program at York University. A new Or Haemet school is currently under construction on Bathurst just north of Steeles.

"It is essential to bring the Sephardic community into the UJA Federation umbrella," says Jacques Sayegh, an active member of the Sephardic community, who attended the meeting. "The nature of our institutions and traditions can help strengthen the entire Jewish community."

New Year, New directions for UJA Federation

For many organizations, the New Year signals change and redirection. Nowhere is this more evident than in the plans being outlined by UJA Federation for 1997 and beyond.

Government cutbacks introduced in the last two years and changes in the community's demographic character have necessistated what UJA Federation Executive Vice-President Allan Reitzes calls "an across the board re-evaluation of the way the Jewish community operates."

"We are positioning ourselves to be prepared to act in response to whatever challenges we will face in the next few years," explains UJA Federation President Sandra Brown. "We are saying that we are present and ready for action."

The kind of action Brown is talking about is far reaching and involves every aspect of Jewish communal life including the education system, long-term care for the elderly, hospital restructuring, immigration management, assistance for the poor and community-building.

UJA Federation campaign fundraising is changing as well to a more donor-focused approach in which, according to Brown, contributors are "partners based on knowledge and shared interests."

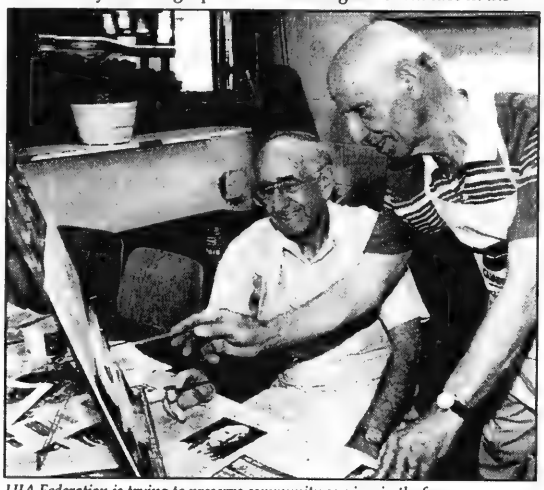
"Most people who are not contributing to the campaign know little about how UJA Federation functions," notes UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein. "I believe they just need to be approached with the proper information, which is compelling, to obtain their support."

UJA Federation is also exploring ways to make better use of volunteers who are increasingly filling gaps left by lay offs and restructuring in the human services sector. "Our volunteers are one of our most valuable assets," says Alan Sandler, Vice-President of UJA Federation's Community Planning and Allocations Department (CP&A). "Effective recruitment and integration of these volunteers will allow us to continue to deliver many of the human services and programs that are hallmarks of our community and reflect core Jewish values."

Greater emphasis will be placed on building Jewish infrastructure in York region, north of Steeles, which holds the third highest concentration of Jews in Canada.

UJA Federation itself will also be changing by streamling departments and intensifying public relations to raise awareness within the community about the organization.

"Our goal," explains CP&A Director Morris Zbar, "is to adapt to new realities but continue to perpetuate the Jewish way of life. UJA Federation will always be the Jewish community's central address and so we must remain relevant in our function and effective in our constitution."



UJA Federation is trying to preserve community services in the face of government cutbacks.

An Evening To Remember

Don't miss the rebroadcast of the
1997 UJA Federation
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September 11 at 9:00 p.m.
September 19 at 2:00 p.m.

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Washington Fly-In previews election

If you can't wait until November to find out the significance of the U.S. Presidential election results, the 1997 UJA Federation Washington Fly-In could provide some important clues.

This year's Fly-In on Wednesday, October 23, takes place just two weeks before Americans choose their new leader, and UJA Federation is inviting participants to take an insider's look.

Upon arrival in the U.S. capital Fly-In members will be given the option of visiting either the world renowned Holocaust Memorial Museum or the Pentagon for an up-to-date briefing. Lunch will be served on Capitol Hill where the group will be addressed by a key member of Congress.

Participants will also be welcomed to the much acclaimed Canadian Embassy and the Israeli Embassy for an analysis of the differences between Canadian and American policy toward Israel.

Other topics for discussion during the day include terrorism and American militia groups, the changing relationship between the Diaspora and Israel, and what can be expected from a new American government.

A special presentation will also be made on the controversial book *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*, written by Harvard Professor Daniel Jonah Goldhagen.

Lorri Kushnir, who is chairing this year's Fly-In, is looking forward to being in Washington during what she calls "an atmosphere of change and anticipation." Kushnir is also eager to return to the Holocaust Museum for her third visit. "The museum," she says, "is a living documentary of the Holocaust that everyone must see."

The total cost per person is $485 with a minimum $1000 donation to UJA Federation. Three Year Vision supporters will have access to priority seating and 10 spots are available for university students at a discounted price of $100.

To find out more or to reserve tickets please call Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

Mark Berenblut spent a quiet moment at the Holocaust Memorial Musem during last year's Washington Fly-In.

Yiddish inspires students of all ages

A little Yiddish for little people. That's what UJA Federation's Committee for Yiddish is offering as it expands classes for students of all ages.

The new and improved Yiddish program, jointly funded by the Committee for Yiddish and the North York and York Boards of Education, provides classes for adult beginners, intermediate and advanced students, those seeking high school credits and children on Sunday morning.

The children's classes, for students in junior kindergarten through grade eight, will be taught at Associated Hebrew School on Finch Avenue. "We will try to incorporate Yiddish through song and play and by teaching them about the holidays," explains teacher Sheila Tishler. "I love Yiddish and the thought of hearing the kids speak the language is very exciting for me."

Claudia Bickel is interested in continuing her Yiddish studies which she began last year so she can learn more about her family. Her grandfather, Shloime, was a Yiddish writer whose works Bickel has yet to read and understand.

"It's my way of exploring my Jewish identity," explains Bickel, who recently returned from taking part in the Uriel Weinreicht Program in Yiddish Language and Culture at Columbia University.

Bickel attributes the Yiddish revival in part to what she calls "a more free and secure atmosphere."

"This couldn't have happpened fifty years ago, " she adds, "when Jews were more concerned about merely existing peacefully with the rest of society."

For more information on available courses or to register for fall and spring terms please contact Sylvia Lustgarten at (416) 635-2883, ext 155.

Volunteer Yiddish teacher Arlene Greenberg gives a hug to one of her kindergarten students Liat Kelner. Photo: Abba Lustgarten

Former IDF Chief of Staff

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Federal Trade Minister Art Eggleton (left) and sculptor Ernest Raab stand on either side of Raoul Wallenberg's half-sister Nina Lagergren at the memorial's unveiling. [Ron Csillag photo]

Wallenberg's efforts lauded as bust unveiled in park

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Swedish war hero Raoul Wallenberg was a gentle man, "full of heart and empathy," his half-sister recalled here last Sunday in an address laced with history and emotion.

Nina Lagergren told over 1,200 people, many of them Hungarian Holocaust survivors and some owing their lives to her heroic half-brother, that she was not surprised Wallenberg did what he did because he was "beautiful and good humored . . . he was my best friend."

Lagergren, 75, travelled from Stockholm for the unveiling of a bust in Earl Bales Park paying tribute to Wallenberg, the courageous Swedish diplomat credited with rescuing some 100,000 Hungarian Jews from certain death during World War II.

But "it's impossible to say how many he saved," she told an audience that included federal Trade Minister Art Eggleton, Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick, Sweden's ambassador to Canada, Jan Stahl, and other dignitaries. "He saved your children and grandchildren and generations that came after you."

The self-effacing Lagergren painted a picture of her famous relative as an adventurous but caring man. Little-known facts about his life include a hitchhiking trip across the United States while Wallenberg studied at university in Michigan, and a stint at a Jewish-owned bank in Palestine in 1936. Later in Sweden, he worked to help Jewish war refugees.

To coincide with the unveiling, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy last week announced that Ottawa will help pay the costs of research into the fate of Wallenberg, who disappeared into Soviet "protective custody" in 1945, and was never heard from again.

Leading the research will be Winnipeg human rights lawyer David Matas, a member of an international commission of inquiry into Wallenberg's fate set up a few years ago.

Dispatched to Budapest by then U.S. president Franklin Roosevelt in 1944, Wallenberg, the non-Jewish scion of a wealthy Swedish banking family, issued thousands of false passports to Jews, placing them under the protection of the neutral Swedish crown.

He lodged "his" Jews in 32 safe houses across Budapest, each flying the Swedish flag. He organized soup kitchens and make-shift hospitals. He would rush off by car with fake passes in hand to literally yank people out of lineups for trains heading to Auschwitz. And in 1945, he bullied and blustered the Nazis into calling off the destruction of Budapest's Jewish ghetto and its 75,000 inhabitants.

But he was arrested as a U.S. spy by the invading Soviets at war's end, and taken to a Moscow prison. Soon, he would be swallowed by the massive gulag, a hero gone but not forgotten.

It was "a catastrophe, a disaster" that Wallenberg never returned home from Budapest," said Lagergren. "But we never lost hope," she told *The CJN* just before the memorial's unveiling. "Without hope, we have nothing. We can never stop hoping."

Hope is what supporters around the world have clung to since 1947, the year the Kremlin announced that Wallenberg died of a heart attack in prison. Since then, there have been numerous reported sightings of the famous Swede by newly released prisoners, leading many to believe Wallenberg survived well beyond 1947.

Some, like Lagergren herself, hope against hope that he may even be alive today, at age 84, and still press for his release, or at least, the truth.

For his bravery, Wallenberg was made Canada's only honorary citizen in 1985.

Perched on a grassy hill behind the towering Holocaust monument in the park, the three-metre high bronze sculpture depicts Wallenberg partially surrounded by jail bars, hinting at the mystery surrounding his fate.

The work fulfils a life-long dream for sculptor Ernest Raab, who also created the Holocaust obelisk in the same park. A teenaged Raab once got a glimpse of Wallenberg while smuggling bread into a Swedish safe haven in Budapest.

The project's honorary chair, Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan, himself a Hungarian survivor, told the gathering he had "a strong feeling that Raoul Wallenberg is here with us."

McGill University professor Irwin Cotler, who chaired the international probe into Wallenberg's fate, pointed out that "the disappeared hero of humanity" saved more Jews from the Nazis than any single government.

Cotler used the occasion to slam the world's "appalling indifference" to ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and the "preventable genocide" in Rwanda. "We cannot say we didn't know."

While welcoming Ottawa's latest initiative, Cotler called on the federal government to prosecute suspected Nazi war criminals in Canada "as a living legacy to Raoul Wallenberg."

Greater Toronto Area

יידיש ווינקל
YIDDISH CORNER
רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

לודוויק זאַמענהאָף: דערפינדער פון אַ וועלט-שפּראַך
פון ישראל קאָפּיטאָ

דעם 14-טן אַפּריל, 1997, וועט ווערן 80 יאָר, זינט עס איז געשטאָרבן אין וואַרשע דר. לודוויק זאַמענהאָף, אין עלטער פון 58 יאָר. דר. זאַמענהאָף איז דער שאַפער און באַגרינדער פון דער אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער שפּראַך „עספּעראַנטאָ". מיט דער דאָזיקער שפּראַך האָט ער געשטרעבט צו העלפן ברענגען פרידן, דערנענטערונג און פאַרברידערונג צווישן מענטשן און פעלקער.

לודוויק זאַמענהאָף איז געבוירן געוואָרן דעם 15-טן דעצעמבער, 1859, אין ביאַליסטאָק. זיין פאָטער, מאַרק זאַמענהאָף, איז געווען אַ לערער פון מאָדערנע שפּראַכן. עס איז קיין ספק נישט, אַז די היים פון זיין קינדהייט, וואו שפּראַכן זיינען געווען אַ טאָגטעגלעכע דערשיינונג, האָט באַוואויגן דעם יונגן לודוויק צו פאַראינטערעסירן זיך מיט דער וויסנשאַפט פון שפּראַכן.

אויך ביאַליסטאָק האָט געהאַט אַ גרויסע השפּעה אויף זיינע שפּעטערדיקע אַקטיוויטעטן. צו יענער צייט האָט זיך ביאַליסטאָק געפונען אונטערן צאַרישן רעזשים. די באַפעלקערונג אין שטאָט איז באַשטאַנען פון פאַרשיידענע נאַציאָנאַליטעטן — יידן, רוסן, פאָלאַקן און דייטשן. יעדע מינאָריטעט האָט זיך באַנוצט מיט איר אייגענער נאַציאָנאַלער שפּראַך און דער יונגער לודוויק האָט געפילט די שווערקייטן, וואָס עס האָט אַרויסגערופן די פאַרשיידנשפּראַכיקייט. דעמאָלט איז אים אַריין אין קאָפּ די אידייע צו שאַפן אַ שפּראַך, וואָס זאָל קענען גענוצט ווערן פון יעדן מענטשן אין דער וועלט, וואו ער זאָל זיך נישט געפינען.

מיט יעדן יאָר איז ביי אים רייפער געוואָרן דער געדאַנק וועגן אַן אוניווערסאַלער שפּראַך, וואָס זאָל פאַרקערפּערן אין זיך די גוטע עלעמענטן פון אַנדערע שפּראַכן און גלייכצייטיק זיין צוגענגלעך פאַר יעדן מענטש. (אגב, דעם טיטל דאָקטאָר האָט ער געטראָגן, ווייל ער איז געווען אַן אויגן-דאָקטאָר און פון דעם האָט ער געצויגן זיין פרנסה).

דעם 17-טן דעצעמבער, 1887, זייענדיק אַ סטודענט אין אַכטן קלאַס פון גימנאַזיע אין וואַרשע, האָט לודוויק זאַמענהאָף, צוזאַמען מיט אַ גרופּע חברים, אָפּגעמערקט אויף אַ פייערלעכן אופן די דערפינדונג פון אַ נייער שפּראַך. מיט אַ ריי יאָרן שפּעטער האָט זיך באַוויזן אין וואַרשע אַ באַשיידן ביכל, וואָס האָט געטראָגן דעם נאָמען *„דאָקטאָר עספּעראַנטאָ — די אינטערנאַציאָנאַלע שפּראַך"*. דער אויסדרוק „עספּעראַנטאָ" באַטייט *„אַ מענטש מיט האָפנונג"*. דער מחבר פון דעם ביכל איז געווען לודוויק זאַמענהאָף. דאָס ביכל האָט אַנטהאַלטן אַ צאָל גראַמאַטישע כללים פון דער נייער שפּראַך. זאַמענהאָף האָט זיך באַמיט מיט אַלע מעגלעכקייטן צו פאַרגרינגערן דאָס לערנען פון דער נייער שפּראַך. אינעם ביכל האָבן זיך אויך געפונען אַ צאָל טעקסטן אין עספּעראַנטאָ, איבערגעזעצט דורכן מחבר פון אַנדערע מקורות.

דר. לודוויק זאַמענהאָף האָט באַקומען הויכע באַלוינונגען פאַר זיין אויפטו. וואו נאָר ער איז אויפגעטראָטן אַלס רעדנער און לערער האָבן מענטשן אים אָפּגעגעבן דעם גרעסטן כבוד. ער האָט באַקומען דעם אָרדן פון פראַנצויזישן ערן-לעגיאָן און אויך דעם קאַטוילישן אָרדן — די העכסטע אויסצייכענונג פון דער דעמאָלטדיקער שפּאַניע.

עס איז אַ פעסטגעשטעלטער פאַקט, אַז טראָץ דעם גרויסן כבוד, וואָס ער האָט באַקומען פון דער וועלט, האָט לודוויק זאַמענהאָף נישט פאַרגעסן זיין אָפּשטאַם. ער האָט ביי יעדער געלעגנהייט אונטערגעשטראָכן די פעדים, וואָס פאַרבינדן אים מיטן יידישן פאָלק. אין אַ בריוו צום פראַנצויזישן עספּעראַנטיסט מישאָו האָט ער, צווישן אַנדערעס, געשריבן: „ווען איך וואָלט נישט געווען קיין ייד פון געטאָ, וואָלט דער געדאַנק וועגן פאַראייניקן די מענטשהייט קיינמאָל מיד נישט איינגעפאַלן אין קאָפּ און וואָלט מיך נישט געעגבערט עקשנות'דיק מיין גאַנץ לעבן".

מיד, יידן, דאַרפן מיט כבוד דערמאָנען דעם מענטש, דעם ייד, דר. לודוויק זאַמענהאָף, וואָס האָט זיין גאַנץ לעבן געווידמעט דער אידייע פון פעלקער-פאַרברידערונג, און האָט געאַרבעט פאַר שלום אויף דער וועלט. ער האָט געשטרעבט דאָס צו דערגרייכן, נישט מיט צוואַנג, נישט מיט מאַכט אָדער מלחמות, נאָר מיט ווערטער, מיט אַן אוניווערסאַלער שפּראַך, וואָס טראָגט דעם נאָמען עספּראַנטאָ.

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Greater Toronto Area

Ben Kayfetz: more than a community observer

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For more than half a century, Ben Kayfetz has been a professional and lay observer of the Canadian Jewish community.

Recognized for his contributions as a writer, broadcaster and crusader for human rights, and as one of Canada's most knowledgeable documenters of Canadian Jewry, Kayfetz has witnessed and participated in numerous changes that have benefited society.

He began his career as a high school teacher, after receiving an honors BA in modern languages at the University of Toronto.

In 1945, as a uniformed civilian, he went to work for the Allies in post-war Germany. During his two-year stay there, he received a letter from Ben Lappin, director of community relations at the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. The letter changed his life.

Lappin wrote that he was returning to school to do post-graduate studies and wondered if Kayfetz was interested in applying for the position at Congress.

On his return to Canada in 1947, Kayfetz was interviewed by community leader J. Irving Oelbaum and by Rabbi Abraham Feinberg, who chaired the community relations committee.

Kayfetz took the position, and over the years was active in numerous committees, including Soviet Jewry, international affairs, Yiddish, archives, kashruth and Israel action.

Kayfetz was executive director of the national joint public relations committee of Congress and B'nai Brith, and remained an integral part of Congress until he retired in 1984.

Kayfetz's open-door office at 150 Beverley St. was the place where community leaders, politicians, individuals with problems and those who just wanted to shmooze came to seek advice, exchange ideas or initiate projects.

He recalls that his first major challenge began in 1947, when he began to work for the enactment of an anti-discrimination law in employment.

"At that time, there was no legislation. We had to argue that we needed a law. Employers such as Eaton's were not interested. They openly discriminated and they made no bones about it."

For the next four years, other groups joined the struggle for fair employment legislation. Congress worked with leaders in the Jewish and general communities until their coordinated efforts finally resulted in the enactment of fair labor laws.

"It was done in stages. We brought in speakers from the United States, met with [then] Premier Leslie Frost and after only four years — much sooner than we expected — Ontario passed the legislation. Over the years, other provinces followed suit."

They did not get the same cooperation in working on anti-discrimination laws and laws against the spreading of racial hatred, he says.

He adds that in those days, they thought only of race and religion in discussions of discrimination. Gender, the physically disabled and senior citizens came much later.

Kayfetz was involved in other policy changes, such as those involving religious education in public schools, an area which, he says, "is still hazy."

Ben Kayfetz

The principle of non-sectarian teaching in the public schools is much more widely accepted now, he says, "but legally there are still some loopholes."

In the 1960s, Congress became concerned with the increase in activities by neo-Nazi agitators and white supremacists. Lester Pearson, who was then prime minister, named a commission to make recommendations.

Headed by McGill law professor Maxwell Cohen, the committee included young law professor Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Kayfetz served as a resource person and his documentation and day-to-day journals were used in the committee's research.

"It was always at the bottom of the government's agenda," says Kayfetz. "Then someone suggested that we put it to the Senate and with the help of Senator Arthur Roebuck, in a free vote in 1970, laws were set in place for controlling the activities of these groups."

In 1962, Saul Hayes, national executive director of Congress, presented Kayfetz with one of his most interesting assignments.

After Fidel Castro came to power, the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), which was sending Passover supplies to Cuba through Canada, wanted a report on Cuba's Jews. Americans were not allowed to enter the country because the United States did not recognize the Castro government.

Hayes asked Kayfetz to go to Cuba to meet with leaders of the Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities. Kayfetz visited synagogues and Jewish organizations and found a depressed Jewish community.

"I walked right into the missile crisis," he says, after learning about the crisis in a telephone conversation with his wife Eva.

He describes his departure from Cuba as a harrowing experience. "I got a real taste of totalitarian life."

In 1965, Congress sent Kayfetz back to Cuba, "but no war broke out this time," he chuckles.

Looking back, Kayfetz says one of his major disappointments was the Canadian government's "betrayal" on the question of war crimes legislation.

"When we went to the government, they listened, but we now know that they had decided not to do anything."

Although he is adamant that he is not a professional historian, Kayfetz has published numerous articles and monographs on the Jewish community. He was in charge of historical research for the *Toronto Jewish Centennial 1956-57*, authored *Toronto Jewry 60 Years Ago*, has been a contributor to the *Jewish Standard*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Jewish Chronicle* of London, England and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He is a regular commentator on CHIN radio.

Kayfetz, a soft-spoken and modest man, says, "I've been an observer of the community and tried to view the changes."

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Greater Toronto Area

Reform rabbinical leader returns to pulpit

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Daniel Komito Gottlieb is going home again.

Seven years ago, Rob and Nadine Warren, founding members of Temple Kol Ami in Thornhill, sought his help for their fledgling congregation of 18 families. Now, on the eve of the High Holy Days, Rabbi Gottlieb has become the new spiritual leader of the temple's 180 families.

It is with excitement and high hopes that Rabbi Gottlieb is leaving his post as executive director for the past nine years of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) to return to a full-time pulpit.

In those years, the number of congregations in Canada affiliated with the CCRJ increased from 19 to 25, plus three more in early

Rabbi Daniel Komito Gottlieb

stages, and the number of affiliated families from 6,000 to near 10,000.

"We're delighted that a demographic study by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto shows that the membership of Reform temples is increasing every generation," he said.

Rabbi Gottlieb succeeds Rabbi Nancy Wechsler, who was Temple Kol Ami's first full-time leader.

He is no stranger to the pulpit, as he has served as rabbi to several temples in the Toronto area when their own rabbis were away on sabbaticals.

Thornhill's growing Jewish population, especially of unaffiliated families, is a challenge to Rabbi Gottlieb. He was educational director in its early days of Thornhill's larger and well-established Temple Har Zion.

Reform congregations born during Rabbi Gottlieb's tenure with the CCRJ have been Or Hadesh in Newmarket; Shaarei Beth-El in Oakville; Temple Beth Tikvah in Regina; Baycrest Hospital in Toronto; and Temple Tikvah in St. Catharines.

There are now 11 such congregations in the Greater Toronto area, plus three just getting underway: the Downtown Reform Minyan; B'nai Shalom V-Tikvah serving Ajax-Pickering; and the Riverdale Minyan.

One of only six Canadian-born Reform rabbis in this country, Rabbi Gottlieb said he is delighted to take over a pulpit and remain part of the CCRJ family.

Temple Kol Ami is located in one wing of the new Leo Baeck Day School at 36 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill, 905-709-2620.

Massuah launches new Eichmann exhibit

TORONTO — A new initiative that will include an interactive exhibit devoted to the trial of Adolf Eichmann has been undertaken by the Canadian Friends of Massuah.

The purpose is to promote the expansion of the museum at the Massuah Institute for the Study of the Holocaust. Over 200,000 students, young adults and teachers have participated in Massuah's seminars and lecture series since the Institute was founded in the 1960s on the grounds of Kibbutz Tel-Itzhak, near Netanya, Israel.

Coming from across Israel, Canada, the United States, Western Europe and South and Central America, participants work with Massuah's multilingual staff, whose printed materials are used by educators around the world.

Much of Massuah's educational material has also been translated into Russian and Amharic for use by immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, many of whom had no prior knowledge of the Holocaust.

Massuah is a teaching facility that focuses on the Holocaust, the years preceding it and its aftermath, providing an in-depth understanding of this devastation of European Jewry and of the impact it has had.

Hundreds of Canadian high school and university students have participated in Massuah seminars on their visits to Israel. During the school year, Massuah is host to thousands of Israeli students and new inductees to the Israeli Defence Forces who are sent there as part of their educational program. Massuah also regularly welcomes Jewish and non-Jewish educators from around the world.

Yonat Klar, a member of the Massuah teaching staff, presented her one-woman show on children of the Holocaust at several Ontario schools last year.

Massuah is now in the midst of a major expansion and renovation of its award-winning museum, a major part of which is the new exhibit, called The Eichmann Trial — Six Million Accusers.

Visitors to the exhibit will start with a walk through a reconstructed Israeli street on the eve of the trial, then view and discuss depictions of different aspects of the Holocaust as they unfolded through the trial, and will finally sit through an audio-visual presentation of the trial itself in a simulation of the actual courtroom.

The previous major Canadian project on behalf of the Institute was the development of Canada House, which contains the audio-visual centre, library and taping facilities and archives for videotapes of survivor testimonies.

Fundraising for the new project has been ongoing for several months. The fundraising campaign is being chaired by Alex Grossman, one of the founders of the Massuah Institute.

For information, call Sheilla Dropkin at 783-1880.

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC delivers more than Judaism to camps

TORONTO — This year's Summer Camp Project of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, not only delivered Judaic content programming, it also brought requested programs on multiculturalism and anti-racism to Jewish and non-Jewish camps across southern Ontario.

"It was very meaningful for our four-member team to help youngsters combat racism, and anti-Semitism," said project coordinator Janna Cohen, a fourth-year York University student who is training to be a teacher.

"The goal of our multicultural and anti-racism programming was to teach children about other cultures and heritages and to make them aware of how to combat discrimination in their own communities.

"Our programs on anti-racism and anti-Semitism stimulated discussion on appropriate ways to behave towards one another. Older youngsters said they thought that skin color and appearance are not important; it is what inside that counts. For younger kids, our program was about friendship and cooperation, and how to make someone feel welcome, no matter the accent or appearance."

Risa Gordon, supervisor of Pleasant Junior Day Camp in North York, praised the endeavor.

"The program on learning to appreciate one's friends was an action-packed, theme-oriented presentation," she said.

An evaluation from the Bloor Jewish Community Centre Day Camp called the program "well thought out."

Designed to convey importance of mitzvot, tzedakah

For 31 years, CJC, Ontario region, has offered this service free of charge, tailoring programs to meet the needs of camps in Ontario.

Human Resources Development Canada helped fund the program via a Student Career Placement grant, said Turack, Ontario region's director of community services and youth activities. The United Israel Appeal of Canada provided a grant to cover the costs of Israel programming.

The main goal of the Summer Camp Project is to educate and enhance the campers' understanding of Judaism and Israel, said Turack. "This year's program was designed to convey the importance of mitzvot (good deeds) and tzedakah (charity). As well, programs on Israel emphasized Zionist heroes, Israeli pioneers, and culture."

Under the direction of Cohen, the staff included York University students Orit Kahn, Ayala Wenner and Marni Dishy.

When arranging for camp visits, Cohen said, information was obtained about the staff and the ages and number of campers. Programs were tailored to ages ranging from 2½ to 16.

Camps visited this year included: Kadima, Hamilton; Chaim, Richmond Hill; Northland, Haliburton; Wahanowin, Orillia; Bayview Glen, Lubavitch, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Bathurst Jewish Centre and Kids of Canada, Toronto; Pleasant Senior and Pleasant Junior, Kidsworld, Funworld and Earl Bales Community Camp, North York; Discovery and Fun in the Sun, Vaughan; Humbercrest, York; and a visit to St. Catharines for Jewish youngsters in the Niagara Region.

Orit Kahn of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region's summer camp project distributes Israeli flags as part of program brought to campers at Toronto's Bathurst Jewish Centre.

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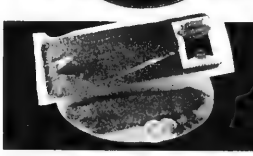

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Greater Toronto Area

Junction Shul used as site for new series

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A very corporal ćast and crew and a not so corporal but menacing dybbuk recently "invaded" Knesseth Israel, the historic Junction Shul on Maria Street, for a two-day shoot contracted by Atlantis Films.

Canadian based Atlantis is currently producing *Psi Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal*, a new 22-episode, hour-long science fiction series, to be launched on CanWest Global TV this fall. It will also be syndicated in the United States by Eyemark Entertainment, a unit of CBS.

The series, which is being filmed at various locations in and around Toronto, dramatizes stories inspired by actual files from OSIR, the Office of Scientific Investigation, a privately funded organization of scientists and researchers which investigates paranormal and unusual phenomena. Each story is different, but a core group of actors portraying a team of OSIR investigators appear regularly.

Host is Dan Aykroyd, whose lifelong interest in the paranormal translated into informed research and co-writing for *Ghostbusters* and *Ghostbusters II*.

At Knesseth Israel, a scene from *The Transient*, a show written for

James Nadler

the series by Damian Kindler and directed by Giles Walker, is being filmed. According to the story, it is a summer evening, but inside the synagogue the atmosphere is tense and sinister. The camera dollies in on a dimly lit set where Rita Emmerich, a synagogue congregant (played by Dee Dee Langford), who is believed to be possessed by a dybbuk or demon, is undergoing the ancient rite of exorcism invoked by Rabbi Rothstein (Peter Dvorsky) in the presence of an OSIR team called in to investigate the woman's dangerously unsettling behavior.

As the rabbi intones the traditional Hebrew words, the woman starts to writhe uncontrollably and emits a rising, gurgling shriek.

Rabbi Rothstein, a modern scholar and dybbuk skeptic who has been persuaded against his will to perform the ceremony, suddenly becomes strangely afflicted and events move on to a startling climax.

Peter Dvorsky brings an unusual background to his role of rabbi. The son of Holocaust survivors who elected not to tell him he was Jewish, he learned of his roots in his late teens.

"It gives me a strange feeling, playing a rabbi," he said.

Yet Jack Schwartz, a lay chaplain at Toronto Hospital who coached Dvorsky in Hebrew, notes that he was a "quick study" and that the guttural ch sound seemed to come naturally. Schwartz also coached Jack Duffy, who plays the role of the cantor.

Executive producer James Nadler, a former entertainment lawyer, notes that the Junction Shul was chosen for *The Transient* because it is a historic building evocative of a time and place needed for this particular episode. It generates the right feeling, he said.

Cast and crew agreed to respect all requirements for working within an Orthodox synagogue, said congregation vice-president Harry Alexandroff, who added that he and his assistants "camped out" at the shul during the shooting.

Psi Factor, which will be distributed worldwide, has been contracted for one year, Nadler said. "We're confident it will do well."

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Greater Toronto Area

Inline skating hockey league takes off

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you were to ask drivers and pedestrians to name Canada's fastest growing summer sport, they'd probably be unanimous in muttering: it's those damn rollerbladers.

But not all rollerbladers — or in-line skaters, as they are also known — like to play in traffic or weave between sidewalk strollers. A growing number are joining summer roller hockey leagues, both as a recreational activity and to get a jump on their buddies when the ice hockey season starts again in the fall.

The Spring Inline Skate Hockey League (SISHL) is one of the roller hockey leagues in and around Toronto that has benefitted from the growing popularity of inline skating. Its client base has soared from 185 in year one to around 600 in this, its fourth year in business.

Brett and Devon Cranson are the teenage brother team behind the SISHL and with help from their father, Steven, and mother Lorie, they've turned their summertime avocation into a successful business with lots of upward growth potential.

Brett, 19, and Devon, 16, operate a spring/summer league in Toronto, another one later in the summer in Aurora and, for the first time, an inline hockey camp in Toronto.

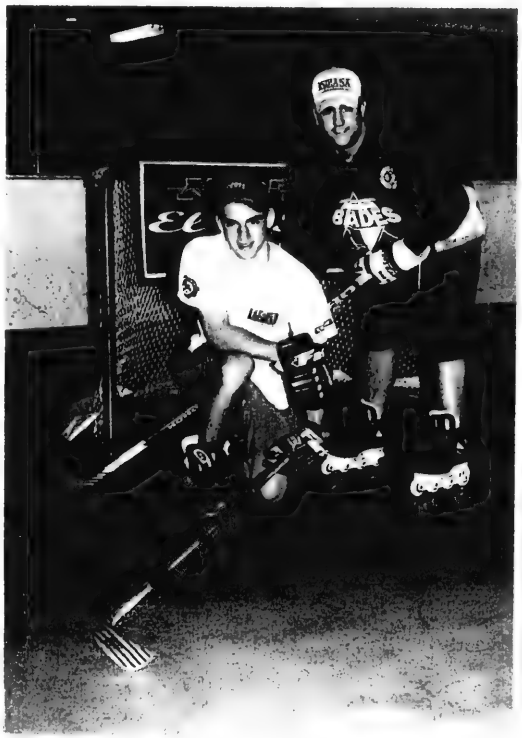
Market research

The leagues are open to kids 7 to 18 years of age and participants are grouped according to age and ability.

So far, the young entrepreneurs have learned a lot about business. They've conducted market research (by handing out questionnaires at Toronto rinks), booked arenas, bought advertising, obtained insurance, hired referees, obtained jerseys and done all the various and sundrie activities that go into making a league work.

Their first season was a modest success, with 185 young bladers signing up for hockey at R.J. Clatworthy Arena.

Players were charged $85 for an eight-game season that included eight practices. In that first year, the Cransons earned only a little walking-around money but their entrepreneurial juices were sufficiently stimulated that they went back for more.



Brett Cranson (left) and his brother Devon are the teenaged proprietors of a successful inline hockey business. [Paul Lungen photo]

The next year, the league attracted 250 players, who paid up to $100 each; the third year they had more than 300 bladers paying up to $110; and in 1996, 385 youngsters shelled out up to $135 each to play in the Thornhill-based league.

A second league in Aurora that wrapped up in early August attracted more than 200 bladers in four age groups and 1996 marked the debut of a modest-sized roller hockey camp.

Though they won't say how much the venture earns, it's clearly an improvement over year one. "In the first year, the profit we made was enough," said Brett. "But if we thought about it now, it wouldn't be. We put a lot of work into it."

In their early teens the boys were already roller hockey enthusiasts themselves who used to play on the street all day long, upsetting some neighbors while themselves being upset by rain-outs.

Their mother, Lorie, who teaches a high school course in entrepreneurship, suggested they take their sporting passion to an indoor rink.

From that they got the idea of forming a league, but first they had to find out if others shared their passion for inline hockey. Their first marketing survey, asking kids at a Thornhill rink whether they'd play inline hockey in the summer, suggested there was a market for the sport.

For Brett and Devon, the entrepreneurial bug has bitten deep. "I love doing this stuff. I like working for myself. It's fun and I want to get involved in it, stay in it and make it bigger," said Brett, who plans to study sports administration in the commerce department at Laurentian University this year.

Devon is eventually aiming at a Master's degree in business. "I don't know if I want to continue with roller hockey, but I want to be an entrepreneur. I enjoy it a lot, having [our] own business."

Devon was recently one of two Ontario students among 325 from North America who attended a banquet in Sun Valley, Idaho sponsored by the American Academy of Achievement.

He was most impressed by the words of advice imparted by the keynote speaker: "'Do something you enjoy. Don't get stuck in a job you don't enjoy. It shouldn't be work, it should be something you like to do,'" Devon recalled the speaker saying.

The boys love their business so much, they expect it to expand to several locations next season.

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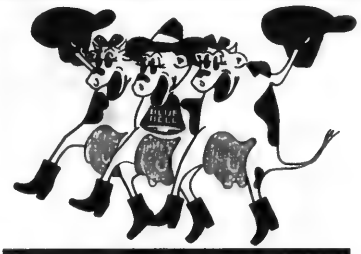

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By Miriam Herman

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What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Sept. 12, is deadline for Sept. 26 issue, and Thursday, Sept. 19, is deadline for Oct. 3. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Monday, Sept. 16

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, general meeting 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 2 Lissom Cres. Program, line dancing. Prospective members invited. **Lil** 905-771-8386 or **Sheila** 665-3333.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians support group, now affiliated with Jewish Family & Child Service, meets 7:30 p.m., JF&CS, Lipa Green Building, 6th floor library. Phone, in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

NORTHERN LIGHTS, JWI

Northern Lights chapter, Jewish Women International, invites members and interested women to the regular monthly meeting, 8 p.m. in Aurora. Chapter serves Northern York region including Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford, East/West Gwillimbury, and Keswick/Georgina. 905-841-0893.

JSF TASHLICH

Jewish Student Federation, York University, Tashlich by the river, Turning Over a New Leaf, 2:30 p.m. Meet at JSF Room 442 Student Centre. **Pearl Gropper** 736-5178.

Wednesday, Sept. 18

BONDS MEETING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Israel Bonds parlor meeting at the home of honorees **Luba and David Smuschkowitz**. Guest speaker is **Amos Bar-Am**.

And What Else Is New...

NA'AMAT CLUB

Club Beersheba, Na'amat Toronto, is launching a new year of programs, fundraising for Na'amat projects both here and in Israel, and friendships. New members welcome. 636-5425.

NARAYEVER SINGERS

Narayever Community Singers, under the direction of **Brian Katz**, was formed in 1991 by a group from Narayever Synagogue on Brunswick Avenue. New choir members from the community at large are welcome. Group meets Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. (except first Thursday of the month), starting Sept. 19. 656-5995.

HEBREW ACADEMY

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy is accepting registrations for Hebrew studies, once or twice a week, ages 5 and up, and for bar/bat mitzvah. Classes are held in Richmond Hill and Thornhill. 905-770-1082.

COMING OUT JEWISH

The Coalition of Jewish Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students peer support group meets every Tuesday 6-8 p.m., Bloor JCC, Room 212, facilitated by a social worker from Jewish Family & Child Service. All teens to 20s are welcome. **Pearl**, Jewish Student Federation, 736-5179 or 925-9872, ext. 2114.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Chaverim chapter, Jewish Women International, welcomes new members to the Wednesday, Oct. 9, meeting, 7:45 p.m. 905-731-9248.

VENDORS WANTED

Vendors wanted for craft and gift show sponsored by Club Beersheba, Na'amat Toronto, Monday, Oct. 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bayview Village Shopping Centre. 636-5425 days or **Ruth Jacobson** 493-1089 evenings.

SINGLES HOTLINE

Singles are invited to access singles event information from Jewish Singles Hotline sponsored by Jewish Information Service, a department of UJA Federation. Call 635-5605 after regular business hours, Mondays-Thursdays, 5 p.m. to 9 a.m., and weekends Fridays 4 p.m. to Mondays 9 a.m.

For High Holy Day seating information, 635-5600 after 9:15 a.m., Monday to Friday.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Israeli folkdancing with **Marco Ben-Shimon**: Tuesdays, Bernard Betel Centre, kids 7 and up, 6:30 p.m.; beginner adults 7:30 p.m.; intermediate/advanced 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Yorkhill Public School, Thornhill, beginners 7:30 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8:30 p.m., starting Sept. 19. Mondays, Bloor JCC, 8 p.m. 905-771-0363.

HARBORD CLUB

For brochure/information regarding Harbord Collegiate Institute's Harbord Club trip to Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore March 2-21, **Jackie Kelman** 467-5006.

[Cont'd. on page 35]

IN THIS NEW YEAR
WE LOOK BACK WITH GRATITUDE
ON OUR SUCCESSES
AND LOOK FORWARD WITH HOPE
SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO FULFILL OUR MISSION
TO THE AGING IN THE COMMUNITY.

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 34]

PEER GROUP FOR KIDS

A peer socializing group for kids who are shy, have difficulty making friends and asserting themselves with others is offered by Jewish Family & Child Service. Group will improve your child's social skills and enhance his/her self-esteem. Begins Oct. 16. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

HAVE A SWEET NEW YEAR

Jordana-Yamit chapter of Hadassah-WIZO is selling kosher candy trees. $12. Free delivery. **Dalia** 905-882-8662 or **Ruth** 665-4053.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

Jewish family life groups offered by Jewish Family & Child Service: Single Again: Building a New Life, begins Oct. 1; Living with Your Teen, begins Sept. 24; Single Parent Challenge begins Sept. 25; Separation and Divorce begins Sept. 19. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

STUDY CLUB

A correction: the phone number for information about Forum 15 Study Club (Aug. 29 column), an eight-session series of lectures and literary reviews with **Prof. Cathy Tile** and **Prof. Selma Sage** meeting Thursday evenings once a month starting Sept. 19, is 756-0183, **Randy**.

PLAYGROUP

Shaarei Shomayim Playgroup has spaces available for the 2- and 3-year-olds program for September. **Ellise** 785-6638.

LEARNING NON-SERVICE

Learning Non-Service led by **Rabbi Michael Skobac** at Bloor JCC, sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto: Rosh Hashanah Sept. 14 and 15, noon; Yom Kippur Sept. 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. and Sept. 23 10 a.m. to noon. 512-0814.

JEP PROGRAMS

JEP progams, Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Learning, 2939 Bathurst St. 785-5899:

Sunday morning beginners minyan, 9 a.m.

Torah From the Inside, intermediate class for men and women, Mondays 8:30 p.m.

INCEST SURVIVORS

Jewish Family & Child Service Incest Survivor Group, for women who are survivors of incest and have already begun their work with a mental health professional, deals with self-care, understanding long-term effects of the abuse, family relationships, intimacy, sexuality. Begins Oct. 1. **Karen Wynnychuk** 961-9344 or **Gail Solish** 482-3023.

CAMPUS SERVICES

Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto High Holy Day prep crash courses: Explore Their Relevance and Deeper Meanings with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**:

University of Toronto — Thursday, Sept. 12, noon, Sidney Smith, Room 2101, and 5 p.m. University College, Room 149; Thursday, Sept. 19, 5 p.m., University College 148.

Seneca College King campus — Monday, Sept. 16. Call **Tammy Sitcoff** 512-0814 for location.

York University — Tuesday, Sept. 17, 12:30 p.m., Jewish Student Federation Student Centre Room 442.

FALL ART CLASSES

Register now for fall art classes at Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. Adult classes include Painting, Drawing, Mixed Media, Pottery/Ceramics, Raku, Clay and Stone Sculpture. Children's and teens classes include Pottery/Ceramics, Drawing, Painting, Judaic Art for Children. **Raylene** 636-1880, ext. 270.

NEW CHAIRMAN

Outgoing chairman of the board of governors of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Ralph Halbert (left) congratulates newly elected chairman Alex Grass. Halbert now serves as honorary chairman of the board.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC is offering full-time students, age 18 or older, athletic memberships valid to May 1 for $225 plus GST. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, Sept. 12, 2 p.m., All About Elderhostel with **Lillian Phillips**; Thursday, Sept. 19, 2 p.m., The Role of the Chaplain in the Jewish Community, **Rabbi Ron Weiss**, chaplain, Jewish Family & Child Service. **Judy** 924-6211.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: opening luncheon with entertainment, Monday, Oct. 7, 12:30 p.m.; Buffalo shopping trip Oct. 21; vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat all inclusive Nov. 4-25. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Thursday, Oct. 10, local day trip to Hillroy Factory, bring own lunch, members $5, non-members $6; Oct. 13-15, Frankenmuth, Mich., plus Flint Crossroads Village and Casino Windsor, members $299; Tuesday, Oct. 22, shuffle off to Buffalo, transportation and shopping tours to factory outlets, bring lunch, members $25, non-members $28; Oct. 27-31 Atlantic City plus New York City, members $495. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 19 program is bingo and games. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771. Art exhibition Oct. 3. All members welcome to exhibit work. **Ovadia Azori** 631-9794.

Great RRIF Debate — Knowing Your Choices, seminar on retirement planning for ages 69 and over, with **David Murray, Charlotte Haber** and **David Bruce**, Thursday, Sept. 26, 2-3:30 p.m., Badminton and Raquet Club of Toronto, 25 St. Clair Ave. W. No charge. Reserve. **Karen Savoie** 964-7633, ext. 345.

Young at Heart Florida trip, one, two or three months, Sagamore Hotel, ocean front, pick-up at Miami airport and return, efficiency rooms, double occucpancy. **Helen** 635-6343.

Travel Club color tour Oct. 9-11, dinner theatre, Letchworth National Park (Grand Canyon of the east). **Bernice** 633-7034 or **Sandy** 736-8073.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

High Holy Day lunch, Wednesday, Sept. 18, noon, with **Rachel Kastoryano** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, $8 members. Concert only, members $2, non-members $3. Tickets at Information Desk.

The American Way, **Prof. Hugh Innis**, economics, University of Toronto, starts Tuesday, Sept. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.

Personal Economics in the '90s, financial advisor **Nick Dodds**, Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., Sept. 18-Nov. 6.

The Elephant and the French Canadian Problem (to 1867) **Sidney Soban**, University of Toronto, Thursdays, Sept. 12-Oct. 31, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

History of Klezmer Music in Eastern Europe, **Paul Matthews** Mondays Sept. 16 and 30, 1 p.m.

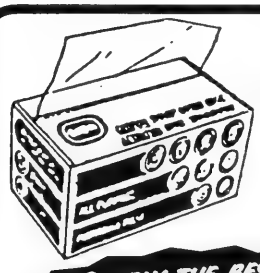
Etrog, Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Sept. 18 program is sing-along. **Anna**.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION

Klara and Victor Wise accept a plaque on behalf of the Estate of Emil and Ella Szusz, bequested to Youth Aliyah, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO. They are flanked by Vivien Sharon (left), president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; and Sharon Kroft, vice-president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO.

DONATION FOR SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL

Dr. David Bleeman, president of Zaglembier Society, presents a cheque to Max Moneta of the Association for Soldiers of Israel. The society is sponsoring a bedroom in Toronto House at the Soldiers' holiday rest camp in Askelon. Pictured above, back row, (from left) Fred Nusynowicz, Simon Slivka, Max Lieberman, Peter Ferens and Jack Kichler. Bottom row, (from left) Bleeman, Moneta, Mark Felzen and Kalman Pilc.



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From coast to coast

Anti-government groups not seen as concern

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

WHISTLER, B.C. — Despite the rise of militant anti-government groups in the United States, such groups are not making much headway in Canada.

That was the consensus of the handful of Canadians who attended the 15th annual conference here of the International Society for Individual Liberties (ISIL), an American-based organization which contends that big government is intruding too deeply into people's lives.

One of the speakers was Vancouver Reform MP Herb Grubel, who asked, what "all the fuss" was about, after Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P) urged him not to attend because, Congress said, the conference was featuring extreme right-wing speakers.

Delegates included militia supporters, anti-tax protesters, advocates of marijuana legalization — all united by the belief that government is corrupt and plans to rob citizens of their liberty.

The solution, the meeting recommended, is to take children out of school, stop paying taxes and organize such tools as the Internet "to help seize our liberties back from the police state."

The Westcoast Coalition for Human Dignity (WCHD) of Vancouver, commenting on the conference, said, "Effective opposition to hate-motivated movements and organizations requires informed, collaborative community response."

WCHD says it endeavors to build alliances between individuals and organizations promoting equality, social justice and human rights.

WCHD issued a kit (made available by Congress to *The CJN*), that provided information about organizations belonging to the ISIL. One item said that Charles Duke, a Republican Colorado state senator who was one of the conference speakers, has been featured on a radio program directed by the *Jubilee*, a newspaper "filled with anti-Semitic, racist and anti-government rhetoric."

The literature says Duke has shared a stage with Eugene Schroder, whose involvement with the Christian Patriots began in 1980 with the racist Posse Commitatus. Schroder attended a paramilitary training camp and by 1982, was conducting his own bomb-making trainings.

WCHD says the networking between Canadian neo-conservatives and the U.S. far-right is "a dangerous trend in Canadian politics. Their anti-government rhetoric is shrouded with anti-Jewish conspiracy theories and advocates radical, vigilante forms of 'justice.' "

Reform MP concerns CJC

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, has expressed concern that Reform party MP Herb Grubel, a Vancouver member of Parliament, participated in the 1996 conference of the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) in Whistler, "which provided a platform for some speakers known for extreme right, intolerant views."

The ISIL conference held during the week of Aug. 19 was promoted by organizers as an opportunity for "freedom lovers and leading scholars of the world to develop peaceful solutions to the political mess we find ourselves in today."

Two of the scheduled speakers were Americans Charles Duke and Larry Dodge, known for their far-right views.

CJC Pacific region chair Dr. Michael Elterman said, "We are surprised that Herb Grubel would have his good name associated with an event that, as part of its program, promotes views that should be abhorrent to the Reform party and all elected officials."

Elterman said Congress alerted Grubel, in writing and in advance, of its concerns that an elected member of Parliament would lend credibility to a forum at which well known American anti-government and right-wing militia supporters were among the featured speakers.

According to a Congress release, Duke is a Colorado state senator. Quoting the *Denver Post*, the release says that "if America's militia movement has a political general, he's most likely to be Charles R. Duke."

Dodge, another conference speaker, is co-founder of the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA), Congress said. "Sometimes referred to as Christian Patriots, Constitutionalists or Freemen, the Patriots believe in monolithic conspiracies directed against white Christians. A Montana newspaper reported that FIJA activists distributed pamphlets to state legislators, which complained that the race which settled America and once were its only citizens is being destroyed through integration, interracial marriage, affirmative action, abortion, etc."

A release from the Westcoast Coalition for Human Dignity says the conference "introduces extremist American political figures who promote vigilante and potentially violent strategies as legitimate means of citizen assent. The presence of elected officials and established Canadian organizations legitimizes and lends support to the political agendas of radical, extremist American activities."

Winnipeg CJA launches campaign

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – This year's annual Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign has several innovations.

For the first time, a member of the city's Council of Rabbis has been appointed to the CJA cabinet.

"Not only will we get a rabbinic perspective," says CJA director Gerry Koffman, "but we will also have the rabbis helping to get our message out to their congregations."

Other new representatives in the cabinet are a member of the Jewish Students Association at the university and the community's Young Leadership Division. There is also a new Golden Givers Division this year to focus on retirees, and a marketing committee to help sell the campaign in the community.

In recent years, the campaign has kicked off with an evening of entertainment and information for the community at large. This year, Koffman says, organizers will have a celebratory evening to thank the community and recognize supporters after the campaign is concluded.

This year's campaign began on Sept. 8, with Super Sunday. For the first time, that day included a trade show of small and home-based businesses at the YMHA Jewish Community Centre in conjunction with the phoning campaign.

The object of the Super Sunday Market, Koffman says, is to give volunteers something else to do in the building after they finish their calls and thus keep up the sense of activity and energy.

"The message that we are trying to get across to the community is that the CJA touches the lives of everyone in the community in one way or another," Koffman says.

"It is important that there should be some fun in fundraising. We want our fundraisers to feel a certain level of Jewish consciousness-raising and fulfilment. The message is also that every gift counts. Collectively, we can ensure that the campaign and the community are successful."

There will be a number of follow-up mini-telethons to Super Sunday. For the first time, a number of different community organizations, both CJA beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, have volunteered to provide the manpower for these.

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From coast to coast

JWV seeks new members

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Maritime Correspondent

HALIFAX — Sam Pasternack is on a mission.

The national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada wants to recruit younger members to each and every post across the country. "Unless we develop a core, we'll be a footnote in history. The Jewish people are people of long memory. We consider that we all stood at Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments and we were all in the trenches during he war. That's why it's vitally important the associates carry on."

Pasternack spoke to about 50 veterans and associates at a Halifax breakfast recently, reminding younger audience members that "veterans have seen the terror of hatred unbridled. We all have to carry that memory and message forth. Attrition is taking its natural toll and that's why we need younger blood. Then future members will be able to say they spoke to people who were there."

Pasternack, a retired Toronto retailer born of immigrant parents enlisted in the Canadian forces in 1941 at age 17. After training, he served in the Northwest Air Command.

"I enlisted because I was aware of what was happening and it was our chance to get in our innings," he said.

He is proud that he was one of 16,000 enlisted Jews in World War II, 10 percent of the Canadian Jewish population, and higher per capita than the national Canadian average.

"In speeches [he makes 20 to 25 a year], I try to impress that Canadian Jews, contrary to public thought, did participate in World War II. We certainly have our deaths and casualty lists."

As national commander, Pasternack coordinates the eight posts and 1,500 veterans across Canada in projects that, he said, "are as important to Jewish communities at large as they are to the veterans. We look out for the welfare of the veterans but also fight bigotry, racism and help root out war criminals. Anything that affects people of every faith is our concern."

Longtime Atlantic Canada Post commander Gar Meltzer of Saint John, N.B. said it is difficult to get veterans out for ceremonial functions. "They want to forget. That's our biggest battle — to keep the memory alive so people in the future will never forget our contribution. We have 25 associate members in our region now and I'm proud of that."

Pasternack has been national commander for four years, after serving 12 years as Toronto Post commander. "Only a meshugenah would do it," he said with a laugh.

But he has received the commemorative medal for the 125th anniversary of confederation (1992) and was named an honorary deputy chief of police in the city of Toronto in 1994.

"That was a great thrill. I was never prouder than when then Toronto chief, Bill MacCormack, mentioned the Jewish War veterans of Canada in front of a crowd of 25,000 at Skydome and they all applauded."

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Sept. 10, 1971

ARABS TO LAUNCH DIPLOMATIC THRUST

Israel is anticipating a two-pronged diplomatic assault in the United Nations spearheaded by Jordan and Egypt.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban said the Israeli delegation would expose the full story of atrocities and desecration during Jordan's 19-year occupation of East Jerusalem if Jordan raised the question of Jerusalem in the Security Council. Egypt, meanwhile, was said to be planning to seek a pro-Arab "interpretation" of the Security Council Resolution 242, seeking consensus that the resolution requires total Israeli withdrawal behind the pre-June 1967 armistice lines.

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SCHOOL START ON ROSH HASHANAH CONTROVERSIAL

The scheduling of York University's first two lecture days to coincide with Rosh Hashanah has aroused a sharp controversy between Jewish community spokesmen and university authorities.

After many protests, dean John Saywell was to present a motion calling for the cancellation of classes for the faculty of arts during the high holy days.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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From coast to coast

Communities link to help Israel

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Vancouver and San Francisco Jewish communities are joining forces to extend a helping hand to communities in Israel, says Drew Staffenberg, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV).

The alliance is part of Partnership 2000, in which Diaspora communities are partnered with an Israeli region to formulate and implement development plans. Partnership 2000 is an initiative of the Jewish Agency, United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod.

One of the main goals of the project is to move from the "Diaspora helping Israel" approach to "Diaspora and Israel working together." It creates a two-way link between Israelis and Diaspora Jews who work together as equals, says Staffenberg.

Unlike the earlier Project Renewal, which linked specific Israeli city areas with Diaspora cities, Partnership 2000 will not rely on a separate campaign. It will promote programs in both rural and urban Israel, not just urban; deal with large areas, not just a single neighborhood; combine economic development and share educational opportunities, not just social and cultural programs and community facilities.

Vancouver and San Francisco leaders will be part of a Partnership 2000 stearing committee being set up with an Israel group of urban and community leaders and experts in education, economic development and tourism, says Staffenberg.

In other JFGV news, the annual Combined Jewish Appeal Plus campaign is getting under way. Under the "plus" system, each contributor who makes an increased gift over the CJA 95 pledge, may designate 50 percent of the increase to agencies or areas of service of his/her choice.

The Women's Division campaign opens with a top gifts dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel on Oct. 2 at which Julia Koschitzky of Toronto, chair of the Keren Hayesod world board of trustees, will be the keynote speaker.

Eight-year-old Samantha Vollans (left), respresenting Temple Shalom, and Lindsay Wight, 12, representing Westminister United Church, cut the ribbon to The Cedars, Canada's first shared house of worship. [Ron Csillag photo]

Shared sanctuary opens

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

WATERLOO — Canada's first shared house of worship was opened here last week in the atmosphere of harmony and interfaith cooperation its organizers were seeking.

The Cedars will be unique in this country: a facility split between Temple Shalom, a Reform congregation serving about 55 family members in the area, and Westminster United Church, with 90 families.

Organizers hold out the structure as a model of what cooperation between Christians and Jews can accomplish. Some go so far as to say they believe it's the first time in the world that Jews and Christians have jointly designed, built and shared a worship facility.

Last Thursday night, over 250 Jews and non-Jews sat side by side in the $1.4-million building, and together sang Psalm 113 and *Hinei matov umanayim, shevet achim gam yachad* (Here is what is pleasant and good, that brothers and sisters sit together.)

Speaker after speaker, including Charles Rothschild, head of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, lauded the effort as an example of partnership between the faiths.

Waterloo Mayor Brian Turnbull called the project "a tremendous accomplishment ... a lesson to the rest of the world on how to work together."

Apart from the main sanctuary, The Cedars will house a community hall, a kitchen, offices and a nursery. Plans call for religious education classrooms and possibly a gym — all to be called The Cedars Worship and Community Centre, at 543 Beechwood Dr. in Waterloo.

But it's the adjoining sanctuary that is ingenious in its simplicity. The twin peaks of the blond oak ceiling are said to symbolize two different peoples. The temple's Aron Kodesh faces east, while the church's congregation sits facing west.

The church's sanctuary seats up to 300, while about 90 can gather for synagogue services. But a retractable wall between the two can be opened for either congregation to use the entire area if necessary. Moveable pews can be arranged to face either direction.

The sole outward sign of any religious artifact is the temple's eternal light. The Aron Kodesh recesses into the wall, and the church's cross is removeable.

The dedication of the temple's sefer Torah took place last erev Shabbat, while the church sanctuary was dedicated last Sunday.

The story of how the two congregations came together has almost become part of local lore: In 1992, two Waterloo neighbors, Jim Robinson, then chair of the church's building committee, and Mark Pancer, then temple president, commiserated over their backyard fence about their places of worship. The church had been holding services in a local school gym, while the temple had been renting space in a church basement in Kitchener.

"When we realized that both congregations were looking for new, more permanent quarters," recalls Robinson, "we said, 'Hey, maybe we can do something together!' "

Thus began three years of working together on the design and construction. The building is owned by Westminster United. Temple Shalom will hold a five-year lease, with an option to buy a half interest in The Cedars.

It was also three years ago that the area was going through some religious tensions. British Holocaust denier David Irving had spoken in Kitchener, a local stereo shop owned by an Irving supporter-was being picketed by local Jews and Christians, and a house belonging to a Jewish activist burned down in a suspicious fire.

"Some people felt strongly about that," Temple Shalom president Bob Chodos told *The CJN*, "so this is a way of making a statement."

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Israel & the Jewish World

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PM denies he intends to curb Supreme Court

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has denied that he is contemplating moves to curb the powers of Israel's Supreme Court.

In an official clarification issued recently, the Prime Minister's Office said comments Netanyahu made to this effect that were published by the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* had been misunderstood by the paper.

Netanyahu said his comments had been theoretical, but his quick effort to squelch the quoted remarks demonstrated the sensitivity of the issue.

The issue is currently at the heart of a major political controversy in Israel.

The Orthodox parties, along with some Likud members, feel that the Supreme Court, and particularly Chief Justice Aharon Barak, are too "activist" and liberal in their interpretation of laws.

Religious Jews have assailed Barak about his rulings recognizing gay rights and women's rights.

But the hostility toward the chief justice boiled over with the court's recent decision to keep Bar Ilan Street, a main Jerusalem thoroughfare that passes through religious neighborhoods, open to traffic on the Sabbath.

The court's ruling overturned a decision by Minister of Transportation Yitzhak Levy of the National Religious Party to close the street during hours of prayer on the Sabbath and religious holidays. An article last month in the *Yated Ne'eman* newspaper, published by the Orthodox Degal HaTorah Party, blasted Barak as a "dangerous enemy" of religious Jews.

In recent weeks, Barak and other justices have received telephone threats.

Security has been stepped up around the Jerusalem home of Barak, who recently said, according to a court source, that he was determined to preserve the rule of law in Israel and that "no individual will scare him."

Netanyahu has urged tough police action to apprehend those issuing the threats, saying he would not tolerate "lawlessness" in Israeli society.

But some members of the legal community fault him for not speaking out forcefully enough against religious and conservative politicians who are campaigning for a reduction in the Supreme Court's powers.

The haredi community has long complained that the Supreme Court issues rulings that contravene the beliefs and needs of Orthodox Jews.

The Orthodox parties are seeking to have greater say in the appointments of Supreme Court justices and want greater powers for the Knesset to circumvent the high court's rulings.

Ma'ariv quoted Netanyahu as saying he had been meeting with "eminent jurists, rabbis and academics" to discuss the separation of powers between the court and the Knesset.

Netanyahu told the paper there was "no need for quotas" in an effort to appoint judges of various ideological stripes.

But he added that it was legitimate to consider the question of the court's sphere of authority in relation to the legislature.

"This is a fundamental issue, by no means simple, which we have to deal with as the state matures," *Ma'ariv* quoted the premier as saying.

"We will not be able to avoid it, and I intend to work out my own opinion on it in the months ahead."

Opposition spokespersons, among them former justice minister David Liba'i, immediately charged that Netanyahu was giving in to Orthodox pressures to cut down the Supreme Court's power and that he was thereby dealing a serious blow to the rule of law in Israel.

Palestinian state rejected

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – "There never will be a Palestinian state between the sea and the Jordan," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed before the Likud central committee last week.

He also pledged that Jerusalem will never be redivided, that Jewish settlement "will remain forever and prosper" and that his government will move towards peace with security "at the proper speed, without reckless haste."

A confident Netanyahu defended his meeting with Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat and he reviewed his first 80 days in office.

His two main party adversaries – Ariel Sharon and Ze'ev Begin – stopped short of an outright attack upon him. Begin was especially incensed at Netanyahu's repeated statements that those who opposed his meeting with Arafat should not have entered his government, and that those ministers who actively oppose the government's line would be fired if need be.

But Netanyahu weathered the expected storm in the central committee without too much trouble. The only frontal attack came from MK Uzi Landau, and the often volatile committee was generally well-behaved, with only some heckling and an occasional boo. Netanyahu asserted that he only agreed to meet with Arafat after a series of messages relayed to the PA had been received and understood.

"We will not agree to terror from the areas under PA control," he said. Our message was that we will react very differently from the Labor government.

Rabbis may move

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Plans by Israel's two chief rabbis to leave their offices in downtown Jerusalem's Hechal Shlomo building may be scuttled if the country's two deputy religious affairs ministers have their way.

The deputy ministers, Rabbi Aryeh Gamliel of Shas and Yigal Bibi of the National Religious Party, issued a joint statement last week calling on the Chief Rabbinate to reconsider its decision to leave Hechal Shlomo for a government office building.

The current headquarters was built in the 1950s. The Chief Rabbinate has complained that the rent is too high and that there is not enough working space.

However, the deputy ministers said that even if the rent is high, the stature of the chief rabbis would be lowered if they sat in an "ordinary" office building.

They said it was important to build a new building for the chief rabbis, similar to the Supreme Court, but that until then, the rabbis should not leave Hechal Shlomo.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Fire ravages kibbutz lands near Jerusalem

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Fourteen months after a forest fire destroyed more than 3,200 acres of woodland in the forested hills near Jerusalem, another blaze has claimed an additional 500 acres of forest and several buildings in the kibbutz of Kiryat Anavim.

Complaining about the poor response to the recent fire, kibbutz residents and others living in the affected area outside Jerusalem are leading a vociferous outcry against what they describe as the negligence, apathy and inefficiency of the firefighting services.

They claimed that the report and recommendations of a blue-ribbon inquiry committee set up to study the disastrous July 1995 fire have been largely ignored.

According to a preliminary investigation, the fire began in the Arab village of Abu Gosh when wind carried the flames from burning garbage.

As the fire spread, black smoke engulfed the area and reached the main Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway. Thirteen people required medical attention for smoke inhalation, but there were no serious injuries.

Interior Minister Eli Suissa has ordered a new inquiry – both into the weekend blaze and into the apparent failure of the authorities to learn the lessons of last year's fire.

President Ezer Weizman, in a grim-faced visit to the scene, urged the air force to purchase special firefighting planes and hold them in readiness for such events.

A former air force commander, Weizman said the Israel Air Force's Sikorsky helicopters, which lug large tubs of water from nearby reservoirs and dump them over a blaze, are by no means the most advanced airborne firefighting technique.

But most of the residents' criticism was directed at the ground-based fire services, headquartered at Beit Shemesh, at the foot of the Jerusalem hills.

Kiryat Anavim residents claimed it took hours for the fire officers to appreciate the strength of the spreading blaze and to call up fire-engines from Jerusalem and elsewhere.

"They could have stopped it when it was still small," kibbutz member Chava Abrahams said, surveying the charred wreckage of her mother's home.

Meir Wiesel, chair of the Mateh Yehuda regional council, charged that "none of the recommendations made after last year's fire was carried out in practice."

These recommendations included beefing up firefighting services in both material and manpower, cutting wider safety swathes through forest tracts and maintaining better watch for fires, especially during hot weather.

The village hardest hit in last year's fire was Shoresh. This time, its inhabitants sought to offer shelter and comfort to those forced out of their homes in Kiryat Anavim.

'Protocols' published in Croatia

By ALISSA KAPLAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – The publication in Croatia of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, a notorious anti-Semitic forgery, is particularly troubling to some because of that country's role in the Holocaust.

The surfacing of the *Protocols* anywhere is cause for concern, Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, said in a telephone interview here this week.

But it is even more so in a country such as Croatia, which has a "history of compliance and complicity" in the deaths of Jews during World War II, he said.

The Croatian translation of the *Protocols* was published a week ago and a quarter of the initial 2,000-copy print run reportedly already has been sold.

The tract, which contains a series of 24 lectures by the so-called "Elders" on plans and techniques for subjugating the world and establishing a Jewish state, first appeared in 1905 Russia and was printed by the government press.

Since that time, it has been appeared around the world.

Foxman also said he was concerned by the appearance of the forgery in Croatia because of its head of state, nationalist Franjo Tudjman.

Last year, Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal accused Croatia of reviving ideas and icons from the fascist Ustashe regime that governed the country during World War II.

After the German invasion of Yugoslavia in April 1941, Croatia was organized as an independent state allied with Germany. In the next four years, Croats stripped the Jews of all their property and eventually killed most of them in local camps, including the infamous Jasenovac death camp.

Among other things, Tudjman wrote a book in 1989 minimizing the Holocaust. He apologized in 1994 for the work's anti-Semitic sections. He has also been quoted as saying that Jews are "selfish, crafty, unreliable, miserly and underhanded."

Slavko Goldstein, a prominent member of Croatia's small Jewish community, reportedly said that he could not accuse the publisher of anti-Semitism, but rather of recklessness and failure to explain the tract adequately in the preface.

Non-Jewish Croats have also criticized the book's publication.

A father carries his young son through a section of the burnt forest on the outskirts of Kibbutz Kiryat Anavim near Jerusalem after a forest fire raged through the area. [Reuters/RNS photo]

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Israel & the Jewish World

Disadvantaged people learn to help themselves

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM – Three afternoons a week, Zehava Cohen's tools of the trade are a mop and pail. But in the morning, the cleaning woman from one of Jerusalem's poorer neighborhoods uses another set of tools at her second job: solving problems for dozens of people who walk in off the street.

Zehava Cohen is a volunteer at the Jerusalem branch of Community Advocacy, a non-profit organization modelled after Montreal's Project Genesis, now in its 20th year.

Like Project Genesis, founded by McGill social work professor Jim Torczyner, Community Advocacy is about helping disadvantaged people to help themselves. Since the Israeli program began in 1992, it has recruited some 75 volunteers who act as advocates for over 6,000 Israelis at storefront sites in Jerusalem, Beersheva and, most recently, Acre.

Community Advocacy – funded by UIA-Canada and the Montreal Jewish Community Foundation, as well as the New Israel Fund and Abraham Fund – helps residents solve problems ranging from obtaining a disability allowance to getting repairs done on public housing. The goal: informing people of their rights and helping them take the steps to obtain them.

Political lobby group

Community Advocacy also acts as a political lobby group which seeks changes in housing, education, health care and other social legislation.

The Jerusalem office where Cohen sits is located in the Katamonim, an eyesore of a neighborhood made up of long blocks of concrete housing in various stages of decay. The organization's office is a cramped one-floor building with a corrugated iron roof at a noisy intersection. The storefront is in the heart of the neighborhood, the door literally opening up onto the street, making it easy for residents to just drop by.

On this blistering Sunday in August, a woman named Stella has stopped by to see if Cohen – who happens to be manning the front desk today – can help her. Stella can hardly stand on her swollen feet. The 65-year-old Jerusalemite tries to get up, leaning heavily on her cane, but turns white and collapses into her chair. For six months, she has been waiting for various government authorities to make good their promise and provide her with transportation to the hospital for medical treatment three times a week.

"When I take the bus, I often fall or faint," she explains, wiping the sweat from her brow. "And on my 900-shekel monthly allowance ($300 US) from National Insurance I can't afford to take taxis." In the hope of speeding things up, Stella, who suffers from a host of medical problems, turned to Community Advocacy.

Cohen is already familiar with Stella's case. "How are you today?" she asks and patiently listens to Stella's story, interjecting now and then to ask pertinent questions. Cohen calls the municipality-appointed social worker who has been assigned to Stella. The social worker says she will look into the delay in arranging transportation. It's a first step.

For Cohen, helping others is a relatively new role.

"Not long ago, I couldn't solve my own problems," admits the Katamonim resident who until a year ago worked solely as a cleaning woman. "When the city was slow in authorizing a reduction on my property tax bill, I couldn't bring myself to make the necessary phone calls. I came to Community Advocacy, where a friend of mine was working, and asked her to take care of it for me. That was three years ago. Today I help others solve their problems.

"Most of our volunteers are past consumers of our service," says Barbara Epstein, director of the program. "Anyone we help – who seems to have some potential – is asked to consider becoming a volunteer."

That is how Esther Hayut, a 68-year-old grandmother, ended up devoting one morning a week to working at the Jerusalem storefront a block away from her home.

When Hayut returned ill from a family vacation in the United States, her insurance company refused to pay for the two days she had spent hospitalized abroad. Before long, the American hospital was sending her interest-linked bills totalling $7,000. Community Advocacy's lawyer took on her case, eventually passing it on to another lawyer. After a full year of correspondence, the bill was finally settled by the insurance company.

Hayut was grateful. "I was treated with such care at Community Advocacy I felt I had to do something in return," she says.

All volunteers take a training course that teaches them basic information about social services – eligibility criteria, agencies involved, the people to contact at each agency – as well as working methods, including how to receive clients, develop a rapport and deal with a government agency. The course is capped by an in-service training period.

Training local residents like Cohen to work at Community Advocacy has several advantages over hiring "professionals," says Epstein.

"The goal of the program isn't just to solve particular problems, but to empower people – to teach them to solve their own problems."

It's also more effective. "It's easier to ask for help from someone who is a lot like you," says Epstein, noting that many of the volunteers and clients are friends or neighbors. "If you want to make information accessible, it helps to speak the same language as your clients."

In an effort to do that literally, Community Advocacy offers services in Hebrew, Arabic and Russian. Notices in Russian-language newspapers brought a wave of new immigrants to the storefront, where Russian-speaking volunteers are available. Israeli Arabs from the adjacent neighborhood of Beit Sefafa are more reluctant to walk into the office. Instead, Arab social work students from the Hebrew University make house calls as part of Community Advocacy's outreach program.

In addition to solving individual problems, Community Advocacy mobilizes residents to fight for changes in national social policy. Last year, a concerted campaign bore fruit when the finance minister agreed to a major budget change: allowing a 50 percent reduction on medication for pensioners living solely on National Insurance allowances.

For the first time in its history, the Egged bus cooperative will soon have a route running through the Arab village of Beit Sefafa, which is part of the Jerusalem Municipality. That too is the result of a Community Advocacy effort which culminated in a petition, signed by 300 villagers, demanding public transportation.

Another accomplishment is stopping schools from penalizing children whose parents cannot pay for school books.

The organization – which is apolitical – is now waging new struggles in the aftermath of the Netanyahu government's budget cuts, many of which affect the weaker segments of society.

Behind all of these public battles is a more subtle attempt to change Israeli culture by introducing concepts like social rights, volunteerism and empowerment. If empowerment is a buzz word in North America, the Hebrew version, *ha'atzamah*, is not even listed in most dictionaries – let alone heard in conversations. Nor is volunteerism deeply rooted in Israel.

Change Israeli culture

"When I first came here 20 years ago," recalls the American-born Epstein, "to volunteer meant to be a *freier* – a sucker. Today it is acquiring a different connotation. It's become a way of enhancing one's status and boosting one's dignity. We're trying to reinforce that."

For some, the storefront in the Katamonim is still an enigma. "People often mistake us for a real estate office or a branch of City Hall," says Epstein. "When we explain that we deal with rights, they immediately assume we mean civil rights – that we defend homosexuals or Arabs or other discriminated groups. The concept of social rights like housing, education and medical care to which everyone is entitled is still a novelty."

For people who have been evicted from apartments, had their telephones disconnected or their television service cut, the law is no friend. In this respect, Community Advocacy also offers a different experience. Says Epstein: "We show people, often for the first time, that the law can also work for them."

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Iraqi crisis ends on ambivalent note

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The crisis in Iraq ended last week on an ambivalent note.

Once again, Iraq was cut down to size militarily by the United States. But Saddam Hussein, the supreme ruler of Iraq since 1979, emerged defiant and uncowed from the encounter.

No one knows when he may strike again. Iraq, with its ambitions of regaining its status as a regional power, remains a source of enormous instability.

The crisis began on Aug. 31, with an Iraqi armored thrust into the Kurdish safe haven north of the 36th parallel in Iraq, which is protected by the United States, Britain and France. The Iraqis were invited there by a Kurdish faction normally hostile to Baghdad.

In reaction, the United States launched back-to-back Tomahawk Cruise missile attacks at Iraq's air defence system in the south. Once again, Iraq miscalculated, suffering a humiliating drubbing.

But the punishment meted out to Iraq by the United States was not as strategically important as Washington's unilateral decision to expand the air exclusion zone in southern Iraq from the 32nd parallel to the 33rd parallel, and to suspend a recent United Nations agreement allowing Iraq to sell limited quantities of oil on the world market.

With one bold stroke, the United States put Iraq in its place, tightening the screws of its containment policy against Saddam Hussein.

As a result, much of Iraqi territory is now off-limits to Iraq's air force. This means that Iraq's capacity to threaten its neighbors in the future has been significantly reduced. And, of course, Iraq has temporarily forfeited the right to export $4 billion (US) worth of petroleum annually to purchase food and medical supplies for its long-suffering population.

So for now, the UN sanctions that have crippled Iraq since its ill-conceived 1990 invasion of Kuwait remain firmly in place. Iraq must be disappointed. It had been working ceaselessly to loosen the sanctions which are strangling its once-thriving economy.

For the United States, the crisis — the latest in a series stretching back several years — starkly underlined an unpalatable fact:the grand coalition it had so painstakingly assembled in 1990 to confront and defang Iraq lies in tatters.

Arab countries such as Egypt, Jordan (which was neutral in the Gulf War), Saudi Arabia and Syria were decidedly lukewarm to President Bill Clinton's draconian method of dealing with Iraq.

Still more disheartening, Turkey — which is now governed by an Islamic regime — refused to let the United States launch the raids from its territory.

Only Kuwait, the victim of past Iraqi aggression, offered unequivocable support.

France and Russia — key members of the old coalition — expressed grave misgivings as well. The only nations which lined up solidly behind the United States were Britain, Germany, Canada, Japan and Israel (which was hit by 39 Iraqi Scuds in the Gulf War).

Iraq, having failed to split the coalition in 1991, will doubtless try to break it down even further in the months ahead. Iraq will exploit every opportunity to sow dissension within allied ranks.

The Kurds, an ancient people scattered throughout the Middle East, are at the root of the current tension. Persecuted by all the countries in which they reside, notably Iraq, Iran and Turkey, the Kurds themselves are deeply and bitterly divided.

They brought the latest crisis upon themselves by their incessant feuding. Two rival Kurdish factions, one backed by Iran, were locked in fighting for control of Erbil, which is in the no-fly zone north of the 36th parallel. The leader of the other faction appealed to Iraq for help, and Saddam Hussein jumped into the fray.

The Kurdish enclave was established by the United States, Britain and France in 1991 in the wake of Iraq's ignominious defeat in the Gulf War. Since then, Iraq has tried to recover this segment of its territory.

To justify its military action, the United States claimed that Iraq had breached a 1991 UN resolution demanding an end of Iraq's repression of the Kurds. But critics scoffed, claiming that the Clinton administration was playing presidential politics.

The no-fly zones were designed to protect Kurds in Iraq from Baghdad's wrath and to create a *cordon sanitaire* between Iraq and its neighbors, notably Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

The Kurds, and the Shi'ites, staged unsuccessful revolts against Baghdad's authority in March 1991. The minority Sunni government in Iraq crushed these uprisings, touching off an exodus of millions of Kurds to Turkey and Iran. To lure the Kurds back to their homes, Western countries set up a Kurdish enclave.

Baghdad has repeatedly attempted to assert its influence there, and although Iraq has withdrawn from Erbil, the battle is far from over.

Indeed, it may only have begun.

The Week in Israel

Sept. 2

• A $42-million (US) bypass road linking southern Jerusalem to Jewish settlements in the Etzion Bloc was inaugurated. The road comprises two tunnels and a long bridge.

• President Ezer Weizman launched a campaign to promote tolerance among secular and religious Israelis. Under the project, postcards are being sent to Israeli homes during the Rosh Hashanah holiday period asking people to sign them in support of tolerance.

Sept. 3

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sought to assure Israelis that they faced no threat of Iraqi retaliation consequence of the U.S. missile strike against Iraq.

• Foreign Minister David Levy met with the Russian ambassador to Israel to discuss the transfer of deeds of Jerusalem properties from the former Soviet Union to Russia.

Sept. 4

• The High Court of Justice rejected a petition from the acting mayor of Jerusalem to close Bar Ilan Street on Shabbat and on the holidays. The Court said there was no justification to lift the order keeping the street open to traffic pending the report of a special commission.

Sept. 5

• The media reported that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher would meet in London on the weekend with Foreign Minister David Levy in advance of Netanyahu's upcoming meeting in Washington with President Bill Clinton.

Sept. 6

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai announced to the press that a previously scheduled meeting with Yasser Arafat would likely proceed the following week. Among the key items to be discussed is the issue of troop redeployment from Hebron.

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Jewish community rejects Hebron plan

By EVELYN GORDON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon has prepared his own plan for redeployment in Hebron, but the Jewish community there has flatly rejected it.

Sharon's plan would actually give more territory to the Palestinian Authority than is called for under the current agreement with the PA.

Ariel Sharon

As things stand now, some 16,000 Palestinians in Hebron are slated to remain under Israeli rule. Under Sharon's plan, the number would be reduced to about 2,000.

In exchange however, the plan calls for massive building and development of the Jewish settlement in Hebron, enabling some 3,000 additional people to move there.

There are currently around 450 Jews in Hebron.

Sharon's plan would also allow the IDF to conduct patrols and maintain lookout posts on sites overlooking the Jewish part of the city, even though these areas will be officially controlled by the PA.

The IDF would also have the right to enter any part of Hebron in pursuit of terrorists or to prevent a terror attack. These are all rights the IDF would not have under the exisiting agreement.

Finally, the plan calls for a wall separating Jewish and Arab Hebron, and a new road connecting Kiryat Arba with the Jewish areas of the city.

Jewish residents of Hebron last week strongly rejected the plan.

"With all due respect to Sharon, this plan is a very serious mistake," said community spokesman Noam Arnon. "It would create a strangulated Jewish ghetto, surrounded by enemies. And the army would not be able to protect the residents, because terrorists would control the high places."

Sharon's call for increased Jewish settlement in the city is no compensation, because there would be no room to expand, he added.

Arnon stressed the community is especially opposed to setting up a "Jewish ghetto," which is what Sharon's plan to build a wall would do, he said.

Meanwhile, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza had mixed reaction to Sharon's plan.

Deputy council chair and Ma'ale Adumim Mayor Benny Kashriel enthusiastically supported the plan, saying he will urge the entire council to adopt it.

SYNAGOGUE REOPENS

Hungarian President Arpad Goncz (left) and former Prime Minister of Israel Yitzak Shamir smile at the reopening of Europe's largest synagogue, in Budapest, Sept. 5. Jews from Hungary and around the world gathered in Budapest to officially reopen the synagogue, a sign of Judaism's revival in Hungary since World War 11. [RNS /Reuters]

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Mayor of Jerusalem facing criminal indictment

By EVELYN GORDON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair is going ahead with plans to indict Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, after Olmert's lawyer failed to convince him at a hearing last week that an indictment was unmerited.

The draft indictment charges Olmert with aggravated fraud, falsifying corporate documents, two violations of the tax code, and violating the Party Funding Law by making a false declaration to the state comptroller. All of the charges relate to the Likud's 1988 election campaign, during which Olmert served as party treasurer.

According to the draft indictment, Olmert told Yona Peled – one of the heads of a non-profit organization doing fundraising for the party – to solicit money from businesses, and in exchange give them fictitious receipts indicating that the money was spent on advertising. Peled did so, and the Likud thereby raised NIS 913,707 ($402,000).

This scheme violated the law in two ways. First, campaign contributions from businesses are illegal. Second, the fictitious receipts enabled the companies to take tax deductions for the donations as if they were legitimate business expenses.

Olmert also omitted this sum from the report he later filed with State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, thereby deceiving her into giving the party a clean bill of health for its finances. This enabled the Likud to receive the remainder of its campaign funding – NIS 2.148 million ($950,000) – from the government.

Peled and eight others involved in the affair, including Olmert's co-treasurer, Menahem Atzmon, were indicted in 1991. Olmert was not indicted at that time.

A new year and a new start

[cont'd. from pg. 1]

scholars of the Sanhedrin or with the holy men of the priesthood. Rather, it went with the little children. This concept is as stirring as it is powerful. For it suggests that from within the tiny, precious souls of our children are the eternal sparks, the inspiration, that can ignite in us flames of goodness, of justice, of mercy and of responsibility.

The great chassidic master, the Magid of Dubno, felt the same way. He believed that the outpouring of a child's heart was capable of penetrating the windows of Heaven.

As Hannah before him, the photo of Tzadekov proclaims tearfully: "For this child did I pray..." But no less tearfully, the photo of Lena, his daughter, inverts the prayer, and with Hannah-like gratitude also says: "For this father did I pray." Undoubtedly, it was through heaven's window, that her prayer found its metaphysical mark. Their reunion enchantingly fulfils God's consolation to Rachel: "Let your voice no longer cry, nor your eyes shed any more tears."

Tzadekov, Lena and their family have a new beginning. In truth, so do we all at this time of year.

Barak to throw hat into Labor ring

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Ehud Barak was expected to formally announce his intention to challenge former prime minister Shimon Peres for the party leadership at a press conference this week, according to Labor sources.

Since the elections, Barak has unofficially placed himself in the running for Labor's top spot, although it wasn't always clear that his primary adversary was Peres. Most party pundits saw the showdown as being between Barak and MK Haim Ramon.

That scenario, however, assumed that Peres was about to step down. That Peres chose not to do so was seen as working against Barak and helping Ramon, who has an interest in postponing the leadership bout as long as possible, to let memories of Peres' election defeat – for which Ramon is seen as largely responsible – recede.

Meanwhile, not only has Peres failed to step down, but Labor has been rife with rumors that Peres might seek the party's renomination for the elections scheduled for the year 2000.

As a result of these rumors, the sources said, Barak has decided that it serves no purpose to politely wait until Peres steps down. Hence the party now expects Barak to officially declare that he will contest the leadership, although the actual vote will not be held for a year.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Quiet revolution taking place in IDF

'We reflect society'

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – There is a quiet revolution taking place among mid-level officers, and the army appears to be happy about it.

Zionism and an ideological sense of mission are no longer the decisive factors in staying in uniform. For today's majors and lieutenant colonels, signing on is a career move. The military is a job, and a well paying one at that.

"I see it as a challenge. I think I chose a profession which is very interesting to me and one I can advance in. I certainly think that the element of personal satisfaction plays a vital role here," says Maj. Moshe, who was participating in the annual IDF's battalion commanders' course.

A generation ago, officers rarely spoke in terms of personal fulfillment in explaining why they chose a military career. On the Golan Heights last week, those taking part in the IDF course took turns "commanding" battalions of infantry-backed Merkava tanks, courtesy of the Seventh Armored Brigade, as they attacked and conquered mock Syrian positions.

It has been 23 years since the IDF fought on the Golan Heights and 14 since it even had to wage a serious battle, being forced to sit out the 1991 Gulf War. The army still trains for conventional war, but the past decade has been spent mainly doing glorified police work.

The diminished threat to Israel, combined with the belief that war seems a remote possiblity, has not only led to a drop in motivation to serve in reserves, but it may be one of the leading factors in the rise of a new kind of commander: a highly-trained professional who draws his incentive not only from patriotism but from an individual sense of success – a sort of military yuppie.

"We are still under threat and we can't forget that ideology is a strong motivator, but I see my military career as a profession. The army doesn't have to market itself," says 28-year-old Maj. Yariv. "Look, here I am about to assume command of an artillery battalion, and that is quite an achievement."

Nahal Corps Major Ron says his military path was mapped out deep into the next decade, but that the army allowed for a flexibility that let him take academic breaks. "We are not cut off from society. We reflect it," says the young, stocky major, adding that the IDF had recognized the trends of individualism in the Israel of the 1990s.

In any future war, battalion commanders are likely to find themselves being senior officers on the battlefield. It is crucial that they be able to function under pressure, and live-fire exercises train them in that. These exercises employ artillery, armor, infantry and air strikes, making them among the most expensive courses in the IDF.

According to the latest IDF figures, a battalion commander in the field nets about NIS 7,000 a month, not including a car and other benefits. "I can't say what motivated our chief of staff to decide to stay on in the army back in the 1960s, whether it was a sense of serving the homeland, or something else. But in today's era, personal reasons are very important," said another officer, who will shortly return to take command of a battalion of combat engineers.

The IDF recognizes this trend and is welcoming it. "This is the direction. Nothing can be done about it. The army sees itself as a profession and this demands this sort of attitude towards it and this kind of training. This is what we are heading for," said course commander Brig.-Gen. Zvika Gendelman.

Motivation among the 60 participants in the annual battalion commanders' course ran high. In fact, there were more candidates than places, instructors said. This year, the course was cut back from six weeks to a month, mainly to ease the burden on reservists, who make up two-thirds of the course, Gendelman said. But he added that the younger, regular-army officers in the course had a much more advanced grasp of military doctrine since nearly all of them had gone through at least a year of training at the general staff and command college.

While the peace process has brought about some changes in nuances, the IDF has not essentially altered its fundamental philosophy of defense. It is still an army based on its vast mobilized reserve force which must be able to throw a ring of steel and fire around three land fronts simultaneously, halt the enemy and take the battle to them.

While separated in age by a mere decade, there seemed to be a world of difference between the professional officers and the reservists. The latter shrugged off observations that they were a little off their rockers to have volunteered for the 30-day course while thousands are avoiding reserve duty.

"A youth who grew up when the security situation was difficult was imbued with elements he'll never shake off. But the youth who grew up in the era of peace has a much more difficult time," said Lt.-Col. Dr. Noam Haratz, 42.

Hosheah Ben-Shalom, a bearded, knitted kippa-clad, kibbutznik from Kibbutz Beit Yisrael, said he was led to the course out of a sense of mission.

"I have been fired at a lot in my life and I know what moves people under fire. The only way to deal with it is to put a tradition of dedication first. You can't do it out of a sense of professionalism because in a career you are not endangered; if you are a lawyer you won't die by losing a court case, you don't die by being a clerk in the Finance Ministry. You die in war and what motivates one there is totally different," Ben-Shalom said.

"It's hard to have an Israeli society with American values," he added.

Rugged reserve paratrooper Major Menachem Grayevsky is just a few generations out of a European ghetto. "If there wasn't such thing as reserve duty we would have to invent something like it," said the 36-year-old father of five. "In reserve duty we speak more of values. We are literally linked with the land. We are forging a bond with other men who will charge forward if need be. All this creates a different world."

A professional photographer in civilian life, Grayevsky spoke of the camaraderie among his generation of reservists. Ben-Shalom, 37, spoke of a longing for the Israel of his youth. They both seemed to use reserve duty as a way to hang on to that era.

Asked if they and their units would be able to stand the test of fire should war break out, the forum of reservists and professional officers answered in unison: "Without a doubt."

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Katsav promotes tourism

Special to The CJN

Moshe Katsav, 51, Israel's new minister of tourism and deputy prime minister, was born in Iran and was first elected to the Knesset in 1977. He has held several ministerial portfolios under Likud governments and was appointed to his new post after this year's Israeli election. This is his first interview with a Canadian publication.

Q. *Since Israel's creation, research has shown that less than 25 percent of North American Jews have visited Israel. What accounts for this situation?*

A. The fact that less than 25 percent of North American Jews have visited Israel is alarming. From our perspective, treating this problem is the number 1 national priority. The first issue that I dealt with after assuming the tourism portfolio was announcing Jewish tourism as a main objective — both in marketing and in preparing infrastructure for this particular tourism segment. We are starting a survey analysing those in the North American Jewish market who have already visited Israel, in order to learn more about them. We are checking into a proposal for bar and bat mitzvah programs in cooperation with El Al. In addition, we are studying a proposal for special honeymoon, youth and student exchange programs in cooperation with North American Jewish organizations. There is no other attractive country like Israel that combines archeology, culture, health, tourism, sites, people, vacation possibilities and 360 days of sun during the year.

Moshe Katsav

Q. *Could you provide us with some of your top priorities for the years to come?*

A. Our number 1 priority is, as I said before, Jewish tourism and above all, Jerusalem. We are preparing all other sites in Israel, including the Dead Sea region and Eilat for the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel (in 1998) in order to make it a special celebration for all visitors to the country.

Q. *How is the tourism industry preparing for both the 50th anniversary of the state and the new millennium? What is being planned for these special occasions?*

A. At the present time, we are preparing for new tourists by adding hotel rooms. Events, exhibits and special concerts are also being planned to give visitors a unique experience.

Q. *Until very recently, Israel was considered a "dead end" destination for travellers. What can Israel offer tourists who want to visit the entire region? What can you tell us about future regional tourism developments?*

A. Since the peace agreement with Jordan, tourism packages at especially attractive prices, which combine Israel, Jordan and Egypt, are being sold in North America. The packages are varied and suit any type of tourist. You can cross between countries in a conventional way, but also by riding camels. We hope that in the near future, we will be able to combine visiting Israel with visiting other countries in the Middle East too.

Q. *There appears to be a significant interest in tourists from the Far East. Can you give us more details about this new market?*

A. Israeli tourism's success in the the Far East is mainly due to the fact that our relations with Asia are better. We have observed a large Christian pilgrimage movement with promising potential from Korea. The number of tourists coming from Japan is growing, and visitors are beginning to come from countries, such as Malaysia and Indonesia, which have never had relations with Israel.

Material provided by the Israel Government Tourist Office.

The Management and Staff of
The Canadian Jewish News
extend sincerest condolences
to our colleague and friend
Honey Mahl and her family
on the passing of
Hilda Mahl ז"ל

Haredim mourn Satmar leader

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Thousands of Haredim participated last Wednesday in the funeral of Rabbi Moshe Arye Freund, 94, a Jerusalem leader of the Satmar Hassidim and head of the rabbinical court of the Eda Haredit.

The funeral cortege made its way on foot from the Satmar yeshivah in Jerusalem's Geula section to the Mount of Olives. Among the mourners were hassidim who had flown in specially from New York, including two sons of the Satmar rebbe.

Rabbi Freund, who was born in Hungary, was head of the Satmar Yeshivah in Jerusalem for many years. He participated in many protests initiated by the Eda Haredit, including those on Rehov Bar-Ilan a few weeks ago.

Rabbi Freund lost his first wife and eight children in the Holocaust. He remarried twice after coming to Israel and is survived by his third wife.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Shofar maker delights in beautiful result of work

By EMILY L. HAUSER
Special to The CJN

Deep in the heart of modern, cosmopolitan Tel Aviv, Yehuda Davida plies an ancient trade. Sanding, shaping and carving horns taken from rams, antelopes and goats, Davida creates wind instruments so steeped in history, it is said they were heard when God first gave the Jewish people the Torah.

The shofar holds a special position of importance in Jewish worship, and its moment of glory comes every year in the fall, when it is sounded in synagogues throughout the High Holy Days. Davida, like his father and grandfather before him, has been making the instrument all his life.

The shofar is sounded on each day of Rosh Hashanah, in keeping with the biblical commandment, "You shall observe it as a day of sounding the shofar." (Numbers 29:1) The only exception is when Rosh Hashanah falls on the Sabbath, as it does this year.

Three distinct sounds are made when the shofar is blown: the *tekiah*, a strong, solid blast; the *shevarim*, three broken notes; and the *teruah*, nine rapid-fire trills. No simple series of notes, these sounds are meant to do no less than express joy, inspire awe, warn of approaching doom and articulate spiritual pain.

"Awake oh sleepers from your sleep!" wrote Maimonides in describing the shofar's intended effect. "Rise oh slumberers from your slumber, examine your deeds, return in repentance and remember your Creator!"

The shofar has also been used throughout history to call armies to war and announce the crowning of kings. Tradition teaches that the coming of the Messiah will be proclaimed by the greatest shofar blast of history. And in a stunning example of modern technology serving ancient custom, those hooked up to the Internet can access the Judah L. Magnes Museum site at [www.jfed.org:80/shofar.htm], and hear the shofar from the privacy of their own PC.

The workshop in which Davida makes his shofarot is gamey with the odor of sheep and dusty with filings. "Some people make a face when they walk in here," he says dismissively. He loves his work and is concerned that the profession is dying out — Davida's is one of only three workshops in Israel.

The process begins when Davida receives a shipment of ram horns, from which the vast majority of the instruments are made. This animal was chosen in memory of the ram sacrificed by the Abraham in lieu of Isaac.

Surprisngly, the raw material's country of origin is important. "The horns from French sheep, and Moroccan, they're the best," Davida maintains, "but the ones from South Africa, they're hard, and dry inside. They can shatter like glass."

The first step is to clip off the horn's pointed tip and then remove the bone-like cartilage through its wide end. For many shofar makers, this involves boiling the horns for several hours, until the cartilage is soft enough to be pulled out. Not Davida. One solid whack of a hammer on the spiny ridge of the horn, and the cartilage comes loose.

Once the horn is empty, it is sanded until smooth, and then it is polished. Davida has machines with which he performs these tasks, which take him three to four hours. "Seventy years ago," he says, "the same process would have taken a week."

Now the shofar must be shaped and its narrow end carved into a mouthpiece. Both require that the horn be heated over an open flame, until it is pliant. Davida then slowly positions and repositions the shofar under a hydraulic press, straightening the naturally curly horn as he goes. Influenced by modernity, he drills a cone contour into his mouthpieces — he found this to be the most effective shape after observing it on trumpets.

The extent to which the horn's natural roughness disappears through a craftsman's sanding, polishing and shaping is, however, a function of the community for which it is being made. Moroccans want their shofarot to be thoroughly polished and perfectly straight except for one 90 degree curve up towards the heavens, so that the sound can "rise to God." Yemenites, on the other hand, generally leave their ram's horns as curly as they were on the sheep's head, and often allow most of the horn's original surface bumps to remain.

Nor is it guaranteed that each community will in fact be using a ram's horn. Yemenites often utilize the headgear of antelopes and gazelles; Turks make use of goats. All these animals were approved by rabbinical authorities many centuries ago.

"I've been doing this for 40 years," Davida says, "and it's my greatest satisfaction. You take real garbage and make something truly beautiful. It's the greatest thing in the world. Making something beautiful from gold is easy — gold is already shiny. But to take garbage like this and make something beautiful," he says, "well, that's just the best!"

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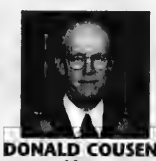
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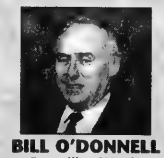
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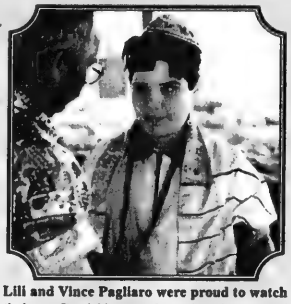
מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 10 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1.

Mazel tov to Jessica, who celebrated her bat mitzvah in Israel on July 11. Love from Mom (Rachelle), sisters Lisa & Mindy, Bubbie Mollie, Zayde Paul, Uncle Marvin, Aunty Francine and cousin Aaron.



Lili and Vince Pagliaro were proud to watch their son Daniel become bar mitzvah on top of Masada this summer. Sister Julie was also excited to be part of this momentous occasion.

Mazel tov to Robin Melanie Kirshner, daughter of Gary & Marcia, granddaughter of Anne Cohen and Lena Kirshner. Robin graduated from Seneca College with a diploma in social services.

Mazel tov to Allen Steven Kirshner, son of Gary & Marcia, grandson of Anne Cohen and Lena Kirshner. Allen recently graduated with his diploma in T.V. broadcasting from Algonquin College.

Keren & Chuck Cohen and Carol & Jeffrey Kirshenbaum are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Esty & Lyle. Proud grandparents are Eve Debow, Sybil Cohen, Eve & Philip Elsner and Bea & Louis Kirshenbaum.

The families of Rinat Aharoni and Dan Mayer are thrilled to announce their engagement. A summer wedding is planned

Lisa & Dan Belzowski wre married on March 17 at Adath Israel Synagogue.

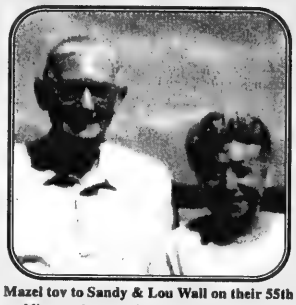
Carlo & Sari Santangelo celebrated their first anniversary on May 21 and the birth of their first child, Joshua Michael, on May 29. Mazel tov.

Charlotte & Charles Goldlist celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 8. Love from Honey, Rosylin & Gerold, Helen & Barry, and grandchildren Kady, Danna, Jason, Michael, Amy & Daniel.

Mazel tov to Rose Laist who celebrates her 90th birthday in September. We wish you health and happiness for many more years. With love from your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

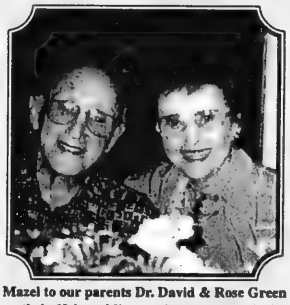
Mazel tov and best wishes to Alex Beder, who celebrated his 90th birthday on Sept. 11.

David & Reta Lerner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 10. Mazel tov from your mother Frances (Goldman) Malkin and children Elliot, Michel & David Klamph, and grandchildren Steven, Cheryl and Efraim.



Mazel tov to Sandy & Lou Wall on their 55th wedding anniversary from family and friends in Canada and England.

Litman & Rosa Zarek celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 14. Mazel tov from children Jack & Vera, Harry & Emy, David & Teresa, and grandchildren Rebeka, Elysse, Mathew, Daniella, Adam& Daniel.



Mazel to our parents Dr. David & Rose Green on their 60th wedding anniversary on July 31. Love from Elaine, Murray and Stephanie Markowitz.

Mazel tov to Mildred & Irving Persofsky on their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 30. Love from children Sydney & Rochelle, grandchildren Wendy & fiance Brian, Howard & Sharon, and great-grandson Adam.

TAB news

A grand parade of pictures captures pride and joy of city

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Toby Asmoucha began training her camera lens on the Trinity-Bellwoods neighborhood where she was living in 1992, she realized that the frequent parades through the streets helped define the character of the largely Portuguese community clustered close to St. Mary's Church.

Turning to processions in other parts of Toronto, she saw how clearly they reflected the pride, politics, faith, memories, the joys and pains of the people.

Parade, a solo exhibition of black and white photographs at the Koffler Gallery in the Bathurst Jewish Centre until Sept. 27, is a telling mirror of what Asmoucha and her camera have discovered over the past four years.

Asmoucha uses black and white film here because she says, "For me, it's more descriptive. Color distracts you from the more subtle gesture, from thinking 'what a bright dress' instead of noticing what's really happening.

Children bundle up at the St. Patrick's Day parade.

"I like photographing communities and the parade is where they can show what they want to, of themselves. It's about revealing and defining your culture to yourselves and the rest of the community. And it's showing your kids what you do.

"I didn't photograph these as events but more as little moments within ..."

Certainly the marchers are significant. The enduring Remembrance Day veterans, the staunch Orangemen and women, the solemn religionists, the gorgeously cotumed Caribana participants, the Gay Pride advocates, demand attention. But, says Asmoucha, who has also photographed the spectators, each is important to the whole. The paraders may beat drums, carry banners, strut. The onlookers react.

Asmoucha describes herself as the outsider, just an observer, not setting anyone up, just wandering around.

"I'm almost invisible," she says, "just shooting whatever connects to me. I don't want to sneak up. When I can make people aware that I'm taking their picture, I do."

Not all parades are joyous, she says. Some commemorate sorrowful events, others are militant. However, Caribana, with its brightness and rhythms, is a feel good extravaganza.

Jewish people, she says, tend to have walks, rather than parades, though there is an annual Jewish War Veterans march.

Concurrently on view at the Koffler, but continuing until Oct. 27, is Montreal artist Freda Guttman's multimedia installation, Cassandra: An Opera in Four Acts. Linked to the myth of Cassandra and Apollo, it explores Guttman's response to the changing mores of her era and environment.

The artist will give a public talk complementing the exhibition at 8 p.m., Sept. 25 in the gallery. (Koffler Gallery at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. Hours, Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission free. To inquire further, call 636-1880).

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Sale Of Burns' Estate

Sotheby's auction house is planning a sale of hundreds of personal belongings of show business legend **George Burns**, who died last March, two months after his 100th birthday.

His smoking jacket and slippers are expected to fetch up to $700, his trademark round eyeglasses may draw $1,500, and his Regency-style three-pedestal dining table might bring in $10,000. These and other items are to be auctioned in Beverly Hills on Oct. 10. All proceeds will go to charity, specifically to the Cedars Sinai Medical Centre, the United Jewish Fund and the Motion Picture and Television Fund.

* * *

Women Sculptors: Sensual, tactile, energetic and spontaneous are adjectives that might be used to describe the work of seven Jewish women sculptors collectively known as Stoneworks & Company.

The artists are **Barbara Bender**, **Naomi Reich Freudmann**, **Lilli Gillman**, **Edie Harlang**, **Cindy Kirsh**, **Helen Kirzner** and **Sandra Duba-Shubs**. Eight years ago, none of the women knew each other. At the time, they were involved with raising families, juggling careers and looking for ways to explore creative energies. Now they are preparing their third group show.

The Stoneworks & Co. group show explores the dynamics of stone carving. It runs Sept. 19 to Oct. 6 at 80 Spadina Ave., Suite 306, Toronto.

* * *

Media Watch: The journal *Canadian Women Studies/Les Cahiers de la femme* is planning to devote its fall issue to the theme of Jewish women in Canada. Many aspects of the subject will be examined, including history, immigration, anti-Semitism, changing ceremonies and rituals, work and education, gender relations and sexuality, social class and money, politics and clubs, and sisterhoods and synagogues.

The journal's office is in Founders College, York University. 416- 736-5356.

* * *

Almagor's Wish: Gila Almagor, Israel's first lady of the cinema, has starred in some 50 films, one of which *The Summer of Aviya* is currently playing in Toronto. But the actress says she derives her greatest satisfaction, not from her cinematic work, but from her behind-the-scenes work with seriously ill children.

Last year, she established the Gila Almagor Wish Foundation, which provides the children with toys, computers, trips and other wished-for items. "When my time comes, what am I going to say?" she asks. "That I spent my whole life painting my face with stage makeup?"

Gila Almagor

* * *

Arts & Culture in Israel: The following cultural events are scheduled to take place in Israel soon:

• Yehiam Castle Renaissance Festival, Kibbutz Yehiam, Sept. 28 to 30;

• Israeli Fringe Theatre Festival, Acre, Sept 28 to Oct. 1;

• Music in Tabgha, vocal, instrumental and chamber music concerts by the Sea of Galilee, Sept. 28 to Oct. 3;

• Twelfth International Film Festival, Haifa, Sept. 29 to Oct. 3;

• Tales and Melodies, Jewish folklore and music festival, Tel Aviv, Sukkot;

• Land of 100 Caves, music festival, Beit Govrin, Sukkot.

For further information, contact the Israel Government Tourist Office in Toronto, 416-964-3784.

* * *

Holiday Greetings: May I take this opportunity to wish all *CJN* readers the very best of health and happiness for the High Holy Days and the coming year.

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Two recordings pay musical homage to the high holidays

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – In sharp contrast to the secular new year, the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashanah, is not a time of party-making, revelry or intoxification. The Days of Awe, as the 10-day period between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is known, is a time of soul-searching introspection and sombre reflection as the Divine Creator judges each person and determines who shall be inscribed into the book of life.

In keeping with the sanctity and seriousness of these holy days, the Western Wind, an American vocal ensemble, has recorded two CDs that pay musical homage to the major prayers, rituals and songs of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Along with the Western Wind, the recordings feature the richly operatic voices of cantors Alberto Mizrahi, Faith Steinsnyder Gurney, Jacob Ben Zion Mendelson and Charles Osborne.

Entitled *The Birthday of The World: Music and Traditions of the High Holy Days*, the CDs present a Rosh Hashanah service (Part 1) and a Yom Kippur service (Part 2). The music, conducted by Matthew Lazar, has been made no less beautiful than the prayers themselves, yet nowhere does it succumb to florid ornamentation.

The composers include Louis Lewandowski, Sholom Secunda, Yossele Rosenblatt and David Nowokowsky. Though they may be unfamiliar to many synagogue goers, these are some of the greatest names in Jewish liturgical music.

It is ironic and symptomatic of the TV age in which we live that the most well-known name on these recordings belongs to narrator Leonard Nimoy, the actor best known for his portrayal of Spock on the *Star Trek* TV series. Nimoy conveys a reverential tone as he recites passages from the Rosh Hashanah machzor (prayerbook) or explains the role of the cantor during prayer services.

"The cantor, the singer who leads the congregation in prayer, need be neither rabbi nor priest," Nimoy explains, "but someone with a melodious voice with perfect knowledge of all the prayers and benedictions. Known as the *shaliach tsibur*, the emissary of the congregation, the cantor carries our hopes and prayers to God on the wings of his voice."

Both recordings come with full liner notes providing a spiritual, historical and musical background.

Those who listen to Public Radio International may hear the Yom Kippur segment being broadcast sometime in mid-September. To order either or both recordings or to learn more about Western Wind's Judaica Series, call 1-800-788-2187.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Gorgeous Elora: Frothy and energetic, the Grand River drops more than 30 metres as it seethes noisily down the Elora Gorge, a dramatic, water-carved limestone canyon that cuts through the pastoral landscape of southwestern Ontario.

Towering 33 metres above the gorge and the rushing current, the Elora Mill Inn is a reconditioned 150-year-old grist mill with 32 comfortable guest rooms.

A rustic haven, the inn is the historic centrepiece of Elora, a picturesque hamlet (population 3,300) whose main street is lined with colorful shops and well-preserved 19th-century storefronts.

Rooms of the Elora Mill Inn are decorated with pioneer-style wooden furniture, cosy armchairs and antique washing-machine stands that smartly double as luggage racks. The beds are covered with Amish-style quilts made by local Mennonites, and all rooms on the top floor have four-poster beds and high cathedral ceilings traversed by attractive wooden beams.

Although few guests ever realize it, the photograph by the front desk of 19th-century Indian chief Sitting Bull is a family heirloom of innkeeper Tim Taylor. His great-great-uncle was a colonel in the North West Mounted Police who was involved in the surrender of Sitting Bull.

The family donated Sitting Bull's peace pipe and his daughter's moccasins to the RCMP Museum in Regina.

More colorful history is reflected in a plaque on a guest room door, identifying the room as the Florence Nightingale Suite. The famed British nurse, who served so selflessly in the Crimean War during the Victorian era, was romantically linked with a pastor who came to Canada and served in a church in Elora, where the chalices she sent him are still on view.

The balcony of the inn's Penstock Lounge offers a superlative view of the gorge. Crowned by trees, those gigantic rounded bluffs seem almost close enough to touch.

Accessible to hikers, this bold natural panorama is part of the 300-acre Elora Gorge conservation area, and features caverns, rapids, falls, quiet pools and the stubborn Tooth of Time rising up from the swirling water.

Elora makes an an excellent excursion from Toronto, especially if you want to see some fall colors. To get there, take Highway 401 west from Toronto to Highway 6, drive north through Guelph for 5 kilometres, then take County Road 7 north to Elora. The Elora Mill Inn is located at 77 Mill Street West. 519-846-5356.

* * *

Israeli History in Stamps: An exhibition of postage stamps at the Spertus Museum in Chicago traces the history of Jerusalem for the past 150 years, from pre-state rule under the Ottoman Empire to World War I, the British mandate, World War II and the establishment of the state of Israel.

Postal Passages: Israeli History By Mail displays some 55 postmarked envelopes, postcards and wrappers. The exhibition continues through Nov. 14. 618 South Michigan Ave. 312-322-1747.

While in Chicago, you may wish to visit Degas Beyond Impressionism, the Art Institute of Chicago's special exhibition of powerful but little-known works of the impressionist artist Edgar Degas. The show runs Sept. 30 to Jan. 5, 1997. Several hotels are offering special packages in association with the exhibit, including the Best Western Grant Park, Claridge, Essex Inn, Raphael, Ritz-Carlton, Sutton Place, Swissotel and Talbott. Request the Art Institute's Degas package.

* * *

Anne Frank in Vienna: A new exhibition, Anne Frank, A Story of Our Times, makes a world premiere at the Vienna Town Hall Oct. 3 to 30. One reason that the show's Amsterdam-based organizers chose Vienna is that Miep Gies was originally from Vienna. It was she who helped and supported the Frank family and the family hiding with them in Amsterdam, and who found and salvaged Anne's diary. Miep Gies is planning to attend the opening.

For information on travel in Austria, contact the Austrian National Tourist Office in Toronto, 416-967-4867.

O SOLE MIO

The ever popular gondolas wait for tourists in one of Venice's many picturesque canals. Located in the northeast of Italy, Venice, which houses a 16th century Jewish ghetto, will transport you back to a time and place replete with cultural and religious history as well as breathtaking beauty. [Lewis Eric Lachter photo]

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Jewish calendars are works of art

By ROSE KLEINER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jewish calendars have increasingly become a means of bringing rare Judaica treasures, and their history, to a wider public.

All the calendars mentioned below give candlelighting times for the major cities of the continent, Sabbath Torah readings and legal holidays in Canada and the United States.

This year's *Jewish Calendar* (for the wall), from Universe, has as its theme Art from the Jewish Museum (New York), in the Contemporary Spirit. The Jewish Museum is represented here by artists like Larry Rivers, Adolph Gottlieb, Robert Indiana and R.B. Kitaj. Spanning over 40 years, from postwar modern art to contemporary works, the calendar includes pop art, abstract art and Post-Minimalism.

The *Universe Engagement Calendar* has been beautifully redesigned and contains several important additions. It lists Haftorah readings for Sabbaths and holidays, and has a unique Jewish Holiday Reference Chart that in addition to dates and blessings gives such information as the holiday's major theme, its biblical and historical significance, its mood and selected customs. Both major and minor holidays, fast days and such other times as the Omer period, Rosh Chodesh and Israel Independence Day are included in this chart.

The illustrations cover objects from the Klutznick Jewish Museum, in Washington, D.C., and come with a fine introduction by the museum's curator, Ori Z. Soltes. We find in this calendar a stunning Papercut Mizrach (intended for the eastern wall of the home) from 1810 Russia. From 18th-century Germany, there is a miniature Bible, with a built-in magnifying glass, which most probably belonged to a travelling merchant.

The Jewish Calendar 1997, by Levin Associate, has illustrations of treasures from the Jewish Museum in Prague. This calendar lists Jewish holidays up to 2002, and includes four wallet-size calendars. Among its illustrations is a silver filigree etrog basket made in 1807 Vienna and a beautiful 19th-century silver filigree mandolin-shaped spice box from Bohemia.

The *Jewish Engagement Calendar 1997*, also from Levin Associates, has a list of Jewish holidays through the year 2011. Its rich color images focus on Judaic artifacts and masterpieces from the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, ranging from a magnificent 15th-century Italian Renaissance manuscript, the Sefer Emet, to an illustration by the Russian Constructivist painter, El Lissitzky, from the early 1920s. And there is an incredibly detailed gold-leaf illumination of the Five Scrolls, from Vienna, 1758. Hand-written in Hebrew, German, Latin and French by a master scribe, it is a fine example of the micrographer's hand in 18th-century Europe.

A selection of some of the best images of illuminated Hebrew manuscripts, in the British Library, grace the Jewish calendar, *Illuminations* (from Pomegranate publishers). The library's holdings of Hebrew manuscripts, and Hebraica, consist of several thousand volumes. Dating from 1280 to 1780, the illustrations in this calendar transport us through five centuries of Jewish spiritual and esthetic life.

For youngsters, Kar-Ben Books published an entertaining and instructive calendar. *My Very Own Calendar* has suggestions for recycling and speaks of such topics as Cyber-Talmud — a Talmud study program on the Internet that will link e-mail participants with a study partner on the Net.

Youngsters learn about the origins of the blessing with which children are blessed by parents on the Sabbath.

The calendar can be ordered toll-free by calling 1-800-4-KARBEN, both in Canada and the United States.

Israeli economy in trouble?

CJN wire services

JERUSALEM – Three ominous signs emerged last week hinting that Israel's economic growth is stagnating and possibly heading for a recession.

Recently the Finance Ministry reported that in August the Israeli government's domestic spending exceeded its domestic earnings by NIS2.089, or $4.7 billion.

Since January the government's local deficit has reached NIS8.6 billion ($19.5 billion), well above the $17 billion targeted for 1996.

Senior Bank of Israel sources said the government may be forced to raise taxes to counter this shortfall. In fact, Finance Minister Dan Meridor hinted at such when he said he saw as "undesirable" a deficit which was accumulated to finance an improvement in the general standard of living.

Also in August, there was a drastic shortfall in internal revenues. Senior treasury officials don't know what caused the shortfall, describing it as "totally unexpected."

State income tax revenue is currently NIS1.5 billion ($3.4 billion), short of the level forecast by the Treasury and the annual shortfall could reach $8 billion by the end of December.

Meanwhile rumors are circulating on the Tel Aviv stock market that Moody's, a stock and bond rating service, has warned of possibly lowering Israel's credit rating, now at A-3, because of Israel's budget deficit.

The Bank of Israel has denied reports that it received a letter from Moody's.

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TAB news

Humor course examines Jews in world cinema

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Toronto Jewish Festival and the York University Centre for Jewish Studies are putting Toronto on the Jewish cultural map, says York Univeristy film professor John Katz.

"Toronto is becoming known as a centre for Jewish film. The United States has a reputation for being in the forefront of Jewish Film. We're becoming leaders in this area too," Katz said.

One of a handful of North American academics who specializes in Jewish film, Katz teaches the only full-year university Jewish film course in North America. He will also be giving a six-week course on Jewish humor for the Jewish Film Festival at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

The university course, given jointly by the Film Department and the Centre for Jewish Studies, looks at the portrayal of Jews in world cinema by examining Jewish characters and the treatment of Jewish themes such as family and assimilation.

The Jazz Singer, made in 1927, 1952 and 1980, is always part of this course, because it is the "quintessential Jewish film," Katz said. "It was the first time large audiences saw Jewish life." The films deals with such themes as intergenerational conflict, Old World and New World values and assimilation.

Other Hollywood films screened in this course include *Annie Hall, Gentleman's Agreement* and *Hester Street.* There is also a selection of international films from Canada, Israel, Europe and South America, as well as Yiddish films made before World War II.

The Jewish humor course, which starts Oct. 2, includes films by Mel Brooks, Woody Allen and the Marx Brothers.

"You don't need to bring anything but your sense of humor," Katz said.

His interest in Jewish film began 15 years ago, when he was doing research on autobiographical film documentaries for a book. He noticed that 40 to 50 percent of the films were made by Jewish people, he said.

"I got interested in the whole idea of exploring Jewish identity through film," he said.

He began attending Jewish film festivals, the first of which took place in San Francisco 12 years ago.

Many more films with Jewish themes are being produced, he said. "There's been a renaissance in Jewish films. A lot of Jewish film-makers are recognizing their ethnicity."

To register for the university course, call 736-5149 and for the humor course, call 324-8600.

Woody Allen will be studied at the Jewish humor course

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Sports news

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Jarvis coach retires after rewarding 33 years

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When school reconvened at Jarvis Collegiate recently, students may have noticed that one of the school's more prominent fixtures was missing.

Longtime phys ed coach Marv Pearl had packed his gym bag, stocked away his souvenir pennants and championship cups and had left the building for good.

After 33 years of coaching basketball, soccer, tennis, cross-country running, football and volleyball at the downtown Toronto high school, Pearl decided that it was time to hang 'em up at the relatively young age of 57. He's able to do so because all his children are self-sufficient professionals and he was entitled to retire with full pension benefits.

For Pearl, it's been a long and rewarding ride at Jarvis, one in which "neither Jarvis nor I have looked back."

He believes the student athletes he's coached will have found the experience rewarding as well. The core of the philosophy he tried to instill was that with hard work and dedication, anybody can compete and become great at any sport.

Marv Pearl

As much a psychologist as a teacher of technical skills — perhaps more so — Pearl saw his job as "building students' confidence in themselves. From that, all successes will result.

"If you're dedicated at what you do, you can become great at anything," he asserts.

Jarvis has been perceived as being one of the more successful schools at inter-school athletics, but "you can't win all the time," Pearl cautions.

There have been some disappointments but he believes "students will tell you the best lesson to learn was how to deal with defeat. You can see it as a stepping stone to success."

Furthermore, "if you overcome obstacles, the character and the outlook you develop in a game are easily transferred to real life."

His former modest and cluttered office behind Jarvis' famed gym is testimony to his success as a coach. The four walls are lined with trophies celebrating Jarvis championships in a variety of sports from 1971 through 1995.

Ironically, at an early point in his career, it didn't look like Pearl was ever going to get a coaching job at all.

A one-time student at Associated Hebrew Schools and later Vaughan Collegiate, Pearl graduated from university in 1963. At first he couldn't get a job even though jobs went begging. With his diminutive stature, he concedes "I don't look like a gym guy."

However in July, only a day after he was married, he got a call from the principal of Jarvis offering him a job. He began by teaching gym to grades nine through 13 while he also served as junior basketball coach and the assistant football coach, working with head man Tom Watt.

From there he went into cross-country running, soccer, tennis and volleyball. "Many skills are transferrable, if you have a basic understanding," Pearl said.

Pearl has never taught at any other school. He's enjoyed working with the young people at Jarvis too much.

The school attracts youth from Toronto's multiracial core area and helps integrate them into Canadian society through sports, which serves as a great "common denominator," Pearl said.

"You get the opportunity to work with kids from all over the world," he said. He's formed strong bonds with his former students and he was especially touched by a dinner in his honor five years ago organized by the school's alumni.

Though he's retired now, he hasn't severed his connections to sports entirely. He'll continue to run the annual Metro All-Star Classic, which he launched at Jarvis 25 years ago.

He'll serve as a consultant for the World Youth Netball Championships and he'll continue to run the 32-team CNE Peewee Baseball Tournament, also begun 25 years ago.

Pearl plans to do some scouting as well, beating the bushes for good young Jewish hoopsters in his capacity as chair of men's basketall for Maccabi Ontario.

Looking back on his career, Pearl would like to be remembered for his efforts at building character. "You don't get anywhere without putting in the effort," he says. "If you put in the effort, you'll be successful. If those who've passed my way can carry that with them, they'll be able to adapt anywhere."

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TEACHING THE BOYS TO WRESTLE
Leonid Shulman, former national wrestling champion of the Ukraine, today coaches Israeli boys at the wrestling club in Beersheva sponsored by the Jewish Agency. [Vera Etzion photo]

Sports news

Jewish sports scene has changed over time

By BILL ZIMMERMAN

SECHELT, B.C. — Last summer, I was at the local Legion hall sampling the steak special. I was alone, and so they sat me in a corner facing a huge sports channel TV tuned to wrestling. One of the contestants was Barry Horowitz. Yes, Barry Horowitz, a Jewish wrestler! There aren't many.

My thoughts travelled back to a time when Jewish wrestlers were far more common. It was the 1930s and early '40s, when wrestlers were referred to as "grapplers" or "grunt and groaners" or "mat men" (as opposed to boxers, who were "mitt men").

In those days, wrestling, while suspect, was considered a little more scientific, less of a spectacle, and heavyweight wrestlers weighed about 100 lb. less than their TV counterparts today. Jews were fairly prominent and they used their real names (Stein, Cohen) not titles like "The Undertaker" or "The Ultimate Warrior," like today's TV dramatists.

The changes in the Jewish sport scene since the '30s aren't restricted to wrestling. Back then, Jews contributed comedy and character to the games they played — a far cry from the humorless "bottom line" players' agents, owners (Modell) and league commissioners (Selig, Bettman) who seem to dominate Jewish participation in major league sport today.

In wrestling, there were Sammy Stein, Sammy "Fitzpatrick" Cohen, Benny Rosen, Abe Yourist (also a pro footballer with the Chicago Bears), Al Krusher, Jack Bloomfield, Raphael Simcha Silverstein, Dr. Fred Meyer and Dave Levin, the "Jamaica (Long Island) Butcher Boy" who won what was described as the "world's title" be defeating one Ali Baba in 1937.

Stein, who was portrayed by *Ring Magazine* (June 1938) as "America's foremost Jewish wrestler," played football with the New York Giants and for some strange reason was cast as Joe Choynski in the 1942 film *Gentleman Jim*, the Hollywood version of the life of James Corbett.

It was in baseball, not wrestling, where two of the greatest Jewish characters thrived: Al Schacht and Moe Berg.

Berg ("The Professor") is currently the better known of the two thanks to Nicholas Dawidoffs recent biography, *The Catcher Was A Spy*. Well-educated (BA Princeton, law degree Columbia), a secret service agent during World War II, Berg was one of the most mysterious eccentrics in the history of sport.

Schacht, on the other hand, became wealthy as the "Clown Prince of Baseball." Here's how he's described on one baseball card: He "got more mileage out of 14 games won as a pitcher than any 300 game winner ever did. His angular face, spidery build and talent for clowning made a millionaire out of him."

Moe Berg

With battered silk hat, black tailcoat dusty and scarred, his Washington Senators' grey travel pants and well-worn baseball shoes, Al joined Nick Altrock as the Senators' gate attraction, home and road, where they (both were Senators' coaches) would convulse ballpark audiences with their antics.

There are smart players, like Schacht and Berg, and there are dumb plays. When it comes to my opinion as to the dumbest play in Grey Cup history, we find two Jews involved. It was 1943, Winnipeg RCAF Bombers vs. Hamilton Wildcats. Before half-time Dave Greenberg, Winnipeg's quarterback, caught a Hamilton kick 20 yards behind his goal line. Instead of conceding a single point (Winnipeg was only trailing 12-7), Greenberg returned the kick to the 15 yard line where it was caught by Hamilton lineman Abe Zvonkin, who might have been the only Jew in the Eastern Conference that year. Zvonkin ran it to the 10 from where the Wildcats staged their longest touchdown march, to take the lead 18-7 and pretty well put the game out of reach. Zvonkin distinguished himself further by being tossed out of the game (a first in Grey Cup history?).

In hockey, "Badman" Larry Zeidel, a brawling defenceman for Detroit (briefly) and Chicago and Philadelphia, probably qualifies as a "character," maybe even a comedian. But the hockey list is short. Possibly this anecdote explains why: Vancouver orthodontist Sid Kirson was a pretty fair athlete in his youth in Winnipeg. I recall being at his house a short time after he injured his leg refereeing a university soccer game. The subject of hockey came up. Sid's mother announced firmly from the next room: "Dr. Bermack says hockey is not a game for Jewish boys."

What would a Jewish mother (any mother, these days) think of "my son, the prize-fighter?" It's a fair question because it's in the brutal sport of boxing that Jews have produced some of the most interesting originals.

One of those who qualified is Joe "Yussel" Jacobs, longtime fight manager, whose contribution to the English language was "I should have stood in bed." Jacobs included in his stable of fighters Max Schmeling, one-time heavyweight champion, occasional Nazi sympathizer (there's argument about this) and German paratrooper.

And then there were "Slapsie" Max Rosenbloom and Max Baer, light heavyweight and heavyweight champions, respectively, in 1934. According to the *Encyclopedia of Boxing*, Rosenbloom, who fought 299 bouts, learned the art of stepdancing from his pal, George Raft, and used it to great advantage in his fighting. Unfortunately, he did not always close his gloves, and for that they called him "Slapsie."

Rosenbloom held the title from 1930 to 1934, losing it to another Jew, Bob Olin. After retiring from the ring in 1939, he went to Hollywood and played "characters with a raspy Lower East Side accent. He performed credibly in a number of films, including Jimmy Cagney's *Each Dawn I Die*.

Max Baer, the "Merry Madcap," could have been called the clown prince of boxing. Blessed with a magnificent physique and great hitting power, Baer paid little attention to training. He won the heavyweight title from Primo Carnera, "putting the giant Italian down 11 times in 11 rounds ... clowning and joking throughout the contest" (*Encyclopedia of Boxing.*) Unfortunately for Baer, his clowning around didn't work when he tried to defend this title against Jimmy Braddock in 1936. He lost in one of the major upsets in boxing history.

Like Rosenbloom (but only half-Jewish), Baer went into films after leaving the ring, always in tough-guy parts. In Humphrey Bogart's *The Harder They Fall*, he played a fighter with a murderous punch, a role uncomfortably close to real life because Baer did indeed kill a man in the ring, Frankie Campbell, and severely injured another, Ernie Shcaaf, who died after a later fight (with Carnera).

Baer's younger giant brother, Buddy, fought Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship twice and was in a few films after his fight career. Max's son Max Baer Jr. was Jethro in the long running TV series *The Beverly Hillbillies*.

And finally, there was Ben "Evil Eye" Finkle. *Ring Magazine* (August 1943) profiled Mr. Finkle this way: "Let it be known that Finkle, in the good old days, used to rent out the services of his left optic to fighters who believed same was needed. A mere glance, a wink, a leer, generated to various intensities could create havoc in the other fellow's cerebellum and diminish his chances of winning considerably."

As a matter of fact "Evil Eye" became so important to fighters who hired him, that they had to provide him with a bodyguard before important fights and take out an insurance policy on his life.

Oh, Schacht, Berg, Rosenbloom, Finkle, Baer, Zvonkin . . . Where are you, now that we need you?

(Reprinted with permission of the Jewish Bulletin *of Vancouver).*

"Slapsie" Max Rosenbloom

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Israeli doctor working at Mount Sinai

TORONTO — Dr. Sorina Grisaru's recent fellowship at Mount Sinai Hospital has strengthened the ties between Shaare Zedek Medical Centre and Toronto's medical community even more.

A staff gynecologist/obstetrician at Shaare Zedek since February 1989, Grisaru has been in Toronto furthering her expertise in maternal and fetal medicine for high risk patients.

Here, she has been able to treat a much wider variety of patients and in far greater numbers than would be possible in Jerusalem.

As a regional referral centre, Mount Sinai offers physicians an opportunity to treat people of many different backgrounds and diseases.

Dr. Sorina Grisaru (second from left) at a recent Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation reception. She is shown with (from left) Sheila Dropkin, foundation national executive director; Dr. Riccardo Granovsky; Renee Solursh, foundation past president; and Arthur Dropkin.

Working with high risk pregnancies

Attached to the ob/gyn department at Mount Sinai, Grisaru has been working with women whose pregnancies are considered high risk due to high blood pressure, diabetes or lupus, to name a few.

She has also been involved in fetal therapy — performing such intra-uterine procedures as transfusions and "shunting" of extra fluid in infants still in the womb.

As part of her fellowship experience, Grisaru has also worked at the Hospital for Sick Children and at Women's College Hospital.

In addition to her clinical work with patients, she has been involved in research on placentas to determine the cause of certain birth defects and anomolies.

On her return to Israel, Grisaru will be caring for healthy women as well as those at risk. She hopes to develop a team approach at Shaare Zedek so that several people will be able to rotate tasks within the department and take over from each other. She's especially excited about the opportunity to work in the planned Shaare Zedek Woman and Infant Centre, and has been encouraging her Toronto colleagues to visit Jerusalem to study all the innovations at the centre. She also hopes to do more research, perhaps in partnership with the medical school at Hebrew University.

Shaare Zedek is currently building the Woman and Infant Centre, to which the hospital's maternity, neonatology, gyncology and in-vitro fertilization departments will be moved.

"Approximately two-thirds of Jerusalem's population is Orthodox, to some degree," she continued. A secular Jew, she nevertheless feels that "the Orthodox characteristic of Shaare Zedek should be kept. The nursing is different there because of this. It's far more sensitive to the sanctity of life."

Grisaru believes in a consultative approach to patients and having faith in patients' common sense. She admits, however, that doctors should guide them in making choices.

Born in Romania, Grisaru immigrated to Israel with her family when she was 12 years old. She and her brother studied at the Hebrew University High School, in which her 13 year old son is now enrolled. Her brother is also an obstetrician/gynecologist.

Her six-year-old daughter Simma and her husband, Dr. Riccardo Granovsky, will be in Toronto with Grisaru until late December. Riccardo is an adult neurologist, with expertise in behavioral modification, particularly for patients with dementia and Alzheimer's. During the couple's stay in Toronto, he has been working at the Baycrest Centre. On their return to Israel, Dr. Granovsky will resume his post as a lecturer in Beersheva and also hopes to join the Shaare Zedek staff to help treat Jerusalem's increasingly aging population.

SOME TENDER LOVING CARE

Immigrant nurse Diana Gangur, from Moldova, gives some TLC to a tiny patient at Beersheva's Soroka Medical Centre. Gangur was one of 44 new immigrant students who completed a 10-month course for nursing professionals at Soroka and Ben Gurion University. [Vladimir Godnik photo]

Treating osteoporosis

Jerusalem Dateline

REHOVOT, Israel — One out of every three women over 50, more than 200 million people worldwide, suffers from osteoporosis. A little known bone disease 10 years ago, osteoporosis is now emerging as a major health priority. At high risk are women after menopause, whose bone mass is affected by a decrease in the estrogen hormone.

Treatment of advanced osteoporosis is difficult, costly and often ineffective. The best results come from prevention and early treatment of the disease with a calcium-rich diet, regular exercise and drugs. The need for "an early warning system" to measure the bone's health, as well as increased awareness of osteoporosis as a debilitating disease spurred the development of an accurate, safe, diagnostic tool using ultrasound technology.

A team of Israelis with expertise in medical physiology and ultrasound technology have designed a precise, novel system to detect the bone disease. Called SoundScan 2000, it not only measures bone density, but also the critical elasticity or stress that a bone can take.

Radiological techniques currently used measure only bone mineral density, and not elasticity. An important advantage of the Israeli system, developed and marketed by Myriad Ultrasound System, Ltd., is that it measures both the density and elasticity of the cortical bone (the compact bone which forms the structural shell) which makes up 80 percent of the human skeleton. The ultrasound system uses no ionizing radiation and thus requires no safeguards.

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To all my valued clients, family & friends, my warmest wishes for a year of health, peace & prosperity.
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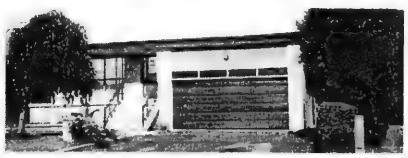
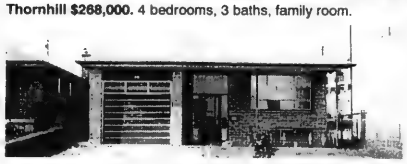
A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR



Bathurst Sheppard $349,000., cust. built 4 bdrms., 4 baths, den, fam. rm., w/out fin. bsmt., steps to all.

Thornhill $268,000. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room.



Sheppard Ave. W., high development area, ideal for professional. Don't miss!

Willowdale $310,000. 4 bdrms., comb. liv. + din. rm., fin. w/out bsmt. Great buy.

Sheppard Bathurst, 6 rms., fin. bsmt., steps to everything.

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Lower Village Gate. Forest Hill luxury three. Ravine w/o. 3+1 bdrm., 4 baths, marble & hdwd. flrs. Walk-in from 3 car U/G pkg. Huge rec. room. 24-hr. gatehouse security. Must see!

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To all our friends, customers and clients

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all the Best,
Cindy Jusko

Wishing all of my clients, family & friends a Happy & Healthy New Year

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Glencairn & Bathurst - $728,000. A unique 9 year old, 3 storey home plus basement including wine cellar. Landscaped. Truly an amazing use of space. Near TTC, synagogues & shops.

Leslie & Steeles - $589,000. Approximately 5000 sq. ft. including basement. Second storey children's wing addition. Near AY Jackson, Associated Hebrew school, synagogue & shops.

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Stunning 4 yrs. new home — immaculate! 4 + 1 bdrms., fam. rm., 4 baths, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., fam. size kit., w/o to deck w/hot tub, only $439,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE RD. / BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED!
If you like elbow room you'll love this one! 70' frontage, fab. building lot in prestigious location, approved for 5,330 sq. ft. (approx.) new home, asking $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / WILSON — REDUCED
3 bdrm. home on 40 x 125 ft. lot, only $199,000 — double garage, new windows, fin. basement. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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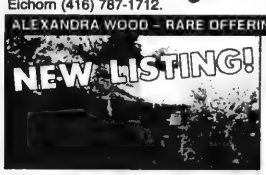
BATHURST / COLDSTREAM — EXCLUSIVE
Fabulous bldg lot 46' x 132', dema[illegible] location, many new homes on street, close to all am[illegible] only $269,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
SOLD

ALEXANDRA WOOD – RARE OFFERING IN HEART OF CITY



A castle! Prestigious 8 bdrm./8 bath home backing onto ravine. 65'x240' lot; inground pool, basketball court, offered at $1,460,000. One of a kind! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA – SUPERB HOME, QUIET STREET
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bung. on 50' lot. Fam. size kit., bsmt. totally renovated, sep. entry to self-contained apt., asking $299,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

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THORNHILL GEM — HILDA / CLARK

4 + 1 bdrms., 2 storey, 4 baths, fin. bsmt., large principal rooms, approx. 2,300 sq. ft., shows well, a must see! ACT NOW! Only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – LOTS OF HOME, LOW PRICE!
New reno + addition, 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, jacuzzi, finished basement, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

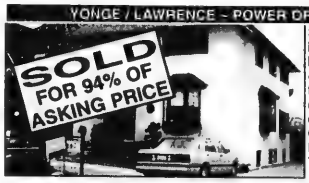
BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!

4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, stone frplc. Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON – REDUCED TO $549,000
3,400 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 50' frontage, 5 + 2 bdrms., library, fam. rm., 6 baths, 2 kit., dream kitchen, upgrades galore. Won't last at this price! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK – HUGE 58.50 X 150 FT. LOT
Fabulous building lot in the heart of the city. Existing bungalow is 3 + 2 bedrooms, vendor will rent back, only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

YONGE / LAWRENCE – POWER OF SALE



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BATHURST / WILSON – RENOVATION & ADDITION!
Spacious 3 bdrm. bung., hardwood floors, fam. size eat-in kitchen. Reduced to $249,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – BUY $319K OR RENT $1690 mo.
For sale or for rent — 3 + 2 bdrm. bung., hrdwd. floors, new furnace, fab. loc., **very attractive financing available!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!

Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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would like to
take this opportunity
to wish all their
Clients, Friends & Relatives
a Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous
New Year

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RE/MAX Realtron Realty Inc.

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Ellen Ann Keshen

$1.399M	York Mills-Bayview:	Build to suit 4600 sq. ft., 5Br. lot 72'x131'
$ 510K	Avenue Rd.-Eglinton Triplex:	187 Castlefield super reno $ income.
$ 449,9K	17 Clearcrest:	Marvellous 4bdrm. fam. home, fab. kit.
$ 349,9K	Bathurst Ravine Backsplit:	4bdrm., 3 bath, huge fam. rm., kit.
$ 299,9K	Clanton Pk:	Big sidesplit 3 bdrm. upstairs, 3 bath, fam. rm. rec.
$ 299K	Skyview 5444 Yonge:	Penthouse 2 bdrm. 500 sq. ft + balcony
$ 229,9K	Wow! Downsview Subway:	Great reno, 3 kit., 3+2 bdrm., inc.
$ 229,9K	Bathurst-Wilson Bungalow:	Huge! 3 bdrm. w/o deck 60'x120' lot.
$ 219,9K	Promenade Circle:	Penthouse, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, designer kit.
$ 219K	Thornhill Bungalow:	107 Morgan, Perfect starter, lovely yard .
$ 209,9K	79 Alexis:	sweet home w/base inc. Bathurst-Sheppard.
$ 189K	Antibes Dr:	3bdrm, 2 sty.
$ 174,9K	Etobicoke starter:	23 Snaresbrook, + inc, 3 bd, 2 kit.
$1150/mo.	Rental Townhouse:	E. Leslie, S. Finch 3 bdrm. 2 bath

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a
Happy & Healthy
New Year

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SANDON SCHWARTZBEN**
Woburn Ave. $349K! Lovable art deco. delight! 3 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths. Fa[illegible]/fam. rm. combo! w/o bsmt.!
SOLD

$329K — EGLINTON/AVENUE RD. SHOPS!
3 bdrms., fin. bsmt., alarm, fireplace, hardwood floors. Charming leaded glass gumwood trim. **Haley Borden*.**

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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Happy Rosh Hashanah to all my clients, relatives & friends. Wishing all of you a very happy & healthy holiday & a year filled with much mazel & naches.

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Mollie Rothman

Best Wishes to all for a Happy & Healthy New Year

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wish the Jewish Community a Happy & Healthy New Year

Yonge/Clark. Lux. freehold twnhse. 3 bdrm., fam. rm., firepl. Rachel Rosenbaum, R.E. (905) 886-4740

Allenby/Chaplin Estates. Just completed. Gorgeous custom built 4+1 br. home. Main flr. fam. rm., eat in kit., 2 frplces., 9' ceilings, front-drive garage & Nanny's quarters. Upgrades everywhere. $529,000. Brokers protected. 485-0008.

Bath./Clark New Townhome for Sale, 3 bdr., 2 1/2 bth., never lived in, sec., many upgrades,$199,000.416-650-5110

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Spacious 2 BR., 2 Bths, Air, 5 Appl, White Kit., Ens. Laundry, Pkg., locker, Solarium.
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Sutton Group Assoc. Rlty.
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TO ALL MY CLIENTS & FRIENDS
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RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

155 Marlee, 2 bdrm., 4 appl., eat-in kit., $118,000. 630-2858.

Bath/Steeles Townsgate I, 2 br huge sol, balc,$225K, 736-8007

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

1 or 2 bdrm., apt. in the Savoy, for Oct. 31st or earlier. Please call 665-3194.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Working woman req. quiet, 1 bdrm., bsmnt. apt. near subway, reason. rent, ASAP. Call after 6pm 416-781-3243.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Clark/Bath. Bright, new priv. furn. room, sep. entr., bath, kosher kit., walk to shopping/shul $475./mo. 905-707-7262.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

2 bedroom, 1 bath, bright, clean apartment available for rent at Bathurst/Sheppard with underground parking, $ 850./mo. 635-5031.

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Egl., immac. 1 bdrm., a/c, balc., secur., avail. Nov. 1, $1,000 + util., 416-484-6161.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles room, n/smoker, $325./mo. Ruth 905-731-9573.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

GLENEAGLES COUNTRY CLUB
Delray Beach, Florida
Furnished Condos starting at $99,500.
Breathtaking furn. Midrise $185,000
2 Bed, 2 Bath + DEN Incl. Golf $167,000.
3 Bed, 3 Bath Furn. Beautifully $179,000.
Many more . . .
NESTLER POLETTO REALTY Boca
DOODY CAPLAN 1-561-495-2279

Ft. Lauderdale, Sunrise Lakes, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, upgraded condo. excellent condition, completely furnished, ready for occup. $42,500.00 Call Sharon (Days) 1-800-340-4341, (Eve.) 204-334-7566.

Condo for Sale/Rent, Sunrise, Phase 3, mn. flr, 2 br., 2 bth., nicely furn. Call 905-761-5821.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Arlen House East, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, avail. Jan. 6 for season, 3 mos. min., at $1,900 U.S./mo. 416-445-1065.

Ft. Lauderdale, Inverrary Int'l. Village, lge. 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, compl. furn., CAC, in/outdoor pool, rec. centre & golf, close to shopping,clean,quiet, safe,Feb.-Dec.'97, $900. US/ mo., or negotiable. Call 416-409-8830.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

Indian Spring, Boynton Beach, fully furn. condo for seasonal lease, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2nd flr., overlooks canal & golf course, full golf membership incl., Call 508-993-8045.

Miami Beach South, large 1 bdrm., 2 bath, clean, cheerful, $1,000 U.S. mo. 905-889-1584.

Miami Beach., 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700. US, 4 month minimum. also for Sale. 416-783-3288.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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EXCEPTIONAL BUYS
Large selection of 1,2, & 3 bedroom(s), overlooking golfcourse, 24 hr. security, for sale or rent.
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125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

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HALLANDALE - **Florida** 2 br, 2 ba, furnished, immaculate facing intracoastal, fantastic view, 24 hr. security, pool, tennis, $2200. mnthly, minimum 4 months. Also available for sale at $125,000.
Call **Guy 1-800-872-4800.**

Hallandale, The Hemispheres, 2 bdrm., corner, facing ocean, bay north, fully furn., all ammen., tennis. Avail. Nov.15. Call 416-963-8469.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

3 bdrm., 2 bath, adult family, Dec. 15 - March 15, Collins & 52nd St. area. Steven (day) 416-703-1099, (eve.) 416-483-5552.

Jan.-Feb., Hallandale up to Boca, - (ocean prefered) 416-441-0284, Linda.

Modern 2 bdrm., condo, Boca/Delray, for Jan., Feb., March. Call 1-705-474-0116.

Need a 1 bdrm. apt. to rent in Century Village,Boca Raton or Deerfield for 3 mos. 661-0023.

Require 1 bdrm. for 3 mos., near shopping & transportation. Can supply refs. 633-8523.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Netanya, luxury furn. 2 bdrm apt., seaside, avail. Sept.'96, 905-731-1919.

178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION

Single ticket, EL AL, T.O. - Tel Aviv return, must complete travel by Dec. 31st. $900.00 Call 416-783-6185.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

DIRECT LAKEFRONT
LAKE SIMCOE
1 Hour to Toronto

Open concept 5 bdrm Cottage/Home with Cathedral Ceilings, Skylights, Sauna and Walls of Windows and walk-outs to view the lake and magnificient sunsets. $349,900.
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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

A Canadian Group seeking investor for new food concept in **Israel.** Call 416-322-7411 ext. 102

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

$$ CHANGE YOUR LIFE! $$ Eliminate your long distance bill, & put an extra $500 or more per mo. in your pocket. One time cost of $100. U.S. EASY Call 416-390-9788, 24 hrs.

I Need Your Help - experiencing explosive growth, key leaders needed, very lucrative. For info call 416-812-6789 (24 hrs).

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising sales, Full Time & Part Time, top commissions, fax resume: 905-709-3099.

Worker to work with mild DH, young man, 8-12 hrs./wkly.or more,exper. pref.905-884-4853.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Superintendent, cleaner avail. with refs. Call 416-782-7592.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
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• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

***Golden Care** has live-in/out housekeepers for seniors/families, post surgery support. Honey, 416-665-4229.

Cleaning lady with exp. avail. any day of week.416-444-6692.

EC ACCESS EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (FILIPINO OWNED) LOW PLACEMENT FEE EMPLOYERS/EMPLOYEES HSKPR/NANNY/CAREGIVER PLS CALL 905-475-2518

Exp. Polish cleaning lady for houses or apts. Refs. 699-3265.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Immaculate cleaning lady with great refs. & exper. 656-8581.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Need Help For the High Holidays? Top Agency will provide professional support from serving to preparation of foods, cleaning & child care. Relax & enjoy your special holiday with the assistance of **No. 1 Domestic Service**. Call today to book an appointment. Please refer to this advertisement when you phone, (416) 630-0674.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

***Golden Care is looking for exper. people to live-in with seniors, car & medical exper. is an asset. Call 665-4229.**

Mature, caring, reliable woman needed immed. to care for 6 mo. infant & 6 yr. old, after school in my home, Mon.-Fri., 8am - 6pm, Thornhill (near Promenade), exper. with infants & refs. a must. 905-731-8302.

Mature, kind, indiv. req. for prof. family, 4 hrs./day, for meal prep., after school care for one 11 yr. old, car req. Thornhill area. Call Rick 977-0977.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA with refs., live out position to take care of elderly or disabled, will work nights, days or weekends. 782-5046, leave message.

Lady looking for job to take care of elderly, refs.650-5882.

259 SENIORS

Senior Lady looking for Jewish woman to live-in & help with hskpng, kosher cooking, errands & assist with appt's., car pref. Call 921-0207, lve. msg.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

SOULMATES
The most effective way of finding your soulmate is thru a good friend! Evelyn 905-709-3868.

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Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1100** members. Averaging an engagement every **6** wks. 398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

Transportation Required. Working Mom (Bathurst/New Westminster) seeks transportation to Associated Hebrew School (Atkinson Campus) for son in JK P.M. Will compensate if you are willing to help. Please call Barb at (905) 886-1702.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr., prof. female, 39, seeks prof. cultured male for serious relationship. Please state info. in reply. CJN Box 6812.

Attractive prof. male, 37, seeks female for Spontaneous Combustion. 633-3863.

ATTRACTIVE, Petite Jewish Lady, early 40's, no dependents, with sincere & genuine qualities. BALABUSTA. Searching for an ESTABLISHED, REFINED JEWISH GENTLEMAN, 48-58, who is romantic & kind, for a CREATIVE & SERIOUS relationship. Please reply to CJN Box 655, Canadian Jewish News, 6900 Decarie Blvd., Suite 341, Montreal, Quebec, H3X 2T8.

The Inside Back

About families

Dear Susan,

I am recently separated with two young children ages four and seven. How do you suggest that we set up our High Holy Days this year?

Dear Reader,

I am sorry that you have recently undergone a marital separation. Although you and your children are moving through a grieving process, it is important that you endeavor to establish and maintain family rituals and traditions that will transcend your change in circumstances.

The children have to process the fact that the fabric of the family as they know it has changed. As they move through that process, the structure and dynamic of the family will develop new configurations. That is part of the adventure since you really have no way of knowing how your new family will structure itself.

Since this is the first holiday since the separation, doing whatever you can to maintain the status quo is critical. Your children, and to a large extent you, will judge the viability of the new family unit on how it manages to maintain an atmosphere of normalcy during this time. Ultimately, you and your husband have to put aside whatever bitterness exists and decide what is best for your children. Above all, you must not put your children in the position of choosing one parent over the other.

As the holidays approach, the fact of the separation will become more pronounced to your children, and they may begin to exhibit specific coping mechanisms. For example, the 4-year-old might regress and become clingy, while the 7-year-old might become stoic, for fear of hurting you. Again, the key is to develop and maintain a sense of normalcy and security. Reassure your children that the holidays will be a family time that will be spent in a way that meets the needs of all family members. If traditionally you went to your in-laws on the first night, maintain that pattern.

As they move through this period in their lives, you children will learn that traditions and rituals provide a zone of comfort and safety in a confusing, turbulent world. Above all, as parents demonstrate diplomacy and composure, the holidays will become an emotional safety net for all of you, from which you will all benefit.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

STICKY CHICKEN

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN SELLS JENN-AIR FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

This has been a family favourite for many years.

6 chicken pieces, with or without skin
1/2 cup brown sugar
2 tsp. dry mustard
1 tsp. garlic powder
2 tblsp soy sauce
1-1 1/2 cups honey

Preheat oven to 375°F (190°C). Pat chicken pieces dry and place in a roasting pan or pyrex pan. Sprinkle each of the remaining ingredients over all the chicken pieces finishing with the honey. Place, uncovered, in the oven and bake for 35-45 minutes. Baste every 10 minutes with the juices. Turn the pieces over for the last 20 minutes. Yield: 4-6 servings. *Hints: This recipe can be doubled or tripled. It freezes well.*

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Our best wishes for a Happy, Healthy New Year

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

כאן נגור, מאת: עמליה כהנא-כרמון, הוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד/ספרי סימן קריאה, 1996.

הסופרת, עמליה כהנא-כרמון שייכת לדור שלחם במלחמת השחרור, אך מבחינה יצירתית היא נחשבת לדור הסופרים שלאחר הקמת המדינה. סיפורה הראשון התפרסם ב- 1956. גם כאשר עברה כהנא-כרמון לנורמות כתיבה חדשות, סירבה לנתק עצמה מדור הסופרים הקודם. מכאן שסגנונה העברי משייך אותה לסופרי שנות הששים כעוז ויהושע, אך לעתים סגנונה מזכיר את עידן ההשכלה. למשל: "ואנוכי", במקום "אני", "שפורפרת חזות" במקום טלסקופ, וכו'. פה ושם, ניסוחיה מאולצים אך כללית, העברית עשירה ומסוגנת היטב.

כאן נגור, אינו אלא קובץ סיפורים שהתפרסמו בעבר בארבעה ספרים. חשיבות הקובץ בכך שסופרת מקורית זו תיחשף שוב לקוראים. אני מוצאת בכתיבתה טוהר, עקשות ערכית ועוצמה. אין אצל כהנא-כרמון פשרות.

מבחינה עלילתית, כהנא-כרמון אינה מדגישה התפתחות ארועים אלא, סיטואציות שבהן הדמות המרכזית נפגשת עם דמויות אחרות. אצל כהנא-כרמון גיבורת הסיפור היא תמיד אשה. בד"כ, זו אשה מתוסכלת שהברירות בחייה מצומצמות והיא חושקת במשהו אחר - משהו שגם אם הוא בהשג ידה, היא לעולם לא תממשו. במקרים רבים, אותו משהו שלא יתממש קשור לגבר מיוחל שיציל את האשה מאומללות חייה.

בכל האמור לגבי התנועה המודרנית לשחרור האשה, יתכן שתפיסתה של כהנא-כרמון את גורל האשה אינה מתקדמת ביותר. ואולם, תפיסה מתקדמת או לא, רשימתי של הסופרת כל כך אמינים. כתיבתה של כהנא-כרמון נדירה ויוצאת דופן ביכולתה לחשוף לשונית את לבטי מצולות הנפש של אותה אשה שלעולם תמשיך לדמיין ולחלום על ישועה וגאולה מהשגרה ומקיום חונק וצר.

את הסיפור העצוב לב הקיץ, לב האור אני אוהבת כדגם מעולה ליצירתה של כהנא-כרמון.

מסופר על משפחה לא מאושרת, משפחה נעדרת אהבה. כל הדברים הנאמרים והמתרחשים במשפחה מצטמצמים למישור התכלתי: ארוחה, קפה, קריאת עיתון, שיעורי-בית, סיגריה. האם היא "אשה שאיננה מחייכת לעולם". כל בני המשפחה מתייחסים זה לזה כאל חפצים דוממים. את בני המשפחה סובבים פריטים מעותים כמו ספה שרובצת בפתח, ותמונת אשה שכל חלקי גופה מנותקים. גם שאר תושבי העיר תל-אביב מתוארים באווירה הנשלטת על-ידי אנונימיות והעדר אותנטיות. ובכ"ז, יש והאור חודר למצב המשפחתי ומתגלם בילד וחלומו על "לב הקיץ, לב האור", מפעלו העסקי של האב, אור חירת, ומראה עץ חלימון ועץ התות. ולפתע פריצת הברק: האם פונשת ברופא והכל חשים בבלבול היצרים, המעשים והמלים. לראשונה מכניסה האם עצמה לסיטואציות בלתי-מבוקרות. השינוי באם משפיע על האחרים. כהנא-כרמון מריצה אותנו מעולם תפל, ללא רוח, לעולם של דופק מהיר וספונטניות ושוב, כצפוי, לאחר הפריצה ביחסי האנוש, לכשלון הבלתי-נמנע.

כתיבתה של עמליה כהנא-כרמון שופעת בתבניות מטאפוריות ואסוציאטיות. בהתלטיות די מוזעזת, הסופרת חושפת אלמנטים מעותים וגרוטסקים בחיינו, את חיותנו כל-כך פגיעים לעוולות ולבלונות החיים, את הטלת הספק בין מציאות ודמיון, את חוסר התכרעה, אי-הוודאות והכיסופים הנואשים לאור.

כהנא-כרמון טענה לא פעם, בעתונות וברדיו, שיצירתה, צריך שתהיינה בהן היסוד היצירתי של לשם שמים, אחרת לה אין ענין בהן. אכן, הנשגב הספרותי מצוי בשפע בכתיבתה. עמליה כהנא-כרמון היא סופרת ישראלית חשובה.

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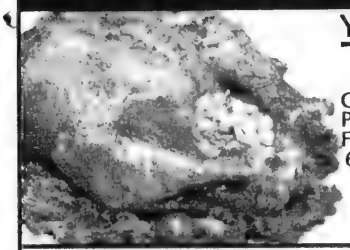

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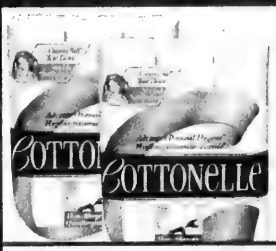

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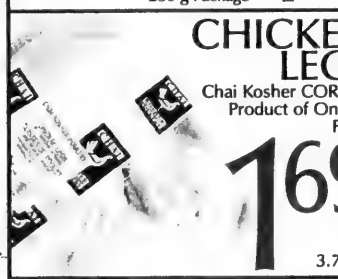

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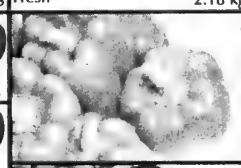

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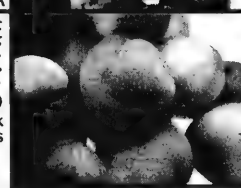

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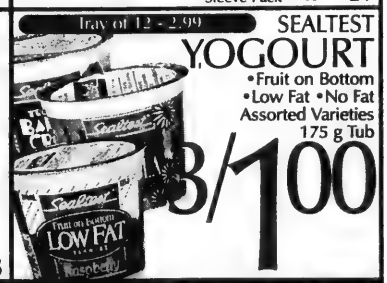

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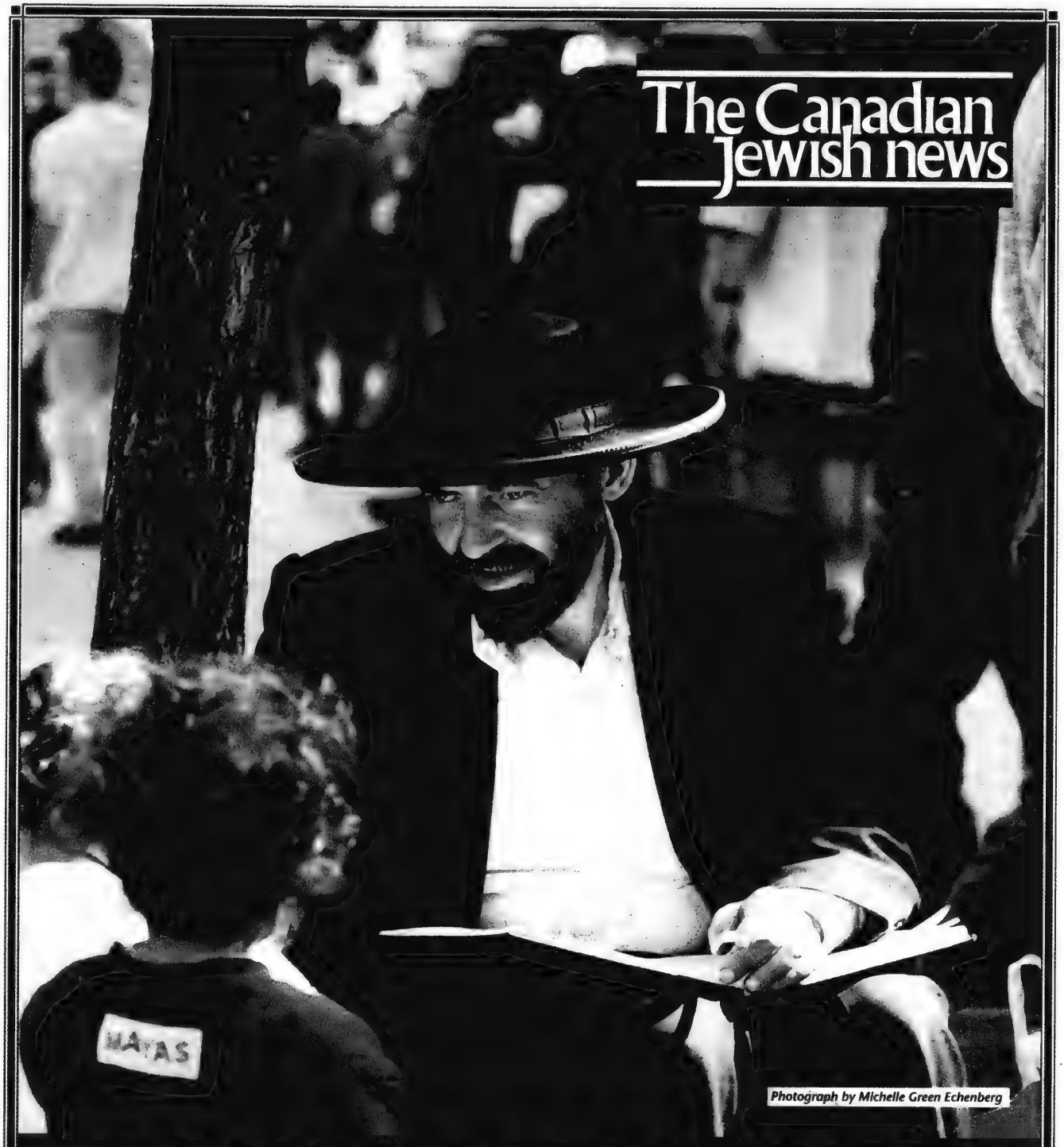

Photograph by Michelle Green Echenberg

L'SHANAH TOVAH 5757

"Inscribe all the children of your covenant for a good life."

Rosh Hashanah Machzor

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu V'techateimu
Tikatev Vetehatem Lehayyim Tovim Uleshalom

L' Shanah Tovah

Humanity is our strength

Unlike Cain's guilt-ridden denial when God pointedly probed his conscience, we are, have always been and will always be "our brother's keeper." It is the vow to God, binding on us, of our forebears at Sinai. It is our promise to our people. It is our responsibility to the rest of the world.

Editorial

But because we are, after all, only human beings, it is a vow not always remembered, or a promise not always honored, or a responsibility not always borne. We are overwhelmed occasionally by the "burdens" of modern life and, sinewed only with flesh and blood, we buckle. We set aside the right thing for the easy thing.

After a time, we tend to see our bowed back as weakness and the poignancy of our humanity as frailty. But to do so is wrong. For it is that very humanity which is at once our great strength and the deep glory of God's design for us, his creations.

This special supplement to the Rosh Hashanah issue of *The CJN* is dedicated to that humanity, imperfect, vulnerable, strained, but ever so inspiring.

Thus, we have asked seven esteemed rabbis of the extended Canadian community to write about Pirkei Avot, the traditional Jewish "guidebook," if ever there was one, for the prevention of moral buckling.

Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa provides an overview of the six "chapters" of Pirkei Avot. The distillate of his essay is a crystal that can stir moral indifference to social responsibility. It is also a powerful antidote to self-doubt.

"God created human beings with a propensity for good, but we are not programmed individuals; we are choosing individuals...Ethical sensitivity is something we must work towards, something we must continually emphasize, through a delicate and viable combination; study to know what we must do and implementation of what our studies have told us to do."

The reader will find a variety of features in the supplement. We have focussed however on a number of stories and photos about the "triumph" of the individual. Struggling with life's forces, the individual is its truest hero, when, as Rabbi Bulka writes, he achieves "the natural goodness that is within us all."

L'DOR V'DOR

[Richard Ambrose photo]

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extends Rosh Hashanah Greetings to all its members, friends and supporters.

May 5757 herald an era of understanding, tolerance and lasting peace for the State of Israel and its people to ensure a future of progress and prosperity.

May Jews everywhere be blessed with freedom,. happiness and fulfilment in their lives.

Etty Danzig
National President

Vivian Reisler
National Executive Director

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The CJN congratulates the photographers whose photos were selected from among the hundreds sent to us in response to the Rosh Hashanah photo contest. The photographers are Richard Ambrose of Thornhill, Michelle Green Echenberg of Montreal and Mimi Fleiss of Don Mills. The photos appear on the cover, page 2 above and back of this supplement.

Throughout this supplement we have also featured photos of individuals from Israel. They are the faces of Aliyah, of Jews from around the world. Their absorption in Israel is funded by contributions to local UJA/CJA/UIA campaigns. The photos were provided by the United Israel Appeal.

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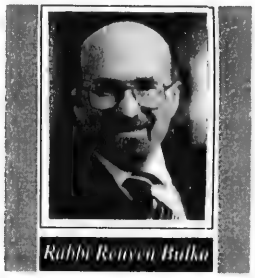
L' Shanah Tovah

Eliciting the natural goodness that is in us



Rabbi Reuven Bulka

What would summer be without Pirkei Avot? What would Pirkei Avot be without the summer?

It is one of the unique geniuses of Jewish affirmation that Pirkei Avot has been a Shabbat summertime afternoon study staple for many generations.

Pirkei Avot

What exactly is Pirkei Avot? The literal translation of the words Pirkei Avot is Chapters of the Sages. The chapters contain a treasury of ethical insights designed to instruct us in our ethical obligations.

Generally, a Talmudic tractate contains a vast array of topics. Even though the title of a tractate may be specific, its contents are free-flowing and wax far afield.

Pirkei Avot is among the exceptions. It is a treatise which deals exclusively with ethical issues.

The fact that Pirkei Avot has become the summer study of choice is itself an ethical statement. Shabbat afternoon in summer is usually longer than in winter. More time is a blessing, if used correctly. However, extra time squandered, or used in an irresponsible fashion, can be quite destructive. Rabbinic tradition attributes the destructive behavior of the generation prior to the flood to the fact they had too much spare time and filled that time with behavior unfit for human beings.

Shabbat afternoon is a great blessing. For many, it is the opportunity to recharge the batteries depleted from a week's hard work, via some extra sleep. That is fine. But there are those who do not need that much sleep, and those who even after the sleep, still have extra time.

What better to do with the extra time than to hone our ethical responsibilities, to study a treatise which instructs in the way that we should be, to become better individuals? Pirkei Avot is more than equal to the task.

Parenthetically, it must be noted that there is absolutely nothing wrong with studying Pirkei Avot any day of the week, even in winter.

One of the interesting differentiations between the normal study of a Mishnaic text such as Pirkei Avot, and the way it is studied, even recited mantra-like in the summer, is that the summer study and/or recitation contains a preamble and postscript. The preamble and the postscript are themselves quite illuminating insofar as the intent of Pirkei Avot for us.

The preamble states that "All Israelites have a portion in the world to come, as it is said — 'And your people, all righteous, shall inherit the land forever, the branch of My plantings, the work of My hands, to glorify Me.' " (Isaiah, 60:21)

"All Israel have a portion in the world to come" is an odd preamble to an ethical treatise. Its message is quite powerful. We are told that we all have the capacity to actualize the good. We begin life, not from a negative starting point, but from a positive position. We begin life with an assumed righteousness, with a share in the real estate of eternal life.

The ethical way of behaving is not unnatural; it is the normal and natural way for human beings to behave. All that is asked of us is to be consistent with the spiritually oriented nature with which we have been endowed.

This statement is supported by a text which states that the people are "the branch of My planting." The human being's ethical development is as natural as the branches' development from the tree. A tree has many branches but only one trunk. Here is projected the picture of diverse individuals who are all unique in their capabilities, all branching out in their unique searches for meaning, but all connected to the source, to the trunk, to the Torah. Pirkei Avot is the trunk and all of us are branch extensions of that trunk.

Ultimately, the connection to the trunk and the branching out in ethical expression, serves "to glorify Me." God created human beings with a propensity for good, but we are not programmed individuals; we are choosing individuals. There is no glorification of God in puppets who react in almost cause-and-effect manner to God's string pulling. God's glory is achieved through the human choice to be Godly.

One who studies Chapters of the Sages begins the journey through Jewish ethics with a share in the world to come. The ethics spelled out in this lovely volume are not beyond human expression. They may seem difficult at times, even unreachable, but the instruction transmitted is geared towards eliciting from human beings the natural goodness that is within all of us.

So we begin Pirkei Avot with the very simple proposition that "you can do it, because you are a good person."

The postscript to Shabbat afternoon study of Pirkei Avot is likewise fascinating. It is the famous statement attributed to Rabbi Hananya the son of Akahshya, who states "The Holy One, Blessed is God, desired to make Israel worthy; therefore God gave them Torah and commandments in abundance, as it is written 'God was pleased for the sake of God's righteousness to magnify and glorify the Torah.' " (Isaiah, 42:21)

The postscript links the contents of Pirkei Avot with everyday life. Jewish ethics is meticulous in its detail. This is in addition to the great detail in the commandments. It is enough to overwhelm and to even scare off. However, there is a method to this, a purpose in our being overwhelmed. This is that "God desired to make Israel worthy; therefore God gave them Torah and commandments in abundance."

What is expected of us, as we begin life from a positive starting point, is to do our best to attain ethical excellence. This is achieved through continually striving, never being satisfied with what we are to-

[Cont'd. on page B 4]

שנה טובה

Night descends, prayers begin, candles lit,
apples dipped in honey, rounded challah loaves,
the shofar sounds, the circle is completed.

MAY WE ALL BE INSCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE
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לשנה טובה תכתבו

Happy New Year

Faigie and Rubin Zimmerman

Pirkei Avot is a treatise on ethical issues

[Cont'd. from page B 3]

day, and always being resolute about becoming a better person tomorrow. In other words, there is no room in life for slothfulness.

Study can never cease, nor can we ever slacken off from the fulfilment of our obligations. These must permeate our life and fill our every available moment.

On the one hand, this is a tall order. On the other hand, we cannot afford to take chances with what Victor Frankel referred to as the existential vacuum. The existential vacuum is the void that people feel in their existence, if they lack a sense of meaning and direction, a sense of purpose to life itself. Lacking a sense of direction, having nothing to strive for, the human being becomes a breeding ground for all sorts of neuroses.

Pirkei Avot, in fact all of Judaic responsibility, in its all-encompassing scope, avoids this vacuum. There is never a moment when a Jew can say, "I have nothing to do." Try this treatise to study, this good deed to actualize, this project to contemplate.

With constant challenges before us, with study that beckons, with good deeds that literally plead to be fulfilled, we have no opportunity to slacken off, and every opportunity to become meritorious.

The fact that we were thrust with this massive responsibility was not intended by God to submerge us in a pile of obligations. It was intended to give us the tools to flex our spiritual muscles so that we become better people.

We know of atrophy that derives from the failure to exercise. Even a person who has been in bed for only a few days finds the first steps afterwards a little bit more difficult than anticipated. This is because the muscles which have not been utilized attenuate to some degree. Thankfully, it is usually possible to recoup muscle strength. But the message is clear. What we do not use we can very easily lose.

The same is true in the spiritual sphere. We do not suddenly turn on to ethical sensitivity. Ethical sensitivity is something we must work towards, something we must continually emphasize, through a delicate and viable combination; study to know what we must do and implementation of what our studies have told us to do.

Rabbi Israel Salanter, the great proponent of Musar (ethical instruction), when asked what a person should study if only a half hour is available, said — study Musar. A skeptic suggested that Rabbi Salanter was advocating this for self-serving reasons, in order to promote his "Musar School."

However, Rabbi Salanter, with his classical wisdom, justified his observation with the rationale that if you study a portion of the Talmud, that is obviously good. However, if you devote that half hour to ethical instruction, that ethical instruction will inspire you to find even more time for study and good deeds.

Chapters of the Sages is a treasure of ethical instruction. It is Musar par excellence. It is the ideal way to spend every available half hour, for one very simple reason. When you devote half an hour to study of Chapters of the Sages, it will open up so many other hours of good thoughts and good deeds that you contemplate and that you carry out, and that will make the world a better place and make you a better person.

What a wonderful way to spend Shabbat afternoon. What a wonderful way to live.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa, and author of Chapters of the Sages: A Psychological Commentary.

With Warm Wishes for a Happy New Year

שלום

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A newly-arrived Yemenite mother introduces her children to Lego at the Oshiot Absorption Centre in Rehovot. [Naftali Hilger photo]

L' Shanah Tovah

Setting the tone on how we should live as Jews

By Rabbi Y. Benarroch

As a congregational rabbi, I spend a lot of time on the curriculum of our adult education program. Over the years, the most enlightening and engaging classes were those dealing with Pirkei Avot. The reason for this is simple, the words of our rabbis were extremely insightful; but more importantly, in their words there is a message directed to every person.

In essence, Pirkei Avot sets the tone of how we should live as Jews. That question is a complicated one. Ask 10 Jews and you will probably get 11 different answers. There are those who will say it is observing the mitzvot, others will argue it is being a good person and still others will say it is staying in touch with Jewish culture — and the list goes on.

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 1

In Israel today, we are seeing the extreme of these positions, where both religious Jews and secular Jews have very little tolerance for each other. I believe Pirkei Avot addresses the question of the ideal Jew and sets the standard for us in the beginning of Chapter 1 (Mishnah 2):

"The world stands on three things: on Torah, Divine worship and acts of loving kindness."

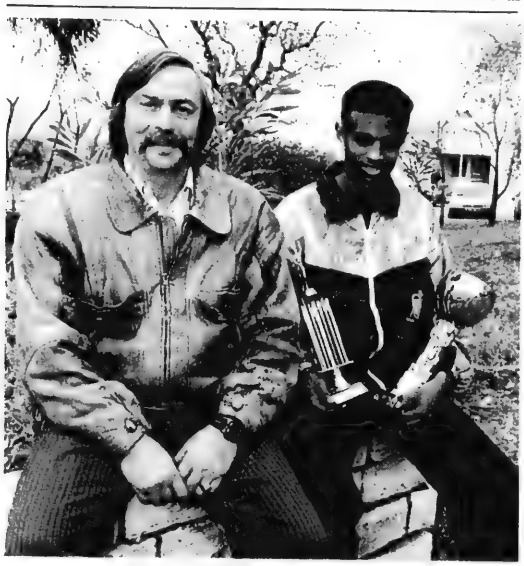
A close analysis of this mishnah will reveal three aspects of Jewish life. The first is the study of Torah. The serious doctor must know his profession; so too the Jew. A story is told of a man who once travelled to Israel on a vacation. While there, he wanted to buy a present for his rabbi. After a long search, he finally found a beautiful mezuzah. When he returned home he presented it to the rabbi. The rabbi opened it and noticed that it was empty inside. He commented to his congregant, "This is truly a beautiful mezuzah case, but tell me was there anything inside?" The man responded, "Rabbi, there was a set of instructions inside written in Hebrew, but I reasoned you're the rabbi, you won't need them; so I threw them out."

The first statement in our mishnah deals with the study of Torah. Judaism comes with instructions. Without being constantly engaged in the study of the instructions, we cannot call ourselves "serious" Jews. The first chapter is full of statements that reinforce the importance of Torah study. The fourth mishnah states, "Let your home be a meeting place for the sages and drink with great thirst their words." The sixth mishnah states how important it is to provide oneself with a teacher. In the 13th mishnah, Hillel warns of the danger of not studying, and in the 15th mishnah, Shammai states, "Make the study of Torah permanent."

But the mishnah continues. The second factor is *avodah*. Whereas the study of Torah is in the intellectual realm, *avodah* is in the realm of expression. Judaism requires not only knowledge, but expression as well. There is little value in the person who knows all the laws of charity, yet does not give a penny. Judaism expects us to be not only knowledgeable Jews, but practising Jews as well.

This idea is also expressed several times in Pirkei Avot. At the end of our chapter, Shimon ben Gamliel writes, "It is not learning which is essential, but doing." Shammai echoes these words in mishnah 15, saying: "Say little but do much." This then is the second aspect of the ideal Jew — one who is not only learned but also involved.

[Cont'd. on page B 6]



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Ethiopian cross-country runner Menisan Sanbato earned his running shoes in a Jewish Agency Youth Aliyah program that encourages sports excellence. But he couldn't have done it without his coach, Russian immigrant Arkady Sklar, former chief coach of the Vinitza Sports Institute in Ukraine and ex-senior coach of the Soviet Olympic running team. [Paul Samson photo]

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[Cont'd. from page B 5]

The mishnah does not end here. There is yet a third factor. The first two statements in the mishnah deal primarily with religious commitment. They are concerned with the type of relationship we have with G-d. The final statement of the mishnah introduces an entirely new element, *gemilut chasadim* — acts of kindness. It deals with the way we treat each other.

Our rabbis understood that how we treat G-d is of little significance if we do not know how to treat each other. Far too many of us for example are meticulous about the laws of kashrut — we are very careful about what goes into our mouths — yet we are careless as to what comes out of our mouths. Our rabbis warned that we cannot call ourselves truly religious people if we mistreat each other.

There is a very interesting passage in the Talmud — Tractate Sanhedrin. When the Jewish people crossed the parting waters of the sea, they sang *shirat hayam.* This beautiful song has been incorporated into our daly prayers. In it we proclaim, "*Zeh Eli Veanvehu*" — "This is my G-d and I will glorify Him."

The rabbis in the Talmud discuss the meaning of the word *anvehu.* They ask how does one glorify G-d? Two opinions are offered. The first opinion explains that the way to glorify G-d is by buying a nice lulav on Sukkot, or buying beautiful *tzitzit.* In short, to perform the mitzvot in the most beautiful way possible.

The second opinion, offered by Aba Shaul, explains that just as G-d is compassionate, so too must we be compassionate; as He feeds the hungry and visits the sick, so too must we feed the hungry and visit the sick.

The two opinions offered are not arbitrary. A close analysis of the two opinions reveals two approaches. The first opinion speaks of religious commitment — lulav and *tzitzit*, of how we treat G-d. The second opinion speaks of social commitment, how we treat each other. The first speaks of the beauty of the mitzvot; the second speaks of how beautiful people can be. The two together tell us what G-d wants — beautiful people doing beautiful mitzvot.

That is the message of our mishnah. The ideal Jew must possess these qualities. There must be religious commitment in the study of Torah and its observance. There must be social commitment in the way of *gemilut chasadim.* This is the ideal that Judaism asks us to strive for. Let us hope and pray we do not fall short.

Rabbi Benarroch, is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Hamidrash in Vancouver, B.C.

L' Shanah Tovah

A Jewish heart is the most important quality

By Rabbi B. Schneider

Mishnah 13: He [Rabbi Jochanan Ben Zakkai] said to them: Go forth and observe which is the good way unto which a man should adhere. Rabbi Eliezer said: A good eye; Rabbi Joshua said: A good friend; Rabbi Jose said: A good neighbor; Rabbi Simeon said: One who looks [ahead to see] what [consequences] shall be brought forth [by his own actions]; Rabbi Eleazar said: A good heart.

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 2

He [Rabbi Jochanan] said to them: I prefer the words of Eleazar Ben Arach to yours, for within the comprehensive character of his words, are your words [included].

We often hear people say, "I have a Jewish heart." What, we ask, does this mean? Perhaps a Jewish heart is one that requires a bypass, a result of all the chicken soup we have eaten over a lifetime. Perhaps a Jewish heart is one that breaks a little bit each time it hears a sad story or reads of another tragedy inflicting our world.

Rabbi Jochanan in this *perek* declares that a Jewish heart is the most important quality that a person can possess; he then goes on to describe this attribute.

We hear many put down the concept of a Jewish heart and declare that this is not enough to make us Jewish. One must do more to show his or her Jewishness. And yet, Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai, one of the most important sages of any period, declares this to be one of the finest character traits a person can possess. If we read the Mishnah more carefully we see that Rabbi Jochanan says this because he understands that a Jewish heart includes all of the attributes that were uncovered by his outstanding students.

Each quality, as stated in the Mishnah above, requires sensitivity and commitment. Each one on its own is a laudable and commendable way to behave, but what ties them all together is the "good heart," the Jewish heart. It challenges one to have a special sensitivity towards one's own needs and towards others. The Torah does not require us only to love our fellow man. We must not merely do him no harm; we must do him good through our actions, deeds and words. The dictum to have a good heart requires us not only to take care of the physical needs of our friends and neighbors, but to ensure the well-being of their emotional side, as well.

The *perek* teaches us not what the Law commands, but what the Torah requires. There is a difference. The Torah incorporates within it modes of behavior which society can demand of us to follow. If we carry them out, we are to be rewarded.

The Torah can demand of us to choose good friends and to live in a good Jewish neighborhood. It can demand of us that we should not be jealous of our friends and neighbors if they possess more than we do. It can demand that we establish charitable institutions that will take care of all the needs of our society – schools, hospitals, loan societies.

But the Torah cannot decree how we feel towards ourselves and towards that society in which we live.

Often we ask why G-d, who performed so many miracles for the Jewish people when we left Egypt, could not execute another miracle so that we would all be good, sensitive and faithful people? G-d could make such a miracle, but if He did, then the very essence of Torah teaching, freedom of man's will, and the very reason for man's creation, to achieve good in the world, would be abrogated.

Rabbi Jochanan understood this; and so, although he definitely agreed with all his students, he added that Rabbi Eleazar's point was the most significant: to be sensitive to our feeling and emotions, and through them to do good to ourselves and to others.

I recently returned from Seattle, where I attended the World Conference on Bereavement and I realized how fortunate we are to have rituals and observances that force us to face the tragic moments of life's realities.

Many of the sessions were devoted to ways in which one could incorporate ritual and meaning into the difficult period the death of a loved one brings. In many cases, people and whole communities, even religious ones, have no one to turn to for guidance and assistance.

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[Cont'd. on page B 11]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Violating 11 sins can be a costly move

By Barry Levy

Chapter 3 of Avot contains a teaching attributed to Rabbi Eleazar of Modiin, a town made famous by the Hasmonean rebellion centuries earlier.

Avot 3:11, which must be examined with a similar passage from Sanhedrin, bars from the world to come those who violate holy things, desecrate holy times, publicly whiten someone's face (embarrass someone), violate the covenant of Abraham and reveal things about the Torah that are (or, which is) not according to Halachah.

The anonymous part of Sanhedrin 10:1 (in some texts 11:1) adds to these and includes claiming that resurrection is not mentioned in the Torah, that the Torah is not from Heaven, and being an Epicurus. Rabbi Akiva added reading "outside books" and whispering Exodus 15:26 over a wound. Abba Shaul added pronouncing the Tetragrammaton as it is spelled.

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 3

Why are these 11 sins so severe that each can cost any Jew his a priori claim on a share in the world to come? And why does even one (at least of the first five) erase all merits gained from Torah study and the performance of good deeds, the epitome of commitment and observance?

The answers depend on realizing that each sin carries a symbolic quality that transcends its particular significance and that, as a group, they portray the most important ideological battle in which the Pharisees and early rabbis were engaged and one of the most powerful weapons in their arsenal.

The "violation of holy things" refers to the desecration of sacrifices, the prime aspect of Temple worship.

"Desecrating holy times" means observing a different schedule of holy days. It keeps from the world to come those who violate the accepted holy days and indirectly those who observe others.

"Whitening [or, in some manuscripts, reddening] someone's face in public" is, in rabbinic ethics, a crime of immense proportions. Barring such people from the world to come both protected those admitted and encouraged the avoidance of such behavior.

"Violating the covenant of Abraham" means avoiding or reversing circumcision.

"Revealing things about the Torah that are (or, which is) not according to Halachah" is unclear. Some texts contain only the first part of the line and thus prohibit revealing the inner secrets of the Torah or being negative about it. The second part can reinforce this or prohibit interpreting the Torah against Halachah, for example, taking the stories in Genesis in ways that violate halachic norms, or interpreting biblical laws literally, if the rabbis had adopted a non-literal interpretation. Medieval interpreters often associated the phrase with radical, allegorical interpretation, also practised by Egyptian and Christian readers of the Torah of Mishnaic times.

"One who says resurrection is not from the Torah." Some manuscripts and citations record this passage as: "one who says there is no resurrection." Resurrection and its derivation from the Torah were Pharisaic beliefs rejected by the Sadducees.

Commitment to the Torah's originating in Heaven was the cornerstone of Jewish belief. Epicureanism was often taken as rejection of belief in Divine providence. An *apikorus* (as popularly pronounced) was a heretic, in all likelihood one who denied the biblical notion that God is active in history.

The phrase "outside books" is usually taken as those ancient works not accepted into the biblical canon, perhaps those whose primary goal was to compete with it. For example, Jubilees is a fascinating pre-Christian rewriting of Genesis and the beginning of Exodus, which begins by claiming to be the true version of the Torah. The Temple Scroll — a very lengthy and engaging text discovered among the Dead Sea Scrolls that summarizes, paraphrases, interprets and augments the Torah's legal portions — speaks in God's name (in the first person), thereby making a similar claim.

The use of biblical verses for magical purposes is well documented in both Jewish and non-Jewish texts. Some rabbinic sources add spitting to the prohibition, which suggests that use of the verse alone is not considered as serious, but our mishnah rejects that, too.

The four-letter name of God was once pronounced as written. All else aside, this is clear from the fact that the word appears in the ancient Moabite text known as the Mesha Inscription and from its combination with the Hebrew letter *hay* to form a five-letter oath *chet-yod-heh-vav-heh* in the Lachish Letters. This combination is possible only when the first syllable of the name is pronounced as written. Later rabbinic practice replaced this pronunciation with a form of the word *adon*, itself later replaced in some contexts by HaShem, "the name."

These 11 sins can be seen in rabbinic historical context. Aside from

[Cont'd. on page B 9]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Entering the world to come

[Cont'd. from page B 8]

the third item, which is lacking from many early witnesses to Avot and is likely a late addition, these sins all reflect both known ideological conflicts between the ancient rabbis and sectarians with whom they competed for followers, and differences over the interpretation and application of the Torah.

Violating holy things and desecrating holy times are both directly related to the interpretation of Torah passages about sacrifices and holidays. Pharisaic rules about sacrifices often challenged the Sadducean priests, and many ancient Jews observed Shavuot later than the rabbis because they interpreted one phrase in the Torah differently. Conflicting calendars and holiday schedules are evident from many ancient texts preserved in the Apocrypha and in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Violating the covenant of Abraham was the way of pagans and Christians, who rejected circumcision as mutilation, but the latter also affirmed that the requirement to circumcise was a metaphor, a claim based on their interpretation of specific biblical verses.

Revealing things in the Torah that are (or, which is) not according to Halachah, may reject the allegorical Torah interpretation practised in Egypt or by early Christians.

Denying resurrection is an unmistakable reference to the Sadducees; the claim that the Torah is not from Heaven, to non-Jewish philosophy-based heresy, as is the reference to Epicurus and the related anti-biblical teaching.

The ban on "outside books" is directed at non-biblical texts written to replace the Torah. This may seem impossible, but one must recognize that rewriting the Bible was an important and pervasive literary activity in Greco-Roman times and perhaps much less radical sounding than it might seem today.

Using the Torah for magical purposes was sometimes done by both Jews and non-Jews. The prohibition against pronouncing the Tetragrammaton as it is written challenged the many Jews and non-Jews, especially gnostics, whose amulets and magical paraphernalia, discovered by modern archeologists, bear witness to international commerce in magical use of this pronunciation of the divine name.

It is thus clear that these 10 are based on attitudes toward the Torah and its interpretation that can be associated with early Christians, Samaritans, Sadducees, gnostics, and other sectarians. These groups all based their religious teachings on Torah but differed from the rabbis on the proper interpretation and application of specific passages.

This mishnah demonstrates the rabbis' awareness of these interpretive positions and how they polemicized against both them and their adherents. Denying access to the world to come was a serious threat in ancient times, and the rabbis used it to attack those who differed from them in essential aspects of doctrine and interpretation and to keep their own followers on the right path. Even if you study and practise the Torah, they were saying, you will be barred from the world to come for accepting any of these sectarian beliefs or interpretation. Following proper, that is, rabbinic Torah interpretation was the only way to the world to come.

Barry Levy is professor of Jewish Studies at McGill University and director of its Jewish Teacher Training Program.

HOME AT LAST

An Ethiopian immigrant greets his newly arrived relative. [Paul Samson photo]

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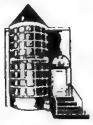

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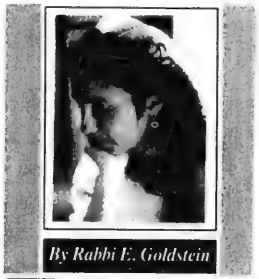


By Rabbi E. Goldstein

The fourth chapter of Pirkei Avot pulls together various sayings from the late second and early third century CE. The sayings are loosely related, but on a deeper level, they all seem to point in the same direction: everything matters and everyone matters. What an important lesson for us of the "quick and dirty" generation, for us of the "throw-away pack," for us who think that what we do and say is unimportant in the larger scheme.

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 4

It most clearly stated in 4:3: "Don't look down on anyone, or regard anything as unworthy. Every person has their moment, and every thing has its place." As we learn in Ecclesiastes, to every thing there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. You may not see it or know it now, but the point is *to live as if you did.* Pirkei Avot Chapter 4 teaches us that every step on earth makes a footprint in heaven.

In 4:1, Ben Zoma sets the stage with four seemingly simple questions: Who is wise? Who is strong? Who is rich? Who is honored? These are the four things everyone wants to be! The answers are typically paradoxical.

The wise one is not the one with two PhDs, lots of postgraduate titles and a long, unreadable thesis. The wise one is not the self-aggrandized teacher, rabbi or colleague up on a pedestal who disdains the unsophisticated questions. (We'll be warned later in 4:5 against using Torah-teaching to magnify yourself and your own opinions.) The *truly* wise one knows each person matters because each person has wisdom to share gained from their own perspective, their own life's experience. The wise one goes and studies more, with more different kinds of people, to gain even more wisdom.

The *truly* strong one is self-controlled, slow to anger; not macho, not out to prove their strength with physical force or aggressive prowess.

The *truly* rich one doesn't want to acquire more, bigger and better; this kind of rich, one stops and says, "Now that's enough."

And the *truly* honored one is the person big enough to share the glory and the spotlight. They know their goodness shines more brightly when it reflects the brightness of others around them. (In 4:8 we learn that even a judge — someone we'd assume is easily honored — must not serve alone and must not force others to accept his or her opinion as the only valid one.)

[Cont'd. on page B 11]

HOOP DREAMS

A young Ethiopian girl playing basketball at Neve Michael, a youth aliyah school [Avi Hirschfield photo]

L' Shanah Tovah

Timeless sayings relevant

[Cont'd. from page B 10]

The chapter ends on the same kind of motif. Like Ben Zoma, who begins by asking four simple questions, Rabbi Simeon ben Eleazer draws the chapter to a close in 4:18 by teaching us four simple ways to be a mentsh. They are so sensible that they are almost self-evident. But we need to hear them in all their plain pragmatism in order to say, "Oh yes, of course, that's right."

They are: Don't try and make amends with your friends while they are still enraged. Don't try and comfort someone while their beloved is lying dead in front of them. Don't question someone when they are passionately committed. And don't strive to be watching when they fall and are humiliated. In other words, as some of our parents advised us, "Don't be such a *chochum!*"

How often do we feel like fools — and realize we have worsened the situation — because we didn't wait, we didn't let the other person take the initiative, we didn't tune in to what they needed instead of what we wanted to give? And never is this truer than in the four circumstances Rabbi ben Eleazer enumerates: anger, grief, passion and shame.

If our spouse, our kids, our best friend blows up, we want to talk about it now! Fix it now! Express our opinion, our way of seeing it! When we pay a shivah call, we want to say something, anything! We want to take away the pain, invalidate the sorrow, pierce the silence! We get into arguments with people more dedicated to causes than we are, because we want them to change their minds! Join our team! Deflate their balloon! And, saddest of all, we seem to love to see people get hurt. Did you hear about so-and-so? Got a divorce. Lost a job. Kids in trouble. We want to see them when they go down. It seems to make us feel better about ourselves when someone else fails.

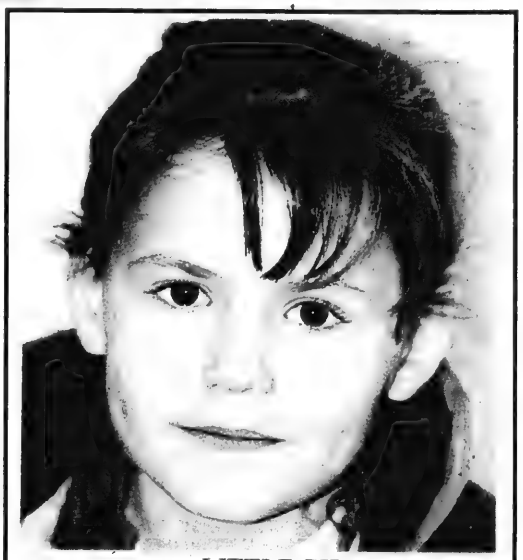
Rabbi ben Eleazer's four settings are tests of true character. Ben Zoma's four questions are questions of the true character. They are tests we will face if we are to take the New Year seriously.

It is now that we have a chance to rethink old definitions, old stereotypes, old expectations. Pirkei Avot Chapter 4 is teaching us that what we would have thought of before as wise may not necessarily be so. So rethink strength. Rethink wealth. Rethink honor.

Pirkei Avot Chapter 4 is teaching us that what we would have thought of as "proper" reactions to everyday crises are old conditioned habits. So rethink how you deal with anger. Rethink how you deal with grief. Rethink how you deal with zeal. Rethink how you deal with failing.

May we all have a wonderful season of rethinking, renewal and return.

Rabbi Goldstein is the director of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.



LITTLE GIRL
A new immigrant girl from the FSU. [Douglas Guthrie photo]

Embrace your Jewish heart

[Cont'd. from page B 7]

our garments to eating a simple meal after returning from the cemetery, often prepared by friends and neighbors, which help us adjust to our loss and return to a new level of normalcy. We take these rituals for granted. When one goes to a house of mourning, one can be told what to do and what not to do; the etiquette is prescribed. But Rabbi Jochanan would say that if you possess and strive to possess a good Jewish heart, then not only will you fulfil your basic obligation of visiting the mourners, but you will go with a new awareness and sensitivity to the healing role that you may play and thereby contribute to the mourners' well being.

This demands a lot of us. It demands self-awareness. It demands a willingness to commit and to take a chance. It demands a vulnerability to hurt, yet a desire to help and to be part of another person's search for well being.

It is difficult to define a *mentsh*, yet somehow we know when we meet such a person. In the same way, with significant connection to our early sources and literature, we have the maxim, a good heart, a Jewish heart. Perhaps we still cannot define it, even with the help of Rabbi Jochanan and his students. Yet we know when one possesses it and most important of all when we possess it.

Have a good heart. Have a Jewish heart. Embrace it and not only will you possess physical well being, but you will have spirituality, essence and the strength of our heritage.

Rabbi Barry Schneider is the associate rabbi at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda synagogue in Toronto.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Provide yourself with a teacher; acquire a friend

By Rabbi E. Bolton

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 5

Pirkei Avot was the first rabbinic text I learned from, not counting the siddur. I say "learned from" rather than learned, for what we were taught, those of us at the Talmud Torah in Chomedey, was the *p'shat*, the plain meaning of the text. Perhaps we were considered too young to probe the *ikkar*, the essence behind the words.

It wasn't until many years later that I was reminded that I had learned from the book before, but had yet to learn it. It was the closing day of my first year of rabbinical school. The custom was for each of the graduating seniors to speak, briefly and informally, to the assembled students and faculty. It was an impressive class of six men and four women, already "teachers in Israel" as our diplomas proclaim.

Several of them quoted Pirkei Avot in their messages to us. It was very compelling, yet also confusing. Yes, I knew they had just completed their rabbinic studies, but they were offering those age-old texts as personal messages for *us* today. Weren't we just supposed to learn *about* them, to be capable of translating and teaching them? I understood that for some students, maybe those who retained a more rigorous approach to religious practice and Halachah, these words could hold meaning. But for me?

What about the radical, outspoken and outstanding woman who was one of my role models for a feminist and activist rabbinate? There she was, quoting Pirkei Avot, wholeheartedly insisting that the most important thing for us to learn in rabbinical school was this lesson from Avot 1: *asse lecha rav ukenei lecha chaver* — provide yourself with a teacher and acquire for yourself a friend.

Here was my mentor, urging us to invest in each other as teachers and as *chevruta*-study partners, and attributing her learning to the ancient Rabban Gamliel!

She followed this teaching with an anecdote about *her* first year, when yet another argument with a more text-oriented classmate ended with him shouting that clearly no book written before the 20th century had ever influenced her!

At first, I demurred. No — I resisted the lesson behind the lesson. I remained inspired and challenged, yet still unsure if I could ever allow such writings to guide or influence me. For seven years, I worked diligently, studying classical Hebrew and Aramaic, Tanach, Talmud, rabbinic thought and history, many practical skills.

But that's not what really took seven years. That could easily take a lifetime — the greatest rabbinic scholars probably begin, as Avot 5.21 suggests, with Bible at age five, Mishnah at age 10 and Talmud at 15. I had already reconciled myself with the knowledge that I was never going to fully "catch up," having begun my studies in earnest in my 30s.

What took seven years was the crumbling of my resistance and the acceptance of the *ikkar* of Torah learning that may be best expressed in Avot 5.22.

First, some *p'shat*. This chapter of Mishnah begins with a series of lessons very similar in format and tone to those found in Wisdom literature. They are characterized by the use of a numbers formula, such as the opening phrase: "By 10 phrases was the world created." Mishnayot two through six also enumerate things by 10s; the 10 generations form Adam to Noah, Avraham Avinu's 10 trials, and so on.

My favorite of these is Avot 5.6, the 10 things created on *erev Shabbat bein hashmashot*, the eve of the Sabbath at twilight. All twilights are mysterious and potentially dangerous — just think how difficult it is to drive a car or see a ball in the half-light of dusk. Then imagine the twilight of the first Shabbat — in slips Balaam's talking donkey [Numbers 22], the rainbow sign [Genesis 9], Moshe's magic rod [Exodus 7] and seven other wondrous creations!

We then proceed to messages by seven and by four, certainly significant Jewish numbers. This counting format is not unique to Mishnah Avot; it appears in other sacred texts, notably in *Mishlei*, the Book of Proverbs and several sections of the prophet Amos.

There are still several mishnayot intervening before the return to Pirkei Avot's habitual formula, namely, "so-and-so used to say." Avot 5.16 offers this striking, contemporary lesson: "All love that is based merely on something physical will not last, but if it is not based merely on the physical, it will endure forever. Which was based merely on something physical? The love of Amnon and Tamar [II Samuel 13]. Which was not based merely on something physical? The love of David and Jonathan [II Samuel 1]."

This passage, and the following one defining a controversy that is "for the sake of heaven" versus

[Cont'd. on page B 13]

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L' Shanah Tovah

One who studies Torah is a partner with G-d

By Yaacov Benamou

In Pirkei Avot, Chapter 6, Mishnah 1, we learn that one who studies Torah *Lishma*, i.e., for its own sake (to know and understand its contents and to apply his knowledge to enhance his understanding and solve new problems, and to study out of pure love of G-d with no ulterior motive except the love of G-d), merits many things. The mishnah then lists a number of spiritual successes which are a natural result of the refining quality of Torah study, but in addition to those, Rabbi Meir promises that there will be many worldly benefits, as well, such as a long life, health, wealth and honor.

Such a person is called "friend, beloved," and the creation of the entire world is worthwhile for his sake alone, since its purpose is realized through him. HaChassud Yaavetz explains that one who studies Torah with pure motives helps G-d in sustaining the world, and is therefore His partner (*re'ah*). The friendship between such a person and G-d is based on true love, and therefore will survive difficulties and disappointments.

Pirkei Avot
Chapter 6

This person loves the Omnipresent. According to the Kabbalah, G-d created the world because His goodness decreed that man and woman have the opportunity to confer good upon beings other than Himself, and consequently, one who studies Torah in the ideal way affords G-d with the means of carrying out His wish to bring blessing into the world. In this sense, he shows true love for G-d.

One who studies Torah for its own sake loves all G-d's creatures without cynicism or malice of any kind, simply because they are G-d's creatures. One who loves G-d truly, will not feel jealousy or any begrudges against anyone.

He gladdens the Omnipresent, he gladdens His creatures. By bringing others closer to Torah, either actively or by serving as a role model, one gladdens G-d. Furthermore, by introducing people to the Torah, he gladdens them and earns their gratitude.

One who studies Torah for its own sake is humbled by its vastness and depth. The midrash portrays the effect of Torah on those who study it: just as large grapes on the vine hang lower than the smaller grapes, so the more one grows in Torah, the more insignificant he appears in his own eyes.

It makes him fit to be righteous, devout, fair and faithful. The study of Torah for its own sake prepares one emotionally to attain elevated spiritual levels. He can aspire to be righteous in mitzvot between man and G-d, to be scrupulously devout in mitzvot between man and his fellow man, and to fairness in his own personal deportment and ethical development. All of these spiritual attainments will be consistent and enduring. According to the Chidushei HaRim, not only spiritually great people can achieve Torah study for its own sake. Anyone who is not yet righteous, devout, fair and faithful can reach these spiritual plateaus by studying Torah for its own sake.

The study of Torah moves the person away from sin and draws him closer to merit. The Torah protects not only from physical danger but also from spiritual harm. The Torah can provide man with the sanity to resist temptation and it motivates him to seek opportunities and situations that will enable him to lead a life of merit.

From a learned man people enjoy counsel and wisdom, understanding and strength, in mundane matters as well as Torah wisdom. He gives them understanding to delve into the depths of Torah and teaches them its practical detail, so that they will have the strength to overcome the impediments that stand in the ways of living a Torah life. Emunat Shmuel renders these four qualities as follows: *counsel*- to avoid sinning, *wisdom*- on how to fulfill our obligations to G-d, *understanding*- to penetrate the deep meaning of every mitzvah, and *strength*- to overcome our spiritual foes.

Torah gives him kingship and dominion

The Torah gives him kingship and dominion. To kings and scholars the Torah gives the guidance in law and behavior to exercise moral power, as well as analytical judgment. A scholar is able to analyze information and arrive at proper and conclusive judgment. The Torah scholar also merits the ability to understand the most mysterious details of the Torah.

He becomes like a fountain that produces sweet refreshing water, and at the same time like a river that flows in torrents. According to Midrash Shmuel, just like a spring that constantly grows stronger and can overcome anything that seeks to stop its flow, so the true Talmud Chacham does not allow any evil influence to halt his spiritual progress.

A person who attains an elevated spiritual level can easily become arrogant, but Rabbi Meir teaches us that when one studies Torah for its own sake, he enhances qualities that are accompanied by modesty. A truly righteous person will perform his good deeds quietly and without fanfare. Furthermore, he will be patient with people (Tiferet Yisrael).

One who studies Torah for its own sake is among those to whom the Talmud applies the *passuk*, "And those who love Him are like the sun coming out in its full intensity" (Judges 5:31). This refers to those who are insulted yet do not insult others, who hear themselves degraded yet do not reply in the same manner.

The elevated existence of an authentic Talmid Chacham raises him above all the changes of life. He views everything that G-d does from a higher perspective and sees clearly that all G-d does is for the good, and everything He does is elevated to a holier level.

In summarizing the mishnah, I would like to suggest dividing it into three catagories:

The first catagory describes how the study of Torah can benefit a person on a personal level. The study of the Torah elevates a person to higher spiritual levels and therefore he can aspire to do better in all areas of life.

The study of the Torah draws a person closer to G-d and he makes G-d proud of him.

The Torah changes a person to become kinder and more patient with others, as well as a source of learning and growing for his fellow men. Torah is the life-blood of the nation and Torah scholars are its heart. The more spiritual blood they pump into the rest of the nation, the better the nation's spiritual health.

Rabbi Benamou is the spiritual leader of Herzlia Adas-Yeshurun Synagogue in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

An important lesson

[Cont'd. from page B 12]

one that is not, both contain powerful and complex messages that merit deep, protracted study. The texts and scenes referred to must be probed, preferably in the original; the context or *Sitz im Leben* of the prooftexts, as well as the Mishnah, must be understood before a reading that is more than superficially useful can emerge.

But it is the message that follows soon after, in the name of Ben Bag-Bag, that is the essential one for me: "Turn it and turn it again, for everything is in it; re-examine it, grow old and gray over it, stick with it, for there is nothing finer than it."

The commentators all seem to agree that the "it" referred to is Torah.

Appending the chapter's final phrase complements the message beautifully: "Ben Hey-Hey used to say: According to the effort comes the reward."

The contemporaneous text Avot d'Rabbi Natan attributes these passages to Hillel. These two were said to have been proselytes and disciples of Hillel. It brings to mind the talmudic story [Shabbat 31a] of the scornful fellow who challenged Hillel to take him on as a proselyte, on condition that he teach him all of Torah while standing on one foot. Hillel replied, "What is hateful to you, do not do to others. This is the entire Torah, all the rest is commentary ..."

But this is just one story. After all, Hillel also said you must keep turning it and turning it. After all, his final words to his challenger were, "Go and study it." Amen, selah.

Rabbi Bolton is a recent graduate from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Fostering leaders in our community

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — David Barkin is a fine example of an up-and-coming Jewish community leader. The 34-year-old business executive is:

- a winner of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto's (UJA Federation) leadership development award,
- a regional council member of Canadian Jewish Congress,
- a committee member at Jewish Family & Child Service,
- co-chair of leadership development at the federation,
- and an active fundraiser for United Jewish Appeal (UJA).

With over 300 Jewish organizations serving a local Jewish population of 164,000, the community needs many David Barkins — leaders with a "vision" of where their organization or the greater community ought to be heading and the ability to motivate people to work with them toward that vision.

David Barkin

Good leaders need to be role models, says Gerry Fisher, UJA Federation's director of human resources and head of its leadership development program.

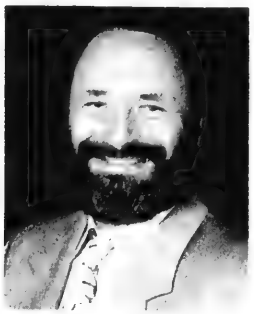
But idealism must be tempered with practicality. There's no getting around the fact that organizations and communities need money to continue providing services and to meet future needs.

The question of personal philanthropy — one aspect of role modelling — remains somewhat controversial.

Sandy Brown, UJA Federation president, faces the issue squarely. "I think that in many respects, the old communal leadership primarily came out of those who were able to be philanthropic. While I think that that is a very important component of leadership — being able to establish yourself as a supporter of the cause — it's not as much a focus as it used to be.

"I think it's important that everyone have an opportunity ... We have to have a broad spectrum of leadership, among them stakeholders who have the ability [to lead]. Our philanthropic families are best able to support [the community] and therefore they should be part of the decision-making process. Those who are our greatest supporters should be nurtured to continue. We should make sure leadership of the community is reflective of all its elements."

Sandy Brown



Gerry Fisher

A one-time Jewish community professional who requested anonymity was skittish about being quoted on the philanthropy issue. "There's still that perception that if you can't give the lead gift, you can't be a leader, but I wouldn't touch that with a 10-foot pole."

Fisher disagrees, but qualifies his comment, emphasizing the "expectation" within UJA Federation that leaders will contribute to the annual UJA/Federation campaign according to their means.

* * *

Have increased demands on personal finances taken a toll on Jewish leadership?

Surprisingly, given a virtually ubiquitous financial crunch, increasingly busy lifestyles and the amount of handwringing over Jewish continuity, Toronto appears to have no shortage of men and women in their 20s and 30s interested in taking an active volunteer role in the community, according to Fisher.

The UJA Federation leadership development program accommodates 40 to 50 participants in each 15-month session, and unlike its counterparts in communities of like size, actually turns away applicants.

[Cont'd. on page B 15]

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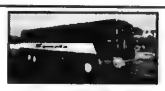

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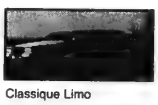

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L' Shanah Tovah

'Important that everyone have opportunity'

[Cont'd. from page B 14]

But Brown, 55, would like to see more involvement among younger adults. "I would not put up a warning flag. There will always be a core of leaders. I would just like to see a lot more of the younger generation at the table. The numbers are not large when you look at the number of people out there. I think we have to create a community that's attractive to be part of and to serve."

In the last decade or so, young leadership groups have sprung up in many — perhaps most — established Jewish organizations here, as aging leaders increasingly recognize the need to pass the torch.

For participants, such groups can offer a social outlet as well as an opportunity to contribute to the community in a meaningful way.

"The bottom line is we have to have a good time [at fundraising programs]," said Hannah Douglas, chair of International New Leadership of Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in an interview last year.

At Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the New Leadership group was established in 1985. Some of its older members have since made the transition to the "senior" Friends group.

Indeed, there has been an effort in recent years to integrate younger people into the established leadership structures of many organizations.

Barkin entered the world of Jewish leadership when he was invited to sit on the board of the Jewish Camp Council a mere two years after his last year as a head staff member at Camp Northland. Such a move was previously "unheard of," he recalls.

But the impetus for Barkin's involvement began well before he joined the council. When he was a counsellor at Northland, he began to realize "how special the camp was" as he became aware of those campers who received subsidies from the Jewish community enabling them to attend.

"As a camper, you don't understand that it's a community camp. I really wanted to continue doing some kind of service."

[Cont'd. on page B 16]

Allan Reitzes

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"I'm Sorry."

"You Are?"

"Yeah ... Wanna Make Up?"

"Okay."

It was easy back then. But now it can be so hard.

Doesn't it seem that the more you need to say "I'm sorry," the less likely you are to say it? And the more you need to hear "I'm sorry," the less likely you are to accept it?

Look, we're human. We're going to wrong one another sometimes. But then we have a choice: live with it, deny it, or make it right. And you know you can't right a wrong by telling a friend or a counselor — or even God — how bad you feel about it. That doesn't do it. Neither does saying, "If I've hurt you in any way..."

The only way to make things right is to face the person you've wronged and say it directly: *I wronged you in this specific way, and I ask your forgiveness for it.* And then commit to yourself never to repeat the offense.

And when you've been wronged and the other person comes and sincerely asks for forgiveness, you have a choice, too. Sometimes it's very hard to forgive. But how long can you keep an injury alive before it cripples your life and degrades your character? Nurture it long enough, repeatedly refuse to reconcile, and the refusal becomes your failure.

In fact, there are times when the real act of courage is for the injured one to open the subject — to go privately to the wrongdoer and say, "You have wronged me." God knows it would be easier to go on carrying that silent grudge. But to initiate the conversation can open the way to reconciliation.

And to be reconciled? It's as though you wake up one day and for the first time in a long time, you're not encased in ice.

This is not a new self-help theory. For thousands of years this has been the real work of the days leading up to Yom Kippur. Torah teaches that before we ask God to grant us well-being and peace, God asks us to make peace with another human being. You know which one. Try.

To all our friends, and to the world which needs healing, we wish a year of reconciliation and peace.

Ismar Schorsch, Chancellor; Gershon Kekst, Chairman, Board of Directors; Lee Jevitch, Chairman, High Holy Day Message Committee

"As I extend forgiveness to all, so may You help all extend compassion to me." — From a private prayer by Abraham Danzig, Tefillah Zakkah

AND THE BUSH WAS NOT CONSUMED

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Founded in 1886, the Jewish Theological Seminary is the religious and academic center of Conservative Judaism worldwide. The Seminary's High Holy Day message for the New Year 5756 is available for publication; permission to reprint is granted. For single copies, contact the JTS Communications Department at 3080 Broadway, NYC 10027-4649, (212) 678-8950.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Jewish education necessary for the future

[Cont'd. from page B 15]

The leadership development program opened his eyes to the structure of the Jewish community here, where Federation, funded by UJA dollars, serves as the umbrella for a wide range of community services.

According to UJA Federation bylaws, every Jewish resident in the Greater Toronto Area is considered a member. On an organizational level, "every [Toronto Jewish] school, every agency, every organization, every landsmanshaft, every synagogue — almost without exception" belongs to the federation, said Allan Reitzes, UJA Federation executive director.

Barkin became a committed supporter of the federation system, taking on a role in UJA as well as serving in affiliated agencies.

"[I was involved] on the spending side, and I felt I should be contributing to raising the money. I believe you've got to be involved in all aspects to be a well-rounded volunteer."

* * *

Fostering leadership to ensure a thriving Jewish community in the future has become a significant issue in the face of increasing assimilation and multiple demands on people's time, energy and dollars.

Brown believes that Jewish education as well as education about the community structure are necessary to foster future leaders.

For Murray Koffler, the prime prerequisite for leadership is "being stimulated by a concept." A well-known philanthropist in both the Jewish and general community, Koffler has taken on significant leadership roles as founder of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science in 1965 and as chair of the 1973 UJA campaign. He recently stepped down as world chair of the Weizmann society.

An Israel trip in 1956 was the impetus for his initial involvement as a leader in the Jewish community. His experience is not unique: many participants in UJA Federation's leadership development program report that "their lives were turned around" by a trip to Israel, says Fisher.

Koffler and his wife Marvelle, who has also taken an active leadership role, have worked to instil a sense of responsibility in their five grown children, but whether the next generation contributes within the Jewish community or outside it is "up to their choice," Koffler says.

Koffler's daughter Tiana Koffler Boyman, 33, and her husband Mark Boyman helped found a young leadership group for Weizmann "friends" in Los Angeles, where they lived from 1992 to 1995, and they recently co-chaired a Cirque du Soleil fundraiser for Toronto's Weizmann Society with another couple.

But Koffler Boyman says that while her father set a good example, it was her own personal interest rather than family obligation that spurred her involvement.

Brown traces her own involvement over the past 30 years to the example her parents, Celia and the late Joseph Tanzman, set when she was growing up in St. John, N.B., taking an active role in both its small Jewish community and the larger general community.

In a community the size of Toronto's, however, people tend to be "relatively anonymous as opposed to [feeling] needed," says Brown. "We need more leaders."

"You never have enough," agrees Reitzes. He admits that the community is facing a challenge, but remains optimistic. "There's no shortage of people with ability, and we have a community that is Jewishly educated."

He urges people to participate actively in the Jewish community. "All too often we equate leadership with being chairman or serving on a board. To my mind, being a leader is caring enough to do something, taking responsibility for being part of this community. If you're the one who has the ability to go beyond that and lead others, it will happen."

For Reitzes, it's important that everyone "show their bit of leadership. It's really about taking personal responsibility."

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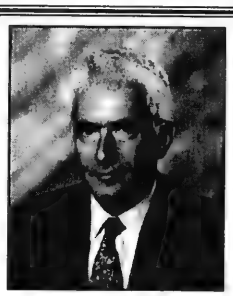
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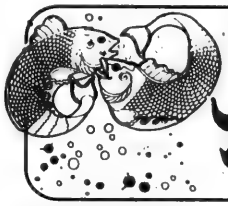
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L' Shanah Tovah

What a year!

By SHIRA HERZOG

The past year has proved just how futile our efforts to foresee and predict the future sometimes are. Ten short months ago Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a young Israeli who sought to kill the peace process by killing his country's leader. Six months later, the national election brought into power a new prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who had been dismissed and ridiculed as incapable of ever making it to the top slot. Neither event was foreseen, and yet both had far-reaching implications for the future of the state.

Commentary

Elsewhere in the region, there have been surprises too. A year ago, an important realignment in the region occurred as Turkey signed a defence treaty with Israel. In that honeymoon period, plans were made for joint training exercises for Turkish and Israeli pilots. Now, with a change of government in Turkey and the ascendancy of the Welfare party, there is a concern that it may join forces with the regimes that Israel considers its enemies — Iran and Iraq.

In Jordan, where King Hussein has managed to hold the reins of power and to contain dissent within his population, sudden riots over price increases of a staple, bread, threatened the stability of the Hashemite regime, in spite of statements to the contrary.

And in the United States, the results of the November presidential election are becoming more difficult to predict, as the gap between the two candidates see-saws up and down.

In Israel's brief history, several of the most important and momentous events occurred unexpectedly, but they changed the tide of the country's future. The great aliyah, or immigration, of the '50s saw the arrival of close to one million immigrants from the countries of the Middle East and North Africa. Their presence in Israel profoundly altered its face and culture. The political and social implications of that immigration are still felt today, over 40 years later, in the social, economic and political arenas.

The 1967 Six Day War was the unexpected result of Egyptian president Gamel Abdul Nasser's decision to expel the UN observers on his border with Israel. The surprise lightning Israel victory and its territorial results have shaped the political divide in Israel for the last 30 years. A generation has now matured for whom the current status quo has always been there.

And in the last decade, the unexpected massive wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union brought to Israel some 700,000 new citizens, who have found their voice and who have transformed the country's political map, as witnessed in the last election. These are just a few examples of how the unexpected has dramatically changed existing patterns of thought and practice.

There may be an obvious message here for analysts who gaze with assurance into their crystal balls. But there may be an additional, more subtle message: History has shown that no one point of view has a monopoly on the truth. Any given side in the Israeli debate may argue its case with passion and conviction, but history has taught us that neither side can be sure that its sometimes apocalyptic predictions will prove correct.

Israelis' more critical attitude towards their politicians in the aftermath of the elections provides evidence of some skepticism towards the absolutist rhetoric that emanates from political quarters. If for decades, Israelis saw their political leaders as larger than life and charged with a Herculean mission, they now see them as mere mortals charged with a functional responsibility, who will be judged by their capability to deliver a better life for their constituency. The ideological fervor seems to be cooling. And perhaps that is a good thing. In the absolutist passion of ideology, a leader is either a savior or an archenemy. The results of such an approach, as we know, can be tragic.

After all, the debate in Israel is not over a choice between peace or security. Everyone, on the so-called right and left, is committed to peace with security. Rather, the debate is over the territorial component in the equation.

The left argues that it is not, and indeed, some on the left would argue that the territorial component, which necessitates ongoing occupation of large numbers of civilians, has weakened Israel and has made it more difficult to guarantee its security. The right argues that in the end result, in spite of the costs associated with continued occupation, the territories are an essential component of the security equation for Israel. Therefore, its proposals for resolving the conflict fall short of a territorial compromise.

From a Jewish perspective, it has been clearly established that both interpretations are valid. Therefore, the debate should be held on the national merits of the respective positions and with the best judgment available, as these critical decisions are faced by the country's leaders and people. The perspective and wisdom of history should give pause for reflection and perhaps lead to a cooling of the passions and emotions that have become such an integral part of the internal conflicts in Israel and the Diaspora. As we pray for a year of peace and fulfilment, let us remember that the unpredictable winds of history can sweep away our own certainty and feeble efforts at prophecy.

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A brief history of our calendar

By REMY LANDAU

Most Jewish homes have at least one copy of the Hebrew calendar. These calendars will most likely have come from kosher food suppliers, Jewish product merchants, Jewish schools or Jewish fundraising organizations.

The calendars will be consulted for the dates and times of the Jewish holidays, candlelighting times, *yahrzeits*, weekly scriptural readings and other important social and religious functions.

Yet in spite of the enormous influence exerted by the Hebrew calendar over Jewish social and religious life, very little is known about it by most of us.

Our religious leadership understood that maintaining a calendar is so important through the command given to Moses in Exodus 12:2, just before the plague against the first born.

In the days of the Temple, a calendar council relying upon *sod ha'ibbur*, the knowledge employed in establishing leap years, was formed to determine not only the times for the new moons, but also which years were to be 13 months long. This council acted like a court and declared the arrival of the new moons on the basis of the observations of two reliable witnesses.

That ceremony was no mere formality even though biblical text indicates that our ancient scholars had the ability to predict the onset of new moons without prior observation. For example, both the prophets Isaiah and Amos predict the oncoming of solar eclipses (Isaiah 13:10-11, Amos 8:9). And Jonathan tells David of the future arrival of a new moon in I Samuel 20:18.

Despite advanced astronomical knowledge, Halachah required the declaration of the new moon by the *beit din*, based upon the testimony of the witnesses. The *beit din*, however had the authority and the right to ignore the testimony and to establish Rosh Chodesh on the next day.

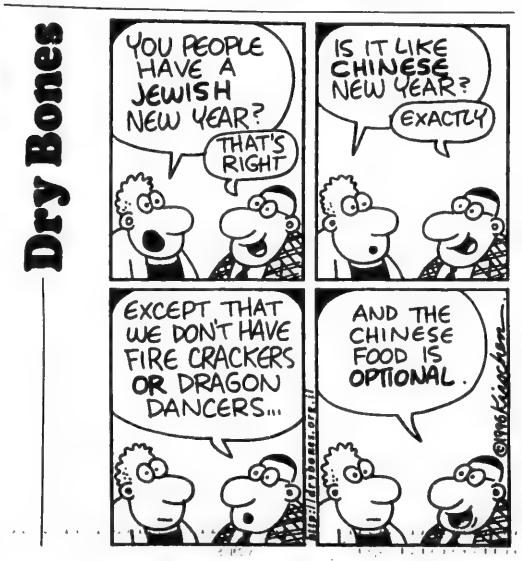
In spite of such knowledge, the religious authorities at first vigorously opposed any attempts at publishing and distributing copies of the calendar on the grounds that such actions challenged their authority and could split apart the Jewish people. The Talmud records negative reactions to the publication of a one-year calendar by R. Chanina and later to a 60-year calendar by Reb Shmuel in the second century CE.

By the middle of the fourth century CE, Hillel II replaced the method of proclaiming new moons by observation with a set of fixed calendar rules to permit the calculation and publication of the Hebrew calendar throughout the Diaspora. These rules appear to have been finalized sometime in the 10th century.

The last great battle over the current calendar rules appears to have taken place at about 920 CE between R. Aaron ben Meir of Jerusalem and Saadia Gaon of Babylon. It almost resulted in a split of the 11th century Jewish community.

The technical argument was over Rabbi ben Meir's attempt to add 35 minutes and 40 seconds to one of the calendar's rules. However, the unfortunate circumstances of 11th century Jewish history eventually put an end to this split of opinion.

Since that time, the rules for the calculation of our calendar have remained unchanged.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L' Shanah Tovah

Calendar cycle coming to an end

By RENY LANDAU

Completing the Hebrew Calendar's 19-Year Cycle

When Rosh Hashanah 5757 begins on Sept. 14, it will inaugurate the very last year of the current 19-year Hebrew calendar cycle.

So it would be quite appropriate to illustrate major features of the 19-year calendar cycle with this quiz.

But first, here are some facts.

Whenever the value of the Hebrew year can be evenly divided by 19, that year represents the last year in the 19-year cycle of the Hebrew calendar. For example, 5757 is exactly 303 multiples of 19.

The 19-year Hebrew calendar cycle was constructed by our ancient scholars so as to help synchronize the lunar months with the solar years, thereby keeping the calendar in pace with the seasons.

Almost 2,500 years ago, astronomers had determined the average duration of a lunar month to a precision of about one day in 14,000 years. They also discovered that 235 lunar months came very close to synchronizing the lunar years with the solar years. And so, they devised a cycle of 19 years consisting of 12 years of 12 lunar months and seven leap years of 13 months each.

The scholars also included calculation rules which caused any Hebrew year to be either 353, 354, 355 days long for ordinary years and 383, 384 and 385 days long for the leap years.

Since the average lunar month is a little over 29½ days long, the calendar was set up so as to have each of its months alternate regularly between 30 and 29 days, thus making "regular" years 354 days long (about 24.3 percent of all Hebrew years).

In regular years, Tishrei (September/October) is 30 days long, Cheshvan (October/November) is 29 days, Kislev (November/December) is 30 days, Tevet (December/January) is 29 days, and so on.

For 353-day years, one day was removed from the month of Kislev (about 10 percent of the years) and for 355-day years, one day was added to the month of Cheshvan (about 28.8 percent of all years).

The needed leap years were created by the addition of a 30-day long month of Adar (February/March) preceding the regular 29-day month of Adar in each of the seven leap years of the 19-year cycle.

Now, how many of the following questions can you answer?

Questions

1. Are all Hebrew calendar cycles of 19 years the same length?

2. How are the leap years distributed in the present 19-year Hebrew calendar cycle?

3. Does the Hebrew calendar repeat itself after every 19-year cycle?

4. Does the 19-year cycle ensure that Pesach can only come in spring?

5. Is Sept. 6 the earliest possible Gregorian date for the first day of Rosh Hashanah in our times because no earlier day can be found in the 20th century?

6. What is the latest possible Gregorian date for the first day of Rosh Hashanah in our times?

7. The rabbis ruled that Rosh Hashanah could only begin on a Saturday, Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. On which of those days does Rosh Hashanah begin most frequently?

8. Pesach can only begin on a Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. On which of those days does Pesach occur most frequently?

9. We love to wish each other *biz a huntret und zvanzig*. But, are all periods of 120 Hebrew years the same length?

Answers

1. No. The 19-year cycles can be either 6939, 6940, 6941 or 6942 days long. In addition to these lengths, other periods of 19 Hebrew years can also be 6938 days long.

2. The third, sixth, eighth, 11th, 14th, 17th and 19th years of the 19-year cycle are the leap years.

3. No. The Hebrew calendar repeats itself every *689,472* Hebrew years. At one time, it was believed that the calendar repeated itself in every 13 cycles of 19 years, that is, every 247 years.

4. No. The 19-year cycle makes the average Hebrew year slower than the average tropical solar year by about one day in every 216 years. That means that Pesach is gradually drifting into summer. Today, we celebrate Pesach about five days later than did our ancestors at the time of Saadia Gaon.

5. No. It is Sept. 5. This last occurred in 1899 and will next occur in 2013. After Rosh Hashanah 5080 (2089 CE), the earliest Gregorian date will become Sept. 6.

6. Oct. 5. This last took place in 1967 and won't occur again until 2043.

7. Thursday. 31.9 percent begin on Thursday, 28.6 percent on Saturday, 28.0 percent on Monday and 11.5 percent on Tuesday.

8. Tuesday. 31.9 percent begin on Tuesday, 28.6 percent on Thursday, 28.0 percent on Saturday and 11.5 percent on Sunday.

9. No. Periods of 120 Hebrew years can be either 43822, 43823, 43824, 43825, 43851, 43852, 43853, 43854 or 43855 days lomg.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Chandelier inscription mystery revealed

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

Some months ago, we published the baffling story of a remarkable pentagonal chandelier with a Hebrew inscription on all five sides. It had been discovered by chance in the lounge of a social club in a southwestern Ontario villages.

The words translated into English proclaimed: "This is the donation of Nachum Katz in memory of his son Avraham David, alav hashalom."

Who was Avraham David? How did he die? Where did the chandelier originally hang and why was it in this unexpected setting?

At first, there were no answers but through coincidence and persistent sleuthing, a chilling tale of murder has emerged.

Several weeks after the story appeared, when *CJN* staffer Leila Speisman was covering a meeting, she was approached by 81-year-old Mary Teich, who told her that Nachum and Fanny Katz had been friends of her parents.

Katz, she said, brought his family including David (Avraham David) to Canada from Russia shortly after the turn of the century and settled in Picton, Ont.

Teich provided more information which led ultimately to the discovery of a living descendent, David's niece (and Nachum's granddaughter), Lillian, of Katz's Delicatessen in Toronto.

Using this source, as well as out of town Jewish community leaders and Royal Canadian Mounted Police files containing old press clippings (there are five volumes in the RCMP files and a mounted police officer has described this as the most bizarre case he has ever encountered), we can conclude that, essentially, this is what happened:

Though Nachum Katz was shomer Shabbos, he prospered in local business and the fur trade. He was also very active in the synagogue he helped found in Belleville, not far from Picton.

At 20, David, went into business on his own, travelling by car across the Prairies with a hired assistant, a young Jewish man we will identify only as B (to protect any family members still alive).

According to Lillian, who knows of her uncle only through older relatives, the two men took orders from storekeepers for men's clothing to be shipped from Montreal. Newspaper items of the time, refer to David variously as a clothing salesman or a bond salesman. Perhaps he was both.

David was aware that B had been in trouble with the law. David himself had at one time accused him of theft and prosecuted B, who served a jail term as a result.

When B was released, David, knowing that he came from a struggling family, gave him a second chance and the two resumed their travels.

David drove a large car and wore good jewelry, notably a fine ring and a diamond stickpin. He also carried valuable papers and substantial amounts of cash.

One June day in 1928, as they were driving along a lonely stretch of road somewhere between Swift Current and Medicine Hat, B apparently told David they had a flat tire. When David walked to the rear of the car to check, B slipped up behind, hit him with a shovel, buried him in the sand dunes and continued on to Vancouver.

This is not the same story B later told police, but it is what the investigation uncovered.

Some time after the murder, Nachum Katz, worried because he'd had no word from David who regularly kept in touch, received a peculiar telegram from Vancouver. Ostensibly sent by David but probably from B, who knew well that Katz, a *kohen*, was a proud and committed Jew, it stated that David would not be returning home and could never see his parents again because he had become involved with a gentile girl.

Katz, immediately suspicious, set out for Vancouver.

Here, excerpted from a Canadian Press story dated Vancouver, Feb. 11, 1929, is what followed.

"Fate in the shape of a street car which failed to stop for a passenger helped a father finish his long chase after the man he believed could clear up the mystery of his son's disappearance.

"The father was Nathan Kates, Picton, Ont., whose son David was murdered on June 9 last and buried in the sand dunes in Saskatchewan, according to a story told to police by B, the man whom the father sought.

[Cont'd. on page B 21]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Hebrew inscription found on lost chandelier

[Cont'd. from page B 20]

"According to B, Kates was murdered somwhere between Swift Current and Medicine Hat and buried there. B said a third man committed the murder but that he helped bury the body. He is being held by police here pending word from authorities in Saskatchewan.

"Fate and the street car played their part when the elder Kates came here in search of B, The father was proceeding to the police station and waited at a downtown corner for the car. The first car did not stop and to this circumstance Kates owes the locating of B, for as he waited for another car, B came walking along the street. With a companion [possibly another son, Aaron, who was Lillian's father], Kates followed the wanted man until a police sergeant was encountered. Kates excitedly demanded the arrest of B.

"According to B's story to police, David Kates with another man and himself drove between Medicine Hat and Swift Current on June 9 and after they had travelled some distance, the second man remarked that a tire was flat. B said he got out to look and heard an altercation between his two companions. When he got back in the car Kates was semi-conscious. They drove to some sand dunes where Kates was allegedly struck over the head with a shovel after being partially buried in the sand. B, police state, said that the money, jewelry and papers of the dead man were removed from the body."

Jewelry

But in fact, Lillian affirms, when her grandfather found B, he was in possession of David's jewelry.

Though B steadfastly denied committing the murder, blaming it on a "Jimmy Brown" and claiming to be a passive bystander, he led police to a gravesite at an out-of-the-way spot near Gull Lake, Sask. David's father, who had accompanied the search party, collapsed.

After the remains were identified as David's, B was charged with murder. "Jimmy Brown" could not be found.

Two trials were held, both at Maple Creek, Sask. The first was adjourned after three days, following submission of a signed statement taken from B three months earlier is Vancouver. A Vancouver police sergeant admitted that during the questioning, he might have said something like, "You tell the truth or we will put a rope around your neck and stretch you longer than you are."

A Canadian Press wire from Maple Creek observes, "The jury was discharged because the statement, admittedly received after threats of violence had been made, had already been read in court. A. H. Friedgut, counsel for B, had urged that all statements made by B at any time following the threat be barred as evidence."

A new trial was ordered.

At the second trial in November 1929, some 35 witnesses from New York to Vancouver, were brought forward.

Fred D. Kuntz, a farmer at whose home B and Katz had stayed in the winter of 1927, gave evidence that he heard B say he would get Katz for having him jailed if it took 10 years. B's sudden affluence was noted (he had the car and was spending freely after Katz' disappearance). It was also brought to light that two men known to B had forged cheques belonging to Katz and cashed them through his bank accounts.

B was found guilty after a unanimous jury debated four hours and on Nov. 15, sentence was passed. He would hang on Feb. 19 in Regina. But a strange twist led to a reprieve.

A young woman from the west, described as B's sweetheart and named appropriately, Miss Love, read a newspaper dispatch in a local paper about a murder charge brought against one Emmett Sloan in Sydney, N.S., whose alias was Brown.

She said she instantly recognized Sloan's description as tallying almost exactly with the one she had heard B give of "Jimmy Brown," the man B claimed killed Katz. The young woman said her attention was attracted to the story by the name of Brown, which Sloan had given prior to his arrest.

B's execution date was postponed to March 11, 1930, while police investigated. However, when it was verified that Sloan was not in the west at the time of Katz' murder and after B was unable to identify a photo of Sloan shown to him by police along with several others, the execution was carried out and B was hanged on March 11.

The chandelier which Nachum Katz had commissioned in memory of his son, graced the shul in Belleville for many years until the congregation found a new home. It was then placed for safekeeping in the attic of some elderly relatives because Nachum was no longer alive.

The chandelier seems to have disappeared when the relatives died and could have been bought by an antique dealer who subsequently sold it to a lamp dealer who resold it to the present owner of the social club, hundreds of miles from Belleville.

Lillian, who declares that chills ran up her spine when she heard that the chandelier had finally been located, is hoping to bring it back into the family.

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Syrian immigrants, Yaakov and Hasiba Ezra, with two of their three daughters. [Vera Etzion photo]

Syrian family makes it to Israel

By SIMON GRIVER
WZPS

Yaakov Ezra always dreamed of immigrating to Israel. But until 1994, his aspirations were not realized because President Hafez al-Assad of Syria kept the Jews of his country captive, using them as diplomatic pawns in the Middle East peace process.

Ezra came to Israel with his wife Hasiba, 26, and their two daughters Zhenny, 5, and Flora, 4. Their third daughter, Or, was born exactly one year later. The majority of the nearly 4,000 Jews who left Syria after 1992.

But about 1,500 Syrian Jews were brought to Israel by the Jewish Agency's Department of Immigration and Absorption, because like the Ezras, they insisted on making aliyah.

"We are traditional Jews and Zionists and have a lot of family here," says Ezra. "What would we have done in America? I have an uncle in America who says he is immigrating to Israel. He says America is a wonderful country, but it is not the Jewish state. All those years in Syria," he insists, "we prayed facing Jerusalem, not New York.

While most of Syria's Jews emigrated from Damascus and the large provincial cities of Aleppo and Homs, the Ezras came from the relatively small town of Kamishili in northeastern Syria, near the border with Iraq. They traveled to Israel via Turkey.

Ezra and his parents, Avraham and Jacqueline, who reached Israel several months after him, had a small grocery store and thriving spice trading business in Syria. "We left behind a large house and a car and a lot of money," he says. "But it was worth it to be here in Israel."

Despite the economic hardships, Ezra has no regrets about making aliyah. He has found temporary work with the Ministry of Education, preparing exams in Arabic for grade 4 to 8 schoolchildren, and hopes to join the police force in the coming months. They have bought a three bedroom apartment in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo and will move there in early 1997.

"We decided to remain in the Jerusalem region," explains Ezra, "because we are traditional Jews. Tel Aviv is very beautiful and we love the seafront but it is too secular for us."

Despite her religiousness, Hasiba herself is less enthusiastic about life in Israel than her husband. "I am stuck at home looking after the children," she says, "as I was stuck at home in Syria. I also haven't been as quick to pick up Hebrew as Yaakov. But for me the most important thing is that the children are happier here."

Both Zhana and Flora attend the local kindergarten in the absorption centre. Flora can barely remember Syria but Zhana has vivid recollections and leaves no doubt where her preferences lie. "We went to the kindergarten in Syria," she recalls, "but not very much happened there. Here we are always having birthday parties and making special things for festivals."

While Zhana and Flora spare little thought for Syria, their father and mother often get homesick. "When I first reached Israel," says Ezra, "I would buy telephone cards and call my friends in Syria. We were a very small Jewish community so most of my closest friends were Christians and Muslims."

There is something remarkably Israeli about the Ezras even though they have been in the country for less than two years. Perhaps it is because they were born and grew up in the Middle East. Perhaps it is because they were traditional Jews who unlike Russian speaking newcomers, knew biblical Hebrew and Torah and celebrated the Jewish festivals even before they came to Israel.

"We felt at home here from the first day," says Ezra. "And most importantly, we feel secure."

L' Shanah Tovah

Messele the first Ethiopian elected to Knesset

By GAIL LICHTMAN
WZPS

The recent dramatic election of Israel's prime minister may have captured the lion's share of headlines, but other equally dramatic events took place in the parallel elections to the 14th Knesset. Among them was the election of 35-year-old Addisu Messele, the first Member of Knesset (MK) from Israel's Ethiopian Jewish community.

"Being the first Ethiopian MK is a source of personal pride," Messele says. "It is also a source of pride for Israeli society and for the Jewish communities in the Diaspora, especially those in the United States and Canada which contributed so much to the aliyah of Ethiopian Jewry in both Operations Moses and Solomon."

Elected on the Labor party ticket, Messele, a staunch supporter of the peace process, sees himself as more than just a one-issue MK.

"Although I am sensitive to the issue of absorption in general and to the problems of the Ethiopian community in particular, I am an MK just like any other MK, not just one for sectoral issues. I received votes from the general Israeli population as well as from the Ethiopian community and I intend to contribute to policy issues, the peace process, social and economic issues and other issues central to the State of Israel."

Born in Gondar in northern Ethiopia in 1961, Messele immigrated to Israel in 1980, after escaping to Sudan, and took an active

Addisu Messele

role in helping others from the Ethiopian community. He completed a bachelor's degree in social work at Bar Ilan University and during Operation Moses worked for the Jewish Agency helping Ethiopian immigrants settle in Israel. During Operation Solomon, he was sent to Ethiopia to help organize the amazing 36-hour airlift of 14,000 Ethiopian Jews.

In the early '80s, Messele founded the grassroots organization Beta Israel and in 1990, when the various Ethiopian community organizations united to create the umbrella organization, the United Ethiopian Jewish Organization, he became its president, a position he still holds. Since 1987, Messele has been working at the executive committee of the Histadrut as chief absorption coordinator.

Advancing the peace process is one of Messele's priorities in the Knesset. "I intend to be a fighting opposition," he says. "Only pressure can move peace forward."

For Messele, peace is also a factor in fostering immigration to Israel. "One of the main stumbling blocks to immigration is the security issue," he says. "If Israel and the Arab states succeed in bringing peace to the region, then Israel will be more attractive to new immigrants."

Absorption, however, he notes, is not only "getting a mortgage and financial aid, finding a job. The ability to integrate and be part of Israeli society is more important. Unfortunately, this is made more difficult because of prejudice and stigma."

For the Ethiopian community, this has also meant having to cope with racism.

"There are laws against incitement to racism in Israel, but there is no law to protect citizens against racism," says Messele.

"For example, a private kindergarten can refuse to accept Ethiopian children just because they are Ethiopian and there is no law against this. Just recently, I was called by Ethiopian students at the University of Haifa who wanted to rent apartments. They phoned in response to ads in the papers and were told housing was available. When they showed up in person, suddenly the apartment was rented or the price went sky high."

But in fighting racism, Messele takes a different track from the one followed by the American civil rights movement. He believes that legislation is not always the answer.

"I am debating whether to propose a law in the Knesset to protect citizens from racism. It seems absurd to enact such legislation. What good would it do to send an Ethiopian child to a kindergarten where he was not wanted? I would prefer for the school to be persuaded to accept and welcome Ethiopian children. It's good to have laws, but you really have to change the attitudes of society.

"When you ask Israelis about Ethiopians, they immediately think of problems. We have to prove ourselves by breaking the stereotypes, by changing facts and by doing. Israeli society doesn't know the strength of the Ethiopian community. They don't know about our motivation and successes.

"There is tremendous potential among our youth to advance and achieve things. Today, we have more than 1,00 Ethiopian students studying in Israeli universities, and next year, we expect to add an additional 450. One hundred percent of our young people are drafted into the army. There are no shirkers. Of the 500 currently serving, more than 50 are officers. Their success has been phenomenal. This shows their strong desire to integrate into Israeli society."

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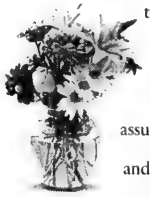

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L' Shanah Tovah

Professor raised more questions than answers

By ZEV GOLAN
WZPS

"The next world does not interest me in the least," said the old man with the big black *yarmulke* in one of Jerusalem's most prominent synagogues.

Yeshayahu Leibowitz was nothing if not provocative; he seemed to live for controversy. In the world-according-to-Leibowitz, David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir and Yitzhak Shamir, the political right and the left, the army and the rabbinate were all pilloried. His lectures were performances and his audience was thrilled even as it was shocked.

What can you say about a 91-year-old professor who died? Two years ago, just before Rosh Hashanah, the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* ran a full-page headline: "Death of the Giant of the Spirit and the Angry Prophet," and devoted pages 3 and 4 to the man.

Leibowitz was born in Riga. He and his sister, Bible scholar Nehama Leibowitz, today in her late 80s, were educated by private tutors. Leibowitz studied in Berlin and moved to Eretz Israel as a doctor with his wife Greta in 1935. He never practiced medicine, but at the Hebrew University, Leibowitz taught biochemistry, neurophysiology, history and philosophy. Outside academia, his religious *shiurim* on Maimonides regularly encompassed Kant, Wittgenstein, quantum mechanics and Islamic philosophy.

Leibowitz's method was Socratic. He raised more questions than he answered, and he forced the inquisitive to ask the right questions. "Why is suicide religiously forbidden?" a longtime student asked. "Why is mixing meat and milk forbidden?" Leibowitz "answered." "Before," muttered the student, "I had five tons on my shoulders. Now I have 50."

Leibowitz thundered imperiously at poor questions, and these legendary verbal lashings were surprisingly effective: He forced his students to think, to scrutinize every concept and category, to pass their thoughts through the steel sieve of logic.

His message was yet more complex than his method. His religiously observant devotees, for the most part, shied from his further-than-far left politics. His minions on the left had, on the other hand, almost no conception of the religious teachings which had led some to say that he knew more about the philosophy of Maimonides than Maimonides. Is there a Unified Leibowitz Theory?

Leibowitz's life was unified by its service to God. Three hundred and sixty-five days a year for almost 60 years, Jerusalemites saw their eventually stooped-over professor walking to morning prayers at the Jeshurun Synagogue. No, this isn't easy, he'd say, pointing out that the first words of the Shulchan Aruch, code of Jewish law, are not "Get up and worship" but "Overcome in order to worship." Nor did Leibowitz pray in order to inform God of his needs. He prayed, he said, in order to fulfil the commandment to pray.

Leibowitz spoke everywhere he was invited, met everyone who needed, answered telephoned questions late into the night. A chain-smoking young kibbutznik appeared at his home. Do you really think it possible, the soul-racked kibbutznik asked, to form a connection to God? Leibowitz looked at his interlocutor and considered, then said: "If you refrain from smoking on the Sabbath because God commanded it, you will have created that connection."

Riding to Leibowitz's funeral, one man confided that only Leibowitz gave him the strength to remain religious after the Holocaust. "I stopped believing in God after the Holocaust," one former Supreme Court Justice once complained, in an anecdote Leibowitz loved to tell. "Then you never believed in God," replied the professor. Leibowitz adamantly refused to believe in "an old white-bearded man in Heaven who pulls strings" for man on earth. In Leibowitz's world, God does not exist to serve man, man exists to serve God.

"Acceptance of the Heavenly yoke is not knowledge I have about Heaven but a commitment" to Heaven, he said. The Torah "is not

[Cont'd. on page B 25]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Leibowitz raised many questions

[Cont'd. from page B 24]

a book that imparts knowledge, it makes demands." Therefore the next world was of no importance to Leibowitz, for what mattered to him was observing commandments in this world.

And what, he was once asked, if fulfilling the commandments becomes nothing more than habit? "Is it a small matter, then," he answered, "that a person decides to take upon himself this habit?"

Leibowitz, following Maimonides, refused to allow for any description of God, declaring that "true knowledge of God is knowing that we cannot know or describe Him." "Doesn't this empty God of meaning," he was asked, "leaving us serving God, but at the end, what did we serve?"

'That is the sum of man'

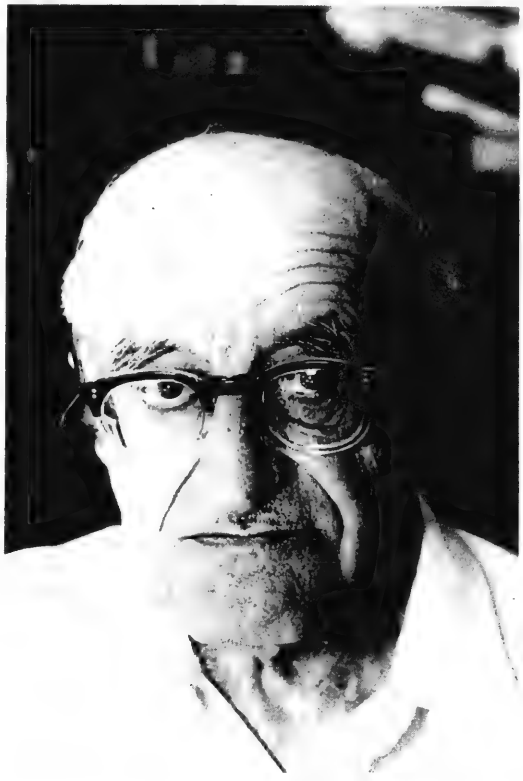
Leibowitz: "You didn't spend the years running after vanities, after idols." And anything other than God, any worldly thing, is idol-worship.

Throughout all 12 chapters of the Biblical book of Koheleth, Leibowitz noted, the author Ecclesiastes searches for the good. The book concludes: "After all is said and done, fear God and observe His commandments, for that is the sum of man." Note, Leibowitz insisted, Ecclesiastes does not say "for that is good," rather — that is the sum of man. "Because nothing in this world is good," Leibowitz sighed.

Leibowitz's great accomplishment is having defined a faith possible in an existential world where God sometimes seems absent, good altogether lacking, meaning lost. Belief, according to Leibowitz, does not say anything about God, good, reward or meaning. Belief describes the believer.

Leibowitz served God when he analyzed the brain's chemistry, when he pushed for peace, when for the last three decades he could be found at midnight every Saturday night reading Plato or Aristotle or Judah Halevi with former students.

When asked by a young man "What's the meaning of life, if you die at the end?" Leibowitz answered quietly, "To have 60 or 70 or 80 years to serve God, what more can you ask for?"



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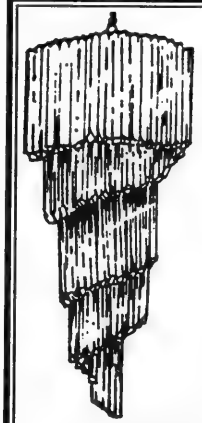

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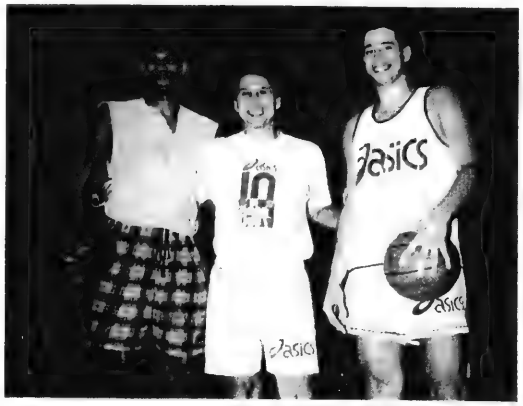

American-born basketball coach David Blatt (centre) with American Andrew Kennedy (left) and Isaiah Gur Shelef, members of the Galil Elyon basketball team. [WZPS photo by Aviho Shapiro]

Basketball team raised local spirits

By BONNIE ROCHMAN
WZPS

UPPER GALILEE — In mid-April 1996, as Hezbollah's Katyusha rockets rained down on the north of Israel, David Blatt called a team meeting.

Blatt, the American-born coach of Israel's northernmost professional basketball team, gathered his players together in a gym only 200 metres from where a missile had landed several days before, and gave them the option to leave.

"It was right before the playoffs," Blatt recalls. "People were very nervous, but we decided to stay and gut it out."

Galil Elyon (Upper Galilee) ended up making the final four as a result of that decision and, even more important, raised the spirits of the battered region, which lies only miles from the Lebanese border.

"We put the team on a bus and travelled every morning to different shelters to visit kids and boost morale," says Blatt, who is originally from Boston. "It lent something special to the team. It bonded us. And it has a real positive effect on the kids."

With looks of awe on their faces, children shyly handed over scraps of paper for the team to autograph.

"We tried to show them that as a team we stay strong and win and that we hope they do the same," says Blatt, who, along with the players, handed out boardgames to children and answered questions.

Visiting the children was one way for Blatt and the team to set an example, outside of competition.

"To me, basketball is more than just a game," says Blatt. "Sports figures need to set an example for youth in health, fair play, goal-setting and achievement."

On the court, Blatt, decked out in a red sweatshirt emblazoned with both the Fila emblem and Galil Elyon written in Hebrew, speaks in English for the benefit of the three American players.

After graduating from Princeton University in 1981, Blatt moved to Israel, where he played on the U.S. Maccabiah team that won the championship that year, and signed a three-year contract to play for Maccabi Haifa, one of 12 professional teams in Israel.

When his contract ended, Blatt left for Atlanta, where he went to work for Xerox. But he missed being in Israel, where he had mastered Hebrew and felt part of society.

"In the United States, people in the street are very friendly and polite but are more closed and reluctant to take you in. Here it's the opposite."

He also appreciated the enthusiasm Israelis showed for athletics. "Israelis really like sports. They're vocal sports fans — not passive — and very opinionated."

In 1986 he returned and spent the next seven years playing for teams in Jerusalem, Netanya, the upper Galilee and Hadera, where he tore his Achilles tendon badly enough to end to his career. Shortly after that, he accepted an offer to become assistant coach of Galil. When the head coach was let go, Blatt found himself in charge only 11 games into the 1993-1994 season.

Money problems forced him to release all the players at the end of the next season and Galil Elyon had to start from scratch. He began building a team of young players, except for the captain, American Andrew Kennedy, Blatt's Galil Elyon teammate in 1988-1989.

Within a short time, Blatt had put the upper Galilee on the map for reasons other than politics. Galil Elyon did so well that it qualified for the prestigious European Cup Winners Cup, a league of teams mostly from Europe that finished at the top of their leagues.

On top of that, Blatt was named Israel's Coach of the Year.

L' Shanah Tovah

Jewish life is thriving in Chile

By JERRY RICHMOND
Special to The CJN

I recently attended an Orthodox Jewish wedding, which joined a young couple of the Israel and Magendzo families in Chile. Life cycle events such as these, rich in the religious and cultural traditions of our people, sustain and enhance Jewish life in this nation on the southwestern Pacific fringe of the South American continent.

Most of Chile's Jewish population is concentrated in the Santiago metropolitan area. A recent demographic survey determined the Jewish population of Santiago totals some 19,700 persons out of a metropolitan population of 4.5 million.

There are also smaller Jewish communities in the coastal Valparaiso/Vina urban area and in the provincial centres of Conception and Temuco. However, the capital, Santiago, dominates Jewish and general affairs in this nation of 14 million.

Chile has a variety of Jewish religious and communal organizations, similar to Canada. The *75th Anniversary Yearbook* of "WIZO in Chile," which was issued in 1995, indicates that the first WIZO organization in Latin America was established in Chile in 1925. In 1993, Santiago hosted the Latin American WIZO Congress.

Most of the Jews of greater Santiago are business people, professionals or academics.

The community supports a variety of synagogues from small Orthodox shuls to larger Ashkenazi or Sephardi congregations. The main Sephardi synagogue is an impressive modern building on Avenida Lyon in the Providencia district of Santiago. The current Chilean president, Eduardo Frei, attended a memorial service at this synagogue after the tragic Jewish centre bombings in Buenos Aires, in July 1994.

While in Santiago, I had the privilege of attending several Shabbat morning services at the Shephardi Kohel Jafetz Jaim Congregation in the Providencia district. The siddur, used by this congregation, contains alternate pages in Hebrew and Spanish. It was published in Buenos Aires. The Hebrew-Spanish Chumash was jointly published in Tel Aviv and Buenos Aires.

The service and melodies, except for the companion use of Spanish, were remarkably similar to those used by the Orthodox congregation I attend in Toronto. The themes of the rabbi's (*el rabino* in Spanish) sermon, delievered in Spanish with abundant Hebrew references, followed similar themes as those heard in a Canadian synagogue.

Kosher meat is available locally under the auspices of the Vaad Hakashrut Comunidad Israelita de Santiago, and there are facilities for kosher catering. Kosher products from Israel, Argentina and America are available.

The Santiago community also supports a Hebrew day school system. Many young Chilean Jews experience a visit to Israel during their high school years.

There is an Estadio Israelita, in the Las Condes district of the capital, with a variety of athletic and social programs, which is the equivalent of a North American JCC.

Jewish community buildings in Chile and Latin America seen from the street are "low key" affairs and are usually surrounded by walls and gates, as are most other public buildings. There are no notable exterior signs or symbols identifying them as Jewish institutions. This is in keeping with the general low key public stance of the Jewish community in this predominantly Catholic country.

I walked past Santiago's main Sephardi synagogue several times,

Garden wedding of the Israel-Magendzo families in Santiago, Chile.

but until this building was identified to me by friends, I was unaware of its identity. For *CJN* readers wishing to visit Jewish institutions in Chile, local friends would prove invaluable. An alternative would be to contact Jewish community officials or organizations, prior to arriving in the country.

There are security concerns, although Chilean friends and hosts did not speak of hostile or anti-Semitic acts in Chile. In their day-to-day professional and business dealings Santiago's Jews appear to be well accepted.

Jews speak fondly of the climate, superb local fruits and vegetables, wines and quality of life in Chile. Local universities maintain high academic and professional standards which are recognized abroad. Young Jews receive their academic and professional training both locally and abroad.

During my March visit, Santiago's major daily, *El Mercurio*, gave prominent coverage, with photos, of the visit of Israel's minister of Agriculture and a reception in his honor at the Israeli Embassy. The local Jewish weekly, *la palabra* [word] *israelita*, also covered the visit to Chile of Abraham Burg, president of the Jewish Agency, and his meeting with the Chilean president.

There also appears to be a vibrant and diverse local Jewish press in Santiago.

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Archeological finds mark Zippori's place in history

By WALTER ZANGER
World Zionist Press Service

A magnificent mosaic, describing scenes from the life and cult of the God Dionysos, discovered on the floor of the banquet hall of a luxurious third century Roman residence at Zippori in 1987. [WZPS photo by Douglas Guthrie]

With the recent discovery of an entire synagogue floor depicting scenes from the Bible and from Temple ritual, a zodiac and the Holy Ark, Zippori is finally able to offer convincing evidence of its place in Jewish history.

Although the city in the lower western Galilee was the centre of Jewish life — the seat of the Sanhedrin (Holy Council) — and the place where Rabbi Judah HaNasi edited the Mishnah (the foundation of the Talmud) in 200 CE, physical evidence of Zippori as a Jewish city was lacking.

A fragment of synagogue mosaic was discovered during Zippori's earliest excavations in 1909, but not until this more recent discovery was Zippori's place in Jewish history confirmed once and for all. The mosaic, designed in a single long carpet, features scenes from the Bible, scenes relating to Temple ritual, a zodiac, the Holy Ark with a seven-branched menorah on either side of it and lions.

As the largest city in the Galilee in the days of Jesus, Zippori, which was turned into a national park in 1992, grew and prospered for centuries, undisturbed by war or revolution. When serious excavations began at the site in 1931, the first great discovery was a 5,000-seat Roman theatre.

This is the second thread of the city's history: Zippori as a pagan Roman city called Diocaesarea. The pro-Roman element of the population must have been very strong indeed in the early centuries of the Common Era, for Zippori was the only city in the Land of Israel that refused to join the Great Revolt of 66-70 CE. Josephus, the general-turned-historian, recounted how the inhabitants of Zippori threw him out when, as commander of the Jewish forces in the Galilee during the revolt, he came to Zippori to get weapons and supplies for the war.

Modern excavations, in progress since the mid-1980s, have done well by pagan Zippori. The Dionysos mosaic floor, including a side panel with the hauntingly beautiful face of a woman known as The Mona Lisa of the Galilee — the most exquisite Roman mosaic ever discovered in Israel — now rests in a luxurious third century villa, rebuilt on the original foundations.

In the lower city of Zippori, which is also excavated, is a Cardo, the colonnaded main street of the town built during the Roman period (second and third centuries CE). The ruins of a large building enclosing many mosaic floors were also uncovered east of the colonnaded road. On the floor of the largest room, a magnificent mosaic was discovered depicting the festivities held in Egypt when the Nile River reached its peak.

Just outside the town, a huge system of water tunnels, cisterns and aqueducts were recently discovered. This abundance of water explains why Zippori's inhabitants were able to grow olives, grapes and vegetables.

[Cont'd. on page B 29]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Zippori is now a park

[Cont'd. from page B 28]

The final thread is Zippori as a Christian city. Until the first century, the city, which had a population of 30,000 and was situated three miles from Nazareth, the birthplace of Jesus, was the capital of the Galilee. An old tradition sets Zippori as the birthplace of Mary, mother of Jesus (the Church of St. Anne is still there) and the place of the Anunciation. Modern Christian scholarship is extremely interested in the influence that Zippori must have exerted on Nazareth in general and on the character and ideas of Jesus and the writers of the Gospels in particular.

At this point the threads of our story become intertwined. Considering the discoveries of the past 10 years of archaeological excavation, what are we to make of a superb Dionysos mosaic laid at exactly the same time that Rabbi Judah HaNasi made the city the centre of the Jewish world? Or of the synagogue lintel inscribed with a dedication to the heads of the Jewish community of Sidon, at the end of which are the two Greek letters, CHI RO, a classical abbreviation for Jesus Christ? Or of a Jewish home in the upper city with no fewer than four mikvas (Jewish ritual baths), in the basement of which one finds pagan statues of Pan and Prometheus? Or a coin, unique in ancient numismatics, which bears the inscription: "Diocaesarea, the holy city, city of refuge, loyal friendship and alliance between the Sanhedrin and the Senate of the Roman people"?

The interesting conclusion is that in Zippori one finds it impossible to define the borders between Jewish, Christian and Pagan eras. They all seemed to have lived together in the same city.

With Zippori becoming one of Israel's most popular national parks, attracting approximately 150,000 visitors each year, the National Parks Authority continues extensive developments at the site. The Crusader fortress now serves as an information centre, featuring a film about the city's history, an exhibit of archaeological finds and computerized multi-media stations introducing visitors to the mosaics and water supply system. Walkways have been created within the Roman reservoir for visitors; a special building to house the Nile mosaic is under construction; and the synagogue floor is now being restored by the Israel Museum.

Much remains to be done, but the Parks Authority, with funding from the Israel Government Tourist Corporation, the Jewish National Fund and the Galilee Foundation, is sure to offer the public visiting Zippori, a fascinating look at an unusual city.

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Urban planning requires . . .

By GAIL LICHTMAN
Special to The CJN

Urban planning and development arouse controversy even under ideal circumstances, all the more so when they take place in a historic city where the tension between preserving the past and meeting the needs of the future can sometimes seem at almost irreconcilable odds.

Jerusalem is steeped in 3,000 years of history. It is a city holy to three religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — a place whose very stones have been imbued with a sanctity of their own and whose streets and neighborhoods evoke deep-seated emotional responses.

Yet at the same time, Jerusalem is the capital and largest city of the State of Israel; a modern town whose population has grown by 32 percent in the past decade and is now approaching 600,000.

This means that Jerusalem, whose population is expected to reach about 680,000 by the year 2000, will need more housing, more schools, more roads and more businesses in order to meet the needs of its increasing populace.

Massive development is already underway. The Jerusalem Development Authority, the independent statutory body jointly established in 1989 by the Jerusalem municipality and the Israeli government to initiate and promote development in the city, is currently directing more than $1 billion (U.S.) worth of projects in real estate, transportation and industry.

But how does one preserve the unique, historic nature of Jerusalem while providing the city with all the needs of a modern capital and an international city?

"The conservation of the many layers of heritage, culture and life which have accumulated in the historical cities of the world is a problem which ... affects the daily lives of their populations," says Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Some historic cities, such as Florence and Venice, have opted for the museum approach, foregoing development to the point where their historic hearts are tourist mecas, not living urban centres.

At the other extreme are cities such as Cairo and Istanbul, which have almost totally lost or destroyed their historic quarters.

In the middle are those cities that are trying to integrate the demands of modern life with the historic, ideal vision of their past, like Paris, Rome, Amsterdam and Barcelona.

Jerusalem has chosen the middle path.

One of its most successful preservation projects is Nahalat Shiva, one of the first neighborhoods built outside the Old City walls. Slated for demolition in the 1970s, the area was instead renovated and turned into a charming centre of cafes, restaurants and shops, while retaining its architectural uniqueness.

"Nahalat Shiva is beautiful, authentic, real and alive," says David Guggenheim of Jerusalem-based Guggenheim and Bloch Architects and Urbanists, who also co-chaired the recent third Jerusalem Conference on Heritage — Making Historic Cities Livable.

"The past is the basis of the future," he says.

Nowhere is this more apparent than the new City Hall Square. Inaugurated in June 1993, it successfully integrates 11 renovated historical buildings with two brand new structures. Similarly, the soon-to-be-completed Mamilla project combines its pedestrian mall and new commercial area with several historic buildings. The Russian compound project next to city hall will also continue in this tradition, in which several 19th century historic treasures will be integrated with a number of new hotels and office buildings.

The city is also trying to give greater definition to its role as the nation's capital. To this end, a new national precinct is being built which will concentrate all government buildings in one area. A facelift to the main entrance of the city and an upgraded road transportation system will also help bring Jerusalem into line with 21st century expectations of a modern, capital city.

The main conflicts over preservation concern the historic downtown area. Built in the late 19th century as Jerusalem expanded outward from the walled Old City, it is now an area of small businesses, restaurants and cafes.

"Today, the emphasis on the downtown area is on upgrading, more than preservation, with an eye towards turning it into an important tourism centre," says Nira Sidi, director of the Planning Policy Department of the Jerusalem municipality. "But there are clearly pressures to develop more."

So how does the city balance these pressures?

Traffic is one area of contention. Environmentalists have long been

[Cont'd. on page B 31]

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L' Shanah Tovah

delicate balance in Jerusalem

[Cont'd. from page B 30]

pushing for a nearly total ban on private vehicles in the narrow downtown streets and intensive upgrading of public transportation, including a light rail system. But despite this, and despite an outcry from the Society for the Protection on Nature in Israel, plans are going ahead for widening the historic Neviim Street to serve as a main traffic artery through the town centre.

Environmentalists are also enraged that the city is in the process of re-examining its once sacrosanct policy with respect to multi-storey buildings, especially in the downtown area.

For years, a maximum of six to eight storeys was the rule, in order not to harm the esthetic composition of Jerusalem's old neighborhoods or to dwarf the walls of the Old City.

Today, the municipality is considering 12- to 15-storey towers as a way to meet its growing needs.

"Building multi-storey towers is very dangerous if you don't check out the overall expression of these buildings on the skyline, the neighborhoods and the climate," says Guggenheim. "I believe that development can go on without multi-storey buildings in the downtown area. They should be limited to the periphery where they won't clash with the city's historic character."

In Guggenheim's opinion, the answer lies in the creation of an international body to explore the various long-term possibilities for the city, a group which can act as a counterweight to some of the pressures local politicians are subject to from developers and entrepreneurs. In the 1970s, former mayor Teddy Kollek created the Jerusalem committee to advise City Hall on building and development. Guggenheim envisions something along similar lines.

"Our aim is to create an international group for an in-depth exploration of the problems of historic cities, not just Jerusalem."

Sidi has similar feelings with respect to the green areas: "A national plan would give the city the backing it needs in preserving these areas."

Sidi also feels that Jerusalem may eventually have to limit its growth. "There is definitely enough land for development until 2010. But beyond that, maybe we have to find an optional size and then leave further development to the towns and cities on Jerusalem's periphery. You can't create New York here."

Despite the problems, Olmert is confident that the essence of the city will remain despite massive development.

"The magic and uniqueness that is Jerusalem will still be with us," he says. "But we have to adjust to fit 21st century life."

MAZEL TOV
Yemenite immigrant women in traditional garb at the Oshiot Absorption Centre in Rehovot get ready for the prenuptial 'henna' ceremony. [Naftali Hilger photo]

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L' Shanah Tovah

The Year 5756 in Review

Looking back one year...

Tishrei (Sept./Oct.)

EVENTS

• The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) announces an ambitious financial restructuring plan that hopes to slash $500 million (US) in expenses and to increase its income by $230 million over the next five years.

• Israeli and Palestinian officials announce hours before Rosh Hashanah that the Interim Agreement known as Oslo II has been reached, extending West Bank autonomy. The 400-page accord calls for the election of an 82-member Palestinian council and the dissolution of the Israeli Civil Administration in the West Bank.

• Jerusalem kicks off a 15-month festival celebrating the 3,000th anniversary of its founding.

• Adib Hassan Yihye becomes Israel's ambassador to Finland, marking the first time in the history of the Jewish State that an Arab is given an ambassadorial appointment.

• Oman agrees to open trade ties with Israel, making it the first Persian Gulf nation to establish relations with the Jewish State.

• France heightens security in the wake of a car bomb that explodes outside Lyon's largest Jewish day school.

• In Munich, a monument in commemoration of the 11 Israeli athletes murdered during the 1972 Olympics is unveiled.

• Israel and the European Union (EU) initial a new association accord, giving the Jewish State enhanced trading and political status among EU members.

• The United Nations marks its 50th anniversary.

• The Canadian Jewish Congress appoints Quebec Superior Court Justice Herbert Marx to investigate registration and election snafus at the Congress plenary held in June.

PEOPLE

• Jehudi Kinar begins his term as Israeli Consul General to Toronto and Western Canada.

•Winnipeg's oldest and largest Conservative synagogue, Shaarey Zedek, welcomes its new rabbi, Allan Meyerowitz.

• Dr. May Cohen, a family physician and member of the McMaster University faculty of health sciences in Hamilton, receives the Governor General's Award for her work on behalf of women's health issues.

Cheshvan (Oct./Nov.)

EVENTS

• On Nov. 4, Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated at a peace rally in Tel Aviv. His assassin is law student Yigal Amir. Shimon Peres is elected the new Labor party leader.

• On Oct. 31, Quebecers are called to the polls for a referendum on Quebec sovereignty. The No campaign wins by a narrow margin. Quebec premier Jacques Parizeau blames the Yes loss on "money and the ethnic vote." He later resigns and is replaced by Lucien Bouchard.

• Canada Post issues a stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust and the anniversary of Kristallnacht.

• The U.S. Congress approves legislation to move the American embassy to Jerusalem, calling upon Jerusalem to remain forever united.

• Israel and Qatar sign an agreement in principle under which Qatar will sell $2 billion (US) worth of natural gas to Israel. It is Israel's first major business deal with a Persian Gulf country.

• In a landmark decision, the Israeli Supreme Court opens the door to the possibility of Reform and Conservative conversions to be performed in Israel.

• The world's first kosher McDonald's restaurant opens in the Harel shopping mall in Mevasseret Zion.

• Dr. Fathi Shakaki, leader of the fundamentalist Islamic Jihad movement, is assassinated in Malta.

PEOPLE

• Rabbi Avraham Yaacov Glucowsky, a founder of Toronto's Lubavitch community, dies at age 66.

• Former NHL superstar Frank Mahovlich helps open the newly expanded ice hockey rink at Canada Centre in Metulla.

Kislev (Nov./Dec.)

EVENTS

• Israel is hit by its largest earthquake since 1927, measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale. One man dies and 13 are injured.

•A postage stamp commemorating Yizhak Rabin is released by the Israel Postal Authority. Normally, stamps commemorating deaths are issued one year after the occurrence. This stamp was introduced one month after Rabin's assassination due to the special circumstances.

• Breaking with tradition, the Israeli Air Force (IAF) invites female soldiers to volunteer for the pilot training course.

• Israeli citizens are permitted to travel to Yemen, via Jordan.

• The community in Ottawa announces that a new high school will open in September 1996 to be called Yitzhak Rabin High School (*Midreshet Ner Yitzhak* in Hebrew).

• Israel hosts its first international figure skating competition at Canada Square in Metulla.

• A 65-year-old refugee claimant from Azerbaijan is denied refugee status in Canada on the grounds that as a Jew, she can live in Israel. Antonina Grygorian had come to Canada to live with her daughter.

• Over the course of the month, Israeli troops withdraw from Tulkarm, Nablus, Kalkilya and Bethlehem.

PEOPLE

• Jonathan Pollard, who is serving a life sentence in the United States for spying for Israel, is granted Israeli citizenship.

• Morris Schnitzer, a scientist from the Centre for Land and Biological Research at Agriculture Canada, wins Israel's Wolf Prize recognizing lifetime contributions to the field of soil chemistry.

Tevet (Dec./Jan.)

EVENTS

• A free trade agreement between Canada and Israel is approved in principle. It is scheduled to take effect on July 1.

• Former French cabinet minister, Maurice Papin, is accused of sending 1,700 Jews to Nazi concentration camps. It is not immediately clear whether he will stand trial for crimes against humanity.

• Canada announces that it will donate $70 million to aid the Palestinians over the next five years. The sum is an increase from the $55 million originally offered in 1993. The money is to go towards improving conditions in the West Bank and Gaza to help secure peace.

• Ethiopian immigrants converge on the Prime Minister's Office after the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* reports that Magen David Adom routinely discards blood donated by Ethiopian *olim* for fear that the blood is contaminated with the virus that causes AIDS.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is laid to rest as most of the leaders of the world look on and pay their last respects. [RNS/Reuters]

• Yehiyah Ayash, a wanted Hamas terrorist also known as "The Engineer," is killed in an explosion while using a booby-trapped cellular phone in Gaza. Ayash topped Israel's most-wanted list for masterminding a series of suicide bombings that killed scores of Israelis.

• The pro-Islamic Welfare party wins the parliamentary elections in Turkey, the first time an Islamic party has won since the secular Turkish republic was formed in 1923.

PEOPLE

• Phil Granovsky, businessman, philanthropist and community leader, dies at age 74.

• Jack Cummings, businessman, philanthropist and community leader, dies at 73.

• Lisa Grushcow, a McGill university student, is named a Rhodes Scholar, one of 11 Canadians to receive the scholarship.

Shvat (Jan./Feb.)

• Yasser Arafat is elected head of the 88-member Palestinian legislative council.

• Germany proclaims Jan. 27, the day the Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated in 1945, as a memorial day for the victims of Nazi terror.

• Likud and Tsomet agree to establish a united electoral bloc for the general elections in Israel.

• Singapore appoints its first ambassador to Israel, Foo Meng Tong, age 54.

• A bill which allows minors to carry out AIDS tests without their parents' permission is unanimously passed in the Knesset.

• The largest mission ever from Canada to Israel, 1996 Mission 3000, takes over 1,000 Canadians, the majority for their first time, to visit the Jewish state.

• Israel's border police opens combat duties to women.

PEOPLE

• Barbara Borts, Montreal's Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom's new associate rabbi, is one of the first three female rabbis ordained in the Reform movement.

• Israel Eldad, an underground leader in pre-state Israel, dies at age 86.

• Ben Lennick, the veteran Toronto actor, dies of a heart attack at the age of 77.

Adar (Feb./Mar.)

EVENTS

• Two documentaries with Holocaust themes are nominated for Academy Awards, *Anne Frank Remembered* and *One Survivor Remembers.*

• Twenty-seven people are killed and 50 injured in two suicide bombings in Israel on Sunday, Feb. 24. The first occurs at a Jerusalem bus stop, the second at a soldiers' hitchhiking station near Ashkelon.

• One week after the first bus bombings, another explodes on the same Jerusalem bus line, killing 18 victims.

• Erev Purim, 12 people are killed, 18 wounded in a suicide bombing outside the Dizengoff Centre.

• Yigal Amir is sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. A government panel concludes that the Shin Bet ignored information indicating that a Jewish militant might try to kill the prime minister.

• Leaders from 29 nations, including 14 from the Muslim world, meet at an anti-terror summit in Sharm el-Sheikh.

• A Metro Toronto man, Arieh Waldman, files a complaint with the United Nations alleging that Ontario violates international law,

[Cont'd on page B-33]

L' Shanah Tovah

. . . assassination and elections

The Year 5756 in Review

[Cont'd from page B-32]

discriminating on basis of religion, because Ontario does not fund Jewish schools.

PEOPLE

• The JNF announces that Gary Filmon, premier of Manitoba will be the honoree at the Winnipeg 1996 Jewish National Fund dinner. He is the community's first non-Jewish honoree.

• Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, produces this century's first Russian translation of the Talmud.

Nissan (Mar./Apr.)

EVENTS

• Office de la Langue Française (OFL) has Quebec stores remove from their shelves Passover food products brought in from the United States because the packages are not labelled in French.

• The Supreme Court rules unanimously that teachers who express intolerant views towards Jews and other groups can be banned from the classroom.

• A Katyusha rocket explodes outside the Canada Centre in Metulla, causing an estimated $1 million (US) in damage.

• Israel launches "Operation Grapes of Wrath," a series of air assaults and raids on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, in retaliation for repeated Katyusha rocket attacks on northern Israel.

• Israel accidentally shells a United Nations base in southern Lebanon, killing at least 91 people.

• The Royal Jordanian Airlines flies its first scheduled flight into Ben-Gurion Airport.

PEOPLE

• Adam Katz of Sault Ste. Marie wins two gold medals at the Canadian Junior National Cross Country Ski Championships.

Iyar (Apr./May)

EVENTS

• A bombing attack causes serious damage to the Jewish community centre and to some surrounding houses in Yaroslavl, Russia.

• A plan is announced to build a shopping mall 30 metres away from the gates of Auschwitz. The decision evokes protest throughout the Jewish world.

• Israel and the United States sign an agreement to provide Israel with immediate assistance for defence against the Katyushas.

• A letter bomb partially explodes at Calgary's Jewish Community Centre, superficially injuring a woman who works there.

• Jewish organizations request the removal of Marge Schott from the Cincinatti Reds Baseball team ownership. Schott is quoted as saying that "everyone knows [Hitler] was good at the beginning, but he just went too far."

• Declassified CIA documents show that Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews during World War II, was a spy for the United States.

• Some two weeks after the cease-fire, Hezbollah resumes attacks on Israeli soldiers and their allies in southern Lebanon.

PEOPLE

• Rabbi Elyse Goldstein is named Woman of Distinction by the YMCA.

• Natasha Greenberg receives the University of Toronto's most prestigious award for a graduating student, the John H. Moss Scholarship.

Sivan (May/June)

EVENTS

• In the first ever direct election of the prime minister, Israelis elect Benjamin Netanyahu of the Likud party to head the new government. Netanyahu defeats former prime minister Shimon Peres of the Labor party. In the election of Knesset members, both parties lose seats to the smaller parties.

• Israel's first commercial communication satellite, Amos I, begins sending experimental broadcasts.

• Bus service between Israel and Jordan opens. Two weeks later, El Al begins flying into Jordan.

• Poland orders police to halt the construction of the mini-mall across from the Auschwitz death camp.

• The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College graduates its first two Canadian women rabbis, Sarra Levin and Elizabeth Bolton.

• Jews for Judaism opens a new Canadian headquarters in Toronto.

PEOPLE

• Adam Kruger, a 9-year-old North York boy, dies of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. His death comes just a few days before a bone marrow clinic is set up to try to find a match for him.

• York University appoints Dr. Alex Pomson as the first professor of Jewish Education at a Canadian university.

Tammuz (June/July)

EVENTS

• A new report from Tel Aviv University shows a decline in worldwide violence against Jews in 1995.

After the elections, Prime Minister elect Benjamin Netanyahu receives congratulations from Shimon Peres. [RNS/Reuters]

• Participants in the Southern Baptist Convention overwhelmingly approve a resolution encouraging its 15.6 million members to evangelize Jews.

• Seventeen scholars and archivists graduate from the Russian University for Humanities, with degrees in Jewish history, culture, languages and archives.

• The Israeli government decides to open a mosque in the Knesset, after a Muslim legislator, Abul Mark Dehamshe, requested the prayer area.

• *Unzer Wort* (Our Word), the last daily Yiddish language newspaper in the world closes down after half a century of publication.

PEOPLE

• Judy Feld Carr receives the Humanitarian Award of Merit from Haifa University for her role over the past 23 years in the rescue of Syrian Jewry.

• Harold Greenberg, a leader of the Canadian motion picture and television industry, dies at the age 66.

Av (July/Aug.)

EVENTS

• Canada and Israel sign a free trade agreement in Toronto. The pact is scheduled to take effect Jan. 1, 1997.

• Israeli athletes win a bronze medal at the Atlanta olympics.

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses a joint session of the Congress of the United States. He is warmly received by the American legislators.

• The World Jewish Restitution Organization signs an agreement with Hungary regarding restitution for property stolen during the Holocaust.

• Former Nazi SS Captain Erich Priebke is acquitted in a military court in Rome of charges of crimes against humanity.

PEOPLE

• Eli Yerushalmi returns to Israel after serving for the past year as Israel's Chargé d'Affairs to Canada. Yerushalmi stepped into the breach after the replacement for former Ambassador Yitzhak Shelef was unable to assume his post.

• Audey Stanleigh, 21, loses his battle with leukemia.

Elul (Aug./Sept.)

EVENTS

• Jerusalem's Bar Ilan Street, long a site of conflict between haredi and secular Israelis, once again becomes an area of tension over the issue of Sabbath traffic. Eventually the Supreme Court rules that the street can remain open pending the report of a special commission. The decision evokes demonstrations and aggressive language by Haredim against the president of the court, Aharon Barak.

• El Al announces that it will move its headquarters in Canada from Montreal to Toronto.

• Argentina announces it will order a new study into the cause of the March 1992 explosion at the Israeli embassy.

• "Matzahgate" is resolved in Quebec. An agreement is reached restoring the former practice of allowing unilingually labelled food products into the province for the Passover holiday period.

• A Moscow shul is bombed. The act is considered to be anti-Semitic. It follows by a month a fire in the "Steinsaltz Yeshivah," which was thought to have been accidentally caused.

• The United States bombs Iraq in retaliation for Iraq's military action against one of the Kurdish factions in northern Iraq.

PEOPLE

• Linda Hershkovitz departs for Beijing, where she will serve as Canada's cultural attache.

• Esther Pollard of Toronto goes on a hunger strike in Jerusalem to bring attention to the plight of her husband, Jonathan, still locked in prison in the United States. After meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu, she abandons the strike.

The Year in Review was researched and written by Sidura Ludwig.

L' Shanah Tovah

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What a difference a year makes

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Last Rosh Hashanah, then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, in his gravelly voice and straightforward prose, delivered the traditional end-of-year message from the premier to the citizens of Israel and to Jews around the world.

That memory alone is enough to render such overworked epithets as "traumatic" and "dramatic" hopelessly inadequate to describe Israel's just-ending year, 5756.

One year later, Rabin is gone, his government is gone and the future of his peace policies is in question.

A new leader, the Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu, swept into office under a new electoral system, he holds out the promise of "peace with security," coupled with economic prosperity.

As Israelis and Jews abroad make their individual and collective annual soul-searchings on the eve of Rosh Hashanah 5757, the path ahead, which seemed so clear a year ago, is now shrouded in uncertainty.

"Who would have thought?" is perhaps the only phrase, however hackneyed, that remotely conveys the cataclysm that the Jewish state has undergone during these past 12 months.

Who would have thought that a prime minister of Israel would be gunned down by a fellow Jew?

Who would have thought that the famed Shin Bet, Israel's domestic security service, would let it happen?

Or that it would happen, as though choreographed, just at the end of a demonstration in the heart of Tel Aviv that marked the largest-ever outpouring of public support for Rabin and his policy of peace with the Palestinians?

Or that his successor, Shimon Peres, riding a great wave of public sympathy that welled up after the assassination, would fritter away his commanding lead and eventually lose the election to the Likud's young and inexperienced candidate, Netanyahu?

When Rabin made his Rosh Hashanah broadcast a year ago, no one dreamed, of course, that he would be assassinated.

Nor did anyone – except perhaps his killer, Yigal Amir – seriously dream that Rabin's term in office would be cut short.

Granted, Israel was riven with discord over his peace policies. The political right, including large sections of the religious camp, were outraged about the steady process of transferring powers to Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

In October, Israeli troops began withdrawing from the West Bank town of Jenin, the first of six Palestinian population centres in the West Bank that were transferred to Arafat's control before the end of December.

Demonstrators branded the prime minister a traitor; extremist rabbis cursed his name.

But the polls still showed a majority of Israelis supporting the prime minister.

And Rabin, angered but not cowed by his critics, pressed ahead with dogged determination, winning accolades from an admiring international community that felt that it was finally seeing peace come to one of the world's most volatile regions.

In the Middle East itself, Israel's success in opening up formal ties with several Arab states was the most cogent evidence that something was radically changing.

Even a wave of terror bombings earlier in the year that had threatened to destroy the peace process seemed to have abated.

But the assassination, on Saturday night, Nov. 4, turned everything around.

Looking back on the chain of events that it triggered, it becomes ever clearer that Peres, seasoned statesman and skillful politician though he was, never properly re-

[Cont'd. on page B 35]

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L' Shanah Tovah

Peres' blunders helped lead to his defeat

[Cont'd. from page B 34]

covered from his own near-brush with death.

Amir, who was later convicted and sentenced to life, confirmed at his trial that he would have also shot Peres, had the then-foreign minister not left the parking lot moments before Rabin arrived.

In the months after the assassination, Peres made a series of blunders that, coupled with a new murderous wave of terror bombings, robbed him and his Labor party of power.

First, he declined to call a snap election in the immediate aftermath of the assassination. He said he wanted to stabilize a potentially volatile situation. Sources close to him also felt that he did not want to be seen as winning on the coattails of the martyred Rabin.

But Peres did not stick to his guns.

In February, citing the fragility of the governing coalition, he instructed his party to enter into talks with the Likud on advancing the elections to the summer. May 29 was eventually set as the date for the general elections.

Then disaster struck.

On Feb. 25, a suicide bomber killed 26 innocent people when he detonated a bomb aboard the No. 18 bus on Jaffa Road, central Jerusalem's main thoroughfare.

Hours later, a suicide bomber in Ashkelon killed one and wounded 31 others.

The next day, a car driven by an Arab American tourist plowed into a group of people at a bus stop in Jerusalem, killing one and injuring 22.

One week later, on the very same No. 18 bus route in Jerusalem, another suicide bomber claimed 19 innocent lives.

And the next day, on the eve of Purim, a suicide bomber killed 13 innocent people, including children, at Dizengoff Centre in the heart of Tel Aviv.

A wave of profound horror, revulsion and bitter frustration swept the nation.

Responsibility for all the attacks was claimed by Hamas, an Islamic fundamentalist movement that bitterly opposed Arafat's conciliation with Israel.

In retrospect, Peres attributed his electoral defeat – by less than 30,000 votes – to those bombings and to the Likud's slick campaign strategy.

Outside observers, however, also lay the blame on Labor, and specifically on Peres himself, for the party's haughty a lackluster campaign.

In addition, Labor's alliance with the staunchly secularist Meretz party is thought to have alienated even those relatively few Orthodox voters who might otherwise have favored Peres over Netanyahu.

Peres may also have blundered in the run-up to the elections by escalating a periodic flare-up of fighting across the Israeli-Lebanese border into Operation Grapes of Wrath, the April 11to 26 bombardment of targets throughout Lebanon by the Israeli army, navy and air force.

The April 23 shelling of the Kana UN camp in southern Lebanon, resulting in the deaths of at least 91 Lebanese refugees, also caused deep resentment among Israeli Arab voters – enough, in the view of some observers, to cost Peres the election.

When May 29 rolled around, Israeli voters for the first time were able to cast two ballots: one for prime minister, the other for a party in the separate Knesset race.

Israeli voters, enabled for the first time to split their vote between the party of their choice and their candidate for premier, did so with a vengeance.

A new immigrant-rights party, Yisrael b'Aliyah, led by former Soviet refusenik Natan Sharansky, came from nowhere to capture seven seats in the 120-seat Knesset.

The single-issue Third Way party, hotly opposed to a withdrawal from the Golan Heights in exchange for a peace treaty with Syria, took four seats.

And three Orthodox parties – Shas, the National Religious Party and the United Torah Judaism bloc – collectively increased their number of Knesset seats to 23 and all won a place in the governing coalition.

The newfound power of the three parties is likely to mean a blow to non-Orthodox aspirations for religious pluralism in Israel.

The basic policy guidelines of the new government pledge legislation requiring all conversions to Judaism carried out in Israel to be validated by the Orthodox chief rabbinate. The Reform and Conservative movements had hoped that a Supreme Court ruling on this issue earlier in the year might lead to the recognition of non-Orthodox conversions in Israel.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak assembled 21 of the 22 Arab League members in June to present a united front against what they perceived would be the hardline intransigence of the Netanyahu government.

Netanyahu managed to assuage those fears somewhat when he began holding his first rounds of meetings with Arab leaders in mid-July.

His meeting with Mubarak in Cairo on July 18 – exactly one month after he presented his government to the Knesset – concluded with an air of unexpected optimism.

Similarly, a meeting held the next week between Foreign Minister David Levy and Arafat was replete with statements that the peace process would progress.

Whether such optimism will be borne out by facts on the ground is the largest question looming over the Middle East as the new year begins.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Rabbi hopes to help revive Siberian communities

BY LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

KRASNOYARSK, SIBERIA – In 1881, Abram Shalyt was exiled to Siberia from the town of Senno, in what was then Byelorussia, for making an attempt on the life of the local mayor.

More than a century later, his grandson, Semyon, came to the synagogue in his native Krasnoyarsk to see Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, who has served as the spiritual leader of Russian Jewry since 1995. Semyon Shalyt, a 78-year-old retired doctor, was excited. He had not seen a rabbi since childhood.

"Once a day, and two times on the Sabbath, I would take my grandfather to the synagogue," Shalyt recalled. "My grandfather lost his vision at hard labor, so I would go with him."

For Rabbi Steinsaltz, his trip to Krasnoyarsk, located in central Siberia, was a first. It took him to several Jewish communities in Siberia and the Russian Far East, as part of an ongoing effort to visit Jewish communities outside of Moscow.

But until then, he had never had the chance to visit such remote places as Yekaterinburg in the Ural Mountains, Omsk and Krasnoyarsk in Siberia, or Khabarovsk in the Far East.

"I wanted to visit these remote communities," which, Rabbi Steinzaltz said, "are neither very much alive nor dead."

He said he was surprised by the numbers of Jews in each of the communities he visited.

"I didn't know that in a place like Khabarovsk there are an estimated 10,000 to 14,000 Jews," he said.

Each of the three other towns Rabbi Steinzaltz visited has a Jewish population of from 6,000 to 15,000.

Organized by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the tour was made possible with the help of U.S. Ambassador Ronald Lauder, who has supported Jewish communal projects in Eastern and Central Europe through the foundation that bears his name.

Deluged with questions

For example, Lauder provided a plane for the trip to the far-flung Jewish communities.

"The towns we visited had been chosen because of the level of activities in these communities and because those were the places where the plane could land," said Ralph Goldman, an honorary executive vice-president with the JDC who, along with a small group of American Jewish leaders, accompanied Rabbi Steinsaltz on the trip.

Wherever Rabbi Steinzaltz went, his audiences deluged him with questions. What does Judaism say about mixed marriages? Can a Jewish woman wear seductive clothes? What does the Jewish religion say about the Holocaust? Does the creating of the State of Israel mean that the Messiah will soon come?

Rabbi Steinzaltz gave his lectures in Hebrew.

In Khabarovsk, a grandfather and a grandson who were in the audience listened attentively, quietly repeating words the rabbi spoke. Because of his early training in the Talmud and his native Yiddish, the grandfather could understand snatches of the rabbi's lecture without benefit of a Russian translation.

His 11-year-old grandson explained that he understood parts of the lecture because he had just finished studying the first part of a Hebrew textbook.

Rabbi Steinzaltz' name became familiar to Russian Jews in the late 1980s, when 70 years of state-sponsored religious persecution ended and Judaism was allowed to be studied openly.

Russian translations of books by Rabbi Steinzaltz were among the first works on Judaism that appeared in the country in the new period of openness instituted by former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Rabbi Steinsaltz said he hoped his visit would contribute toward a revival of the sense of Jewish community.

"The community here has lost its collective identity," Rabbi steinzaltz said, adding that it was his mission to help restore it.

The history of the Jews in Siberia and the Russian Far East is very different from that in other parts of Russia. Most of the Siberian Jewish families could trace their roots to someone who had been sent into exile during the Czarist regime or as a result of the Stalinist purges that were first carried out in the 1930s.

Siberian Jews are "exiles from the exile," said Rabbi Yechiel Poupko, of Chicago who made the trip with Rabbi steinzaltz.

The grandparents of Isaak Kaufman were exiled to Siberia from Ukraine and Byelorussia in 1905.

"My grandfather and grandmother were both activists with the Bund, the Jewish socialist party. Here they met each other," said Kaufman, 60, who serves as chair of the Society of Jewish Culture in Krasnoyarsk.

"Our ancestors' fate left its mark upon us, the Jews of Siberia," Kaufman said. "I think we are more open, more straightforward than other Russian Jews."

A member of Rabbi Steinzaltz' family had also been exiled to Siberia at the turn of the century.

"He spent 20 years in Siberia, and I imagine he didn't have to pay for his ticket," Rabbi Steinzaltz said.

Most members of the Jewish community in Khabarovsk, the biggest in the Russian Far East, moved there earlier this century after the failure of a Soviet plan to create a Jewish autonomous area in Birobidzhan, which is located 130 miles from Khabarovsk.

For the Jews of Siberia, Rabbi Steinzaltz said he believes there was at least one advantage in living some four to seven time zones east of Moscow.

"It seems that Siberia was more tolerant to Jews," he said. "Jews had better chances in Siberia. I can see here and there that people hold positions or have a power that goes beyond what they have in other places" in Russia.

Wherever he visited, Rabbi Steinzaltz was received by local governmental officials.

"It was very important to us to see how the rabbi was received. The authorities, the general public and the press were taking our spiritual leader as the ambassador of the entire Jewish people," said Mark Arshinsky, a Jewish communal leader in Khabarovsk.

In every town Rabbi Steinsaltz travelled to, local authorities provided police escorts for him; dozens of reporters and camera people were also on hand, attempting to record his stay in the provinces.

"After all, very few guests from abroad, not to mention Jewish leaders, visit our provincial town," said Alexey Karlin, an 18-year-old art student in Khabarovsk.

"I heard many people saying that Rabbi Steinzaltz was the first rabbi they have ever seen in their life," said Arshinsky.

"Now they know that there are Jews who want to help us find our nearly lost Jewish identity."

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L'Shanah Tovah

Poet was unique product of post-Holocaust Europe

By BARUCH COHEN

Recently, a good friend brought me a small booket printed in Bucharest in 1970 (the Ceausescu era). The booklet reads, modestly, *Versuri* — Paul Celan. It comprises 129 poems (Celan wrote 800), with translation by Peter Solomon and Nina Cassian.

Not one single word about the author, no information, no preface. Not one biographical note.

Paul Celan, born Paul Antshel in 1920 in Cernowitz, Bukovina, was a German-speaking Jew who mastered several European languages, including French. He translated the works of Apollinaire, Valéry, Rimbaud and others from French to German. And he chose to write all his 800 poems in German.

His father had Orthodox and Zionist convictions, and sent his son to a Hebrew school administrated by the Bund-Socialist group called *Safa Ivria*. At age 16, Celan's interests took a decidedly secular turn, to his father's regret. His mother, Celan's idol, inspired in him the love of the German language and of German literature. German was the tongue chosen for him by his mother and the one in which he wrote his earliest poems.

After the Holocaust, Celan's affiliation with German expressed what he most longed for, to preserve the memory of his childhood, and especially of his mother. "Only in the mother tongue can one speak his own truth. In a foreign tongue the poet lies."

Lately, a number of books are finally giving Celan the stature he deserves. On Sept. 30, 1984, in the *New York Times Book Review*, the well-known critic George Steiner deplored the fact that Celan was not given the Nobel Prize, while other less meritorious and less important poets received it. "Paul Celan," wrote Steiner, "is a unique appearance on the firmament of Western world poetry."

One of the most profound and lyrical poets of our time, Celan was a unique product of post-Holocaust Europe. The Celans lived in Cernowitz, Bukovina, recently annexed to Romania. Celan's parents were to perish in the Transnistrian killing fields. His mother was shot to death in the cold winter — "the burning ice" — of 1943, after it was determined by her German and Romanian masters that she had become unfit for work. His father died of typhus a few months later.

When the German SS troops smashed into Cernowitz on July 5, 1941, they invaded Celan's psyche as well. The 600-year-old community was destroyed, the Great Synagogue burned and the dazed survivors roped off in the ghetto, 45 persons to an apartment. The ghetto experience lasted several weeks; Celan and his parents initially escaped several waves of deportation.

In a June 27, 1942 round-up, however, Celan managed to avoid arrest by hiding at a friend's house. When he returned home the next day, John Felstiner tells us, "the house was empty, the front door sealed and his parents gone" (John Felstiner; *Paul Celan, Poet, Survivor, Jew* — Yale University Press, May 1995). A month after his parents' disappearance, Celan was taken into a labor camp, which Romanian authorities had forced the Jewish community to assemble.

In late 1944, when the Nazi camps began to be dismantled and horror stories were printed daily in newspapers, Celan reportedly suffered "a severe psychic shock which he never overcame." He encountered his former classmates who, together with their families, had survived the resettlements, while his own parents had not.

It was in this time of pain, misery and uncertainty that the timbre of Celan's poetic voice became particularly pure. He had begun to write poetry in 1936, when he was 16. His early poems were full of melancholy, and romantic. One is: *Mothers Day, 1938.*

It was with his mother, who exposed him to German poetry, that he identified. Many of his most tragic, powerful poems are addressed to her, explicitly or implicitly. What she loved, and taught him to love, killed her when the Germans invaded:

And can you hear, Mother
As once on a time,
the gentle, the German
the pain-laden rhyme?

Celan wrote this in an agonizing saccharine mimicry of sentimental German verse.

Celan survived life in a forced labor camp. Many other Jews who survived had few doubts about their identity. But for Celan, to renounce German meant renouncing his mother's life in art and his own; yet to write in German meant renouncing his mother's life in the flesh and his own. He was torn, until he was able to develop his own piercing, poetic voice.

Celan, reticent, even secretive about himself, guilty for surviving, was subject to spells of sometimes violent depression and was sometimes hospitalized. This would lead, finally, in May 1970 to his suicide by drowning in the Seine River. Celan, like others (Primo Levi, Roman Gray and Jean Amery), took his own life.

After the war, in 1945, when he was 25, he came to Bucharest, where he spent two years before leaving for Paris via Vienna. I remember him saying goodbye to his friends at the Bucharest north railway station on a late autumn evening in 1947. Shortly before, at an evening of poetry reading, I was

[Cont'd. on page B 38]

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Poet employed Biblical images

[Cont'd. from page B 37]

fascinated by his deep black, sad eyes while his poet friend, Romanian Peter Solomon, who translated most of his poems, read his poetry. After Solomon read *Tangoul Mortii The Deathfugue, Todesfuge*, Celand read the poem in German.

Black milk of day break we drink it at evening
We drink it at midday and morning we drink it at night
We drink and we drink.

Celan's poetry speaks to me in a very personal and direct way. As a witness of the Nazi occupation in Bucharest, and of the "broken-glass" nights and days of January 21 to 23 1941 in Bucharest, which signaled the Romanian Jewish Holocaust, the Transnistria deportation, I feel the pain of Celan's lines:

No one
witnesses for the witness.

Celan's poetry testifies to his undeniable Jewishness, with its sources in the Hebrew Bible and Jewish mysticism, as well as his close connection, even kinship, with Martin Buber, Gershon Sholem, Walter Benjamin, Heinrich Heine, Franz Kafka, Rilke, Mandelshtam and other writers and poets of the German language or whose works he translated into German.

He was also in permanent correspondence with Nelly Sachs, Holocaust survivor and Nobel Prize-winning German-Jewish poet, who movingly wrote him: "How deeply I am bound to you and your healing speech."

Celan wrote that "All poets are Yids," and "poetry is mysticism." Again and again, in many of his poems we meet Hebrew words, Biblical images:

I am you
when I am
I.

or

By the waters of Babylon
it stands with us by the water
when the Sabbath come
It was with us when on the banks of the stream we wrapped the Sabbath in precious linen.

In 1969, Celan journeyed to Israel. While in Jerusalem he wrote a special poem dedicated to the Israeli poet Ilana Shmueli:

There stood
a splinter of fig on your lip
There stood Jerusalem around us...
I stood
in you...

In another poem he exclaims:

Ashrei
a word without meaning
transtibetan
squired into
the Jewess...

And in one of his poems he calls, in Hebrew,

"Kumi Ori — Arise, my light (my salvation).

Indeed, one can discern an Hebraic presence from the beginning to the end in Celan's work.

Today, as I research the forgotten Holocaust of Romanian Jewry, I wonder why the Transnistria tragedy is hardly mentioned by historians. I therefore consider the publication of *Paul Celan: Poet, Survivor, Jew*, by John Felstiner; *Paul Celan — Nelly Sachs Correspondence*, edited by Barbara Wiedman (Sheep Meadow Press, 1995); *Language Mysticism*, by Shiva Wolosky (Stanford University Press, 1995); and *Poems of Paul Celan*, by Michael Hamburger, (Anvil Press Poetry, 1988), key turning points in understanding the Romanian Holocaust.

"Death is a master from Germany," Celan's disturbing lines encompass not merely the ovens of Auschwitz but also, I believe, the "burning ice" of Transnistria. His life, his work and his death symbolize the epic tragedy of the German-Jewish symbiosis, of Romanian Jewry, and of East European Jewry in general. In his entirely personal, yet also widely-shared, trauma, in his fusion of psychic crisis and linguistic self-fracturing, Celan's verse incarnates the moral and esthetic dilemma which faced not only Jewish, but post-war European writing. Celan himself said, "Perhaps I am one of the last who must live out to the end the destiny of the Jewish spirit in Europe."

Baruch Cohen is a senior research associate at the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Days of Awe unique time in yearly cycle

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a special time.

The Days of Awe, as they are known, have a rhythm unique among the cycles of the Jewish year as a period of reflection and self-evaluation, as Jews the world over prepare for the Day of Judgment.

On Rosh Hashanah, according to Jewish tradition, God pencils each of our names into the books of life and death, deciding who will prosper and who will suffer in the coming year.

If we work hard to redeem ourselves during the next 10 days, we have a chance to change the course of events before God determines our fate on the Day of Judgment, Yom Kippur, when our future is inscribed in indelible ink.

It can be an intense time.

"It is inherently spiritually charged," said writer Francine Klagsbrun, author of *Jewish Days*, a forthcoming book examining important times during the year, to be published this fall by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

"The feel of the air is different, the feel of life is different and you are more attuned to spiritual parts of life, more attuned to relationships," she said.

Rabbi Kerry Olitzky described the period as a time to consider "all that Judaism has to offer to take a good hard look at ourselves and do what needs to be done."

The 10 days are a time "to seek out people to ask for forgiveness and to make decisions about how we're going to change our lives, to ready ourselves to stand as naked souls before God," Olitzky said.

Olitzky, a Reform rabbi, with Rabbi Rachel Sabath wrote *Preparing Your Heart For The High Holy Days: A Guided Journal*, published recently by the Jewish Publication Society.

The rabbis of the Talmud advised that there are three ways to change our entry from being in the book of death to the book of life: prayer, charity and repentance.

A central part of repentance is taking responsibility for harmful words and deeds, and it is traditional during these first 10 days of the new year to ask forgiveness from those one has possibly hurt, in a practice known as *mechila*.

Some people welcome the period, and the process of asking for forgiveness, as an opportunity for reflection and self-evaluation.

Asking forgiveness is "the most moving and important part of the holiday because you take responsibility, finally," said writer Esther Broner.

"Otherwise, we're just students waiting for the report card and waiting to pass on to the next grade. This way we grade ourselves."

Another tradition of the period is Tashlich, the symbolic casting away of sins by taking crumbs out of pockets and tossing them into a natural body of water.

Broner and a group of creative feminist Jewish friends adapted that tradition for several years by building paper boats, talking about the sins that each vessel represented and sending them floating down the waters flowing around Manhattan.

"We made flotillas of sin out of paper and sent them along the Harlem River, which hardly noticed because it was so full of sin by much larger polluters," Broner said in an interview.

She wrote *The Telling*, the story of one of the first – and most enduring – feminist seders created by the same friends with whom she created this ritual.

But for Tashlich they were not casting out just the sins traditionally associated with the 10 days. These women reinvented the ritual from their own perspectives.

"We had to get rid of what people thought of things we had done which they considered sins, like having ambition, pride, high energy, pain, lifestyles they criticized," Broner said. "In our creative lives these things were no sin at all, but were our drive."

Participants would bake challah and then they would sing songs and dine on a festive meal eaten on a borscht-and schmaltz-stained tablecloth that had been handed down to filmmaker Lilly Rivlin from her grandmother.

"At the end we did *tekiah* (long shofar blows) and celebrated the birth of the world," Broner said.

Some chassidic Jews take the casting out of sin one step further, in the ritual known as *kapparot*, or atonement.

In the days leading up to the Day of Atonement, enormous flatbed trucks stacked with cages full of live chickens begin to park in neighborhoods inhabited by the devoutly Orthodox.

In the darkness of the night before Yom Kippur eve, the faithful crowd around the trucks to select the chicken that will serve as their personal sacrifice.

Each person takes a live chicken – men take a male bird while women take a hen – holds it by its ankles and swings it around their heads while incanting a blessing transferring their sins to the chicken.

Then the chickens are ritually slaughtered and defeathered in a building nearby whose floor runs red with entrails and blood.

The chickens are taken home to become the dinner eaten before the Yom Kippur fast, and the money that paid for them is donated to charity.

Once the 10 days are over, though, what happens to all the work that people have done on themselves and their relationships, and all the good intentions to do things differently in the coming year?

"The Kotzker rebbe once said that the hardest part of the binding of Isaac [for Abraham] was coming down the mountain," after Abraham had decided to heed God's command to kill his son, said Wolpe.

"That's true of the high holidays, too. People think the Yom Kippur fasting is hard but it's carrying the message past the day that is really hard.

"The 10 days are a time to build up so that when you come down the mountain, as it were, you come down with some momentum."

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PEACE

L' Shanah Tovah

Russian students get taste of Jewish studies

By MARTIN LOCKSHIN & BERNARD ZELECHOW

At a conference on Jewish studies held in Moscow last winter, Prof. Michael Brown, the director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, met Prof. Oleg Budnitskii of Rostov State Pedagogical University. They discussed the possibility of a formal link between the two universities.

In March, Brown asked the two of us whether we would be willing to lecture in Rostov-on-Don as representatives of the centre. We confess that we said yes before we understood what would be in store for us in Russian Cossack country, close to the war in Chechnya. Less than two months later we arrived in Rostov for what would prove to be an academically successful and personally rewarding stay.

With the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency and the Association of Colleges and Universities in Canada, we spent a week in Rostov meeting with professors, undergraduate and graduate students and senior university administrators. We both lectured on academic topics of Judaica to student groups and faculty seminars in History and Sociology. One of us (Martin Lockshin) also gave three lectures in the local synagogue — two of them in Hebrew. (A number of Jews gather regularly in the Rostov synagogue to study the Hebrew language.) And one of us (Bernard Zelechow) gave a large lecture to hundreds of students and faculty about university life in Canada.

Professor Martin Lockshin lecturing in the Rostov synagogue.

Jewish life in the former Soviet Union is still precarious and marginalized. It is a mere six years since Russian Jews have had an opportunity to investigate the Jewish past openly. To date most explorations of Jewish identity have been sponsored by religious organizations and have met with limited success. In the former Soviet Union, where religion was successfully stifled, no religious institution has made more than limited inroads in the public consciousness.

Many Russians still tend to equate religion with ideology and because of their experiences in the 20th century, they are suspicious of all ideologies. Jewish studies programs in the universities akin to the North American models, then, appear to be a potentially effective way of promoting Jewish identity in Russia,

Jewish subject matter has been introduced into the Russian history curriculum at the Rostov universities under Budnitskii's leadership. Even with the recent liberalization, however, Jewish content in the curriculum is accepted reluctantly. We felt — as did our hosts — that we contributed significantly to the legitimation of Jewish studies in Rostov. That Westerners connected to a public university, who are much admired in some Russian university circles, were presented as teaching "Judaism" greatly enhanced the status of Jewish studies.

There is a dual purpose to the promotion of Jewish studies in Russian universities: the survival and revival of Jewish identity among Jews; and the dissemination of Jewish knowledge among the non-Jewish intellectual community comprised of faculty and students. There is a particular value in cooperating with Rostov State Pedagogical University, because it is responsible for training primary and secondary school teachers for the whole Don region.

The misinformation among faculty and students about Jews was very troubling. In the question period at the end of one of our lectures, one graduate student asked publicly whether it was not true that some sects of Jews indulge in the ritual murder of Christian babies! Yet another student cornered the lecturer afterwards to ask about some supposed Jewish practices of black magic involving snakes. What is most telling about these anecdotes is that the questions

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L'Shanah Tovah

Lectures well attended

[Cont'd. from page B 40]

came from students who were clearly sympathetic to Jews and Jewish learning. Their questions reflect the primitiveness of their knowledge.

The general level of ignorance was countered, however, by the desire among the faculty, Jewish and otherwise, to study Jewish history and culture. Our lectures were well attended and we were sought out by many faculty members — especially from History and Sociology — who wanted to discuss future cooperation and to learn about the role of religious and cultural minorities in a free society.

We were able to help in another area as well. The Rostov universities wish to explore methods of setting up multicultural programs reflecting democratic and pluralistic values in university education. This is of great significance in Russian education, where national minorities are barely tolerated and minority religions are tacitly delegitimized. Our hosts were particularly interested in the ways York faculty study minority cultures and integrate them into the university curriculum.

The most tangible result of the trip was the signing of a formal agreement between the universities to continue to cooperate in Jewish studies, the first such accord in Jewish studies between a Canadian and a Russian university. In the short run, this accord may be more immediately beneficial for the Rostov community. But Rostov faculty members are well acquainted with the rich Jewish history of Russia, an area missing from the York curriculum.

For example, one faculty member who is sympathetic to the integration of Jewish studies into Russian studies and whose specialization is in Cossack history, took the two of us to a Cossack settlement (Starocherkassk) that also houses a museum of local culture. The museum's curator served as our guide and as a gracious hostess, presiding over an elegant tea. What emerged from our tour and conversation was awareness of the complex nature of the interactions between Jews and Cossacks in the Don region — not all of them negative. We hope that our Russian colleagues will soon be able to share this kind of expertise with York students and faculty and with wider audiences here in the Jewish community of Toronto.

After our week in Rostov, we were able to meet the directors of Sefer, an organization based in Moscow, whose members gather to share their knowledge, as in any academic association. They also distribute Jewish cultural and religious information and Hebrew language instructional materials to smaller and less favorably endowed Jewish communities in the former Soviet Union. Despite its limited financial resources, the accomplishments of Sefer are very impressive. (The organization desperately needs a Judaica library of books and CD-Roms, and we hope to secure help for them.)

With the aid of the International Centre for the University Teaching of Jewish Civilization in Jerusalem and of the Joint Distribution Committee, they organize regional conferences for students and faculty and major conclave conferences in Moscow. In the few years of Sefer's existence, the directors have managed to host international conferences that bring together Israeli, Russian and North American Jewish scholars. Currently Sefer is planning an exciting Summer School for students and faculty for 1997.

There was mutual agreement that York scholars could play a vital role in fostering the development of Jewish studies all over the former Soviet Union. We are, of course, prepared to help in any way we can and look forward to a return visit to Russia in the near future.

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L' Shanah Tovah

Rostov's Jewish roots go back to 17th century

By OLEG BUDNITSKI

It is doubtful that many readers of *The Canadian Jewish News* know much about the Jewish community of Rostov-on-Don. In fact, the name of the city is more likely to be associated with the Don Cossacks than with Jews. That's why I shall start with a brief historical overview of our community.

Prior to the 1917 revolution, Rostov was one of the largest Jewish communities outside the Pale of Settlement, except, of course, for the more populous and influential Moscow and St. Petersburg communities.

How and when did Jews appear on the banks of the Don River? According to some sources, they first came to the region in the 17th century, probably together with the Ukrainian Cossacks. But the growth of the Jewish population of Rostov (which was founded in 1749) became noticeable only in the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century.

Standing: Prof. Oleg Budnitzki. Seated from right: Anne Zelechow, Prof. Bernie Zelechow, Eugene Budnitzki, who served as translator, and an unidentified student.

Most Jews were craftsmen and tradesmen, retired soldiers, professionals. My own family offers a good example. My first known ancestor on my father's side was a retired soldier who had been caught by draftee catchers (*khappers*) in Belarus, served in the Caucasus and after his retirement from service, was granted the right to live outside the Pale. On my mother's side, the first known ancestor is my great-grandmother, a student of Warsaw University, who was evacuated to Rostov together with the university in 1915 because of World War I.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Jews comprised seven percent of the total population of 200,000, being the second largest religious group after Christians. But the influence of the Jewish community far exceeded its percentage in the population. Jews were the owners or executives of many financial and industrial establishments. There were also quite a number of Jews among the leaders of almost all the opposition and revolutionary parties. There were three synagogues in the city, several small prayer houses, a Jewish library and a Jewish bookstore. The library and bookstore were headed by Vladimir Dubnov the brother of the well-known historian, Shimon Dubnov.

A number of Jewish organizations were active in the city at the turn of the century, including the Poalei-Zion party. When Rostov Jews faced violent pogroms during the 1905 revolution, Jewish self-defence units were organized and met the *pogromchiks* with gunfire.

The revolution of 1917 split Rostov Jewry, as it did Jews elsewhere in Russia. Many emigrated;

[Cont'd. on page B 43]

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L' Shanah Tovah

10,000 Jews in Rostov

[Cont'd. from page B 42]

others enlisted in the service of the new Soviet state. The situation was worst for those who tried to preserve their Jewishness. The "internationalist" Soviet power aimed at uprooting all "religious remnants." Out of three synagogues, only one, the so-called Soldiers' Synagogue, remained open. (Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University lectured there this past May.) The magnificent building of the Choral Synagogue was given to a venereal disease clinic, and only one wall was left of the third. A prayer house in Rostov's Nakhichevan district became a dormitory for gypsies.

In August 1942, the city was surrendered to the Nazis without any resistance, and thousands of Jews who hadn't had time to flee were taken to Zmyovskaya Balka near Rostov and shot. Among the victims were my great-grandfather and great-grandmother. My great-grandfather, a merchant who had visited Germany before World War I, thought the "stories" about Nazi brutality were Bolshevik propaganda. But, of course, it was not so.

It is typical that the inscription on the monument erected at the site of the massacre said that it was built in memory of the "Soviet citizens who perished at the hands of the Nazi occupiers." The authorities did not mention that those citizens were Jews. The term Holocaust still doesn't mean much to the majority of Russians.

Nowadays about 10,000 people out of Rostov's population of a million are Jewish. Since the end of the 1980s, a process of self-identification (known as the "national revival") has been underway. More and more people attend the synagogue, an act for which previously a person could lose his or her job, and which is not easy even now, since people work and go to school on Saturday. There is a school at the synagogue, and even a yeshivah.

At the end of the 1980s, the Rostov Association for The Advancement of Jewish Culture was formed, in response to people's desire to know more about the traditions and history of their nation. The city authorities gave the association a basement for a meeting place. There people could meet, listen to lectures on the history and culture of the Jewish people, study Hebrew and borrow books — mostly from the Alya Library series which is sent from Israel.

Although there are now possibilities for national revival which did not exist under the Communist regime, these are accompanied by open anti-Semitic propaganda, which was not allowed by the Communist authorities. For example, extremist Cossack organizations from time to time demand that the Jews should be expelled from the Don Region because of their "historical sins." Elections in Russia are now accompanied inevitably by anti-Semitic sloganeering and by graffiti scrawled on the posters of "suspicious" candidates. Freedom has a price!

The academic research and teaching of Jewish studies at Rostov universities began in the early 1990s because of a few enthusiasts at Rostov State Pedagogical University and Rostov State University. We face special difficulties, because no one ever educated specialists in this field. It was unthinkable in the Communist era. Until now, Jewish studies has not been included in the list of approved subjects and it is not regularly financed. But we have found a temporary, although difficult, solution. Professors of my department (the History Department at Rostov State Pedagogical University) who are interested in the history of the Jewish people have begun to include material on Jewish history in general history courses. For those students who want to deepen their knowledge, we have special courses and seminars. Undergraduates and graduate students of my department have already written several papers and dissertations on Jewish history.

Among the professors and students interested in Jewish studies, there are both Jews and non-Jews. In the last four or five years, we have published several works on Jewish history in Russia and in Israel, both in Russian and in English; and we participated in a number of Russian and international conferences.

Much has been accomplished, especially considering our starting point. I doubt that we could have done anything without the serious support of international Jewish organizations and academic institutions abroad. An important role has been played by the International Centre for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization in Jerusalem, chaired by Prof. Nehemia Levtzion, which has held seminars for researchers and lecturers from Russia. The Joint Distribution Committee has helped to fund these. A new and hopefully mutually beneficial step towards developing international contacts is the scholars and lecturers exchange agreement with the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University. As far as I know, this is the very first agreement in the sphere of Jewish studies between a Russian state university and a Western university.

One of the remarkable aspects of the York-Rostov agreement is the short time in which we managed to establish the joint venture. In February at a conference in Moscow, I discussed the possibility of such an agreement with Michael Brown, director of the Centre for Jewish Studies. In May, with the cooperation of The Canadian International Development Agency and the Association of Colleges and Universities in Canada, I already had the pleasure of hosting professors Bernard Zelechow and Martin Lockshin in Rostov!

Could I (or any other professor at Rostov) ever have imagined that we would listen to lectures on biblical memory or the relationship of Jews and Christians in medieval Europe within the same walls where studying the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and scientific communism used to be compulsory? The exciting and challenging lectures of York's professaors made a profound impression on our students and professors, and we are looking forward to more visits in the future.

The beginnings of our cooperative enterprise were a success. I hope that in the future we should go from strength to strength.

Translation by Eugene Budnitskii.

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ווער פון אונדז פילט נישט די בענקשאַפט פון קינדער-יאָרן, וועלן דער חזן הויבט אָן מיט די ערשטע טענער פון כָּל נדרי. די כָּל נדרי מעלאָדיע איז זיכער אַ הויכפונקט פון אַלע ימים נוראים תפילות און פֿאַרשאַפט אַן אויסוויינענדיקן געפיל. די ספּעציעלע מע-לאָדיע האָט אזוי פאַר־כישופט די מחזיקאַלישע וועלט, אז מען גע-פּינט כָּל נדרי אויסגעטיטשט פאַר אַרקעסטער און פאַר פיל אפּסטרומענטן. עס זיינען דאָ פֿאַרשידענע הערות און טעאָריעס וועגן דעם מקור און אָפּשטאַמונג — ווער און ווען האָט פאַרפאַסט די כָּל נדרי תפילה.

דאָס ערשטע מאָל, וואָס די תפילה פון כָּל נדרי ווערט דער-מאָנט איז אין „זהר". טייל האָלטן, אז די תפילה איז פאַרפאַסט געוואָרן אין גלות בבל, און דערפאַר איז דאָס לשון פון דער תפילה אין אַראָמאיש, ווייל די ייִדן האָבן דאָרט נערעדט אַראָמאיש. און כדי אַלע זאָלן פֿאַרשטיין, וואָס עס זאָגט זיך, איז די תפילה אין דער טענגלעכער שפּראַך פון בבל. אינטערעסאַנט איז, אז אין סידור פון הרב עמרם גאון געפינט זיך טאַקע די תפילה כָּל נדרי, אָבער נאָך די ערשטע פאַר פראַזן גייט די שפּראַך אַריבער אין לשון הקודש.

במשך פון פיל דורות האָבן אַנטיסעמיטן באַשולדיקט, אז דערמיט פאַטערן זיך די ייִדן פון די נדרים און שבועות פון אַ גאַנץ יאָר. אונזערע שונאים האָבן דערמיט געוואָלט אַריסיבערגעגן, אז מ׳קען ניט האָבן קיין צוטרוי צו ייִדן, וויל אפילו פון אַ שבועה האָבן זיי אַ וועג זיך אַריסצוזדיין. געווען פאַלן, ווען ייִדן האָבן אַ סך געליטן צוליב די טענות קעגן כָּל נדרי. געווען צייטן אין צאַרישן רוסלאַנד, ווען ייִדן האָבן נישט געהאַט קיין רעכט עדות־זאָגן אין גערייכט מיט אַ שבועה, וויל ייִדן ווייסן, אז יום כּפּור וועלן אונדזערע קינדער אויך נישט האַלטן. אָבער אין אַזעלכע צייטן האָט מען אַפילו פון אַ שבועה נישט געמאַכט.

אין יאָר 1853 האָבן די צאַרישע באַאַמטע אויפגעפאַדערט אַ רבנים קאַמיסיע צו געפינען אַ ליזונג צו דעם פראָבלעם. זייער ליזונג איז געווען צוצוגעבן אין מחזור, גלייך נאָך דער כָּל נדרי תפילה אַ דערקלערונג: „בשם אלקים ועל פּי התורה . . . חס וחלילה לכל איש לחשוב שאנחנו מתירים שבועות שנשבענו לממשלה ובמקומות המשפט או שבועות שנידרים ונשבעים בענינים שבין אדם לחברו".

אין די ערשטע יאָרן פון די רעפֿאָרמער האָט ראַבי אברהם גייגער געפֿרידיקט אַנשטאָט כָּל נדרי, „כָּל פִּשְׁעֵי ופִשְׁעֵי כָּל עַמְּךָ מחוק". דאָס וואָרט נדרים אין זיין תפילה איז נישט דערמאָנט געווארן.

וועגן דעם חזנ׳ס ניגון פון כָּל נדרי זיינען פיל פֿאַרשוגגען גע-מאַכט געוואָרן. טייל זיינען דעם ניגון מייחס צו רבינו יעקב הלוי מולין, דער מהרי״ל, דער מפורסם׳דיקער רב פון מאַגענצאַ. אנדערע אָבער האַלטן, אז דער מקור פון ניגון שטאַמט פון דער אנוסים תקופה אין שפּאַניע. אַ סברא אויך, אז דער שאַפער פון כָּל נדרי ניגון איז געווען רבי יצחק פון מעקינאַ, ווען ער האָט געלעבט אין איטאַליע. טייל הימטיקע חזנים גלויבן אין אַ שפּעטערדיקער פאַר-פאַסונג, וויל דער ניגון איז אין דער מחזיקאַלישער מאָדע פון „אהבה רבה".

אָבער נישט קוקנדיק אויף דער אָפּשטאַמונג פון חזנ׳ס נגינה פון כָּל נדרי, זיינען מיר אַלע מסכּים, אז עס רירט די הערצער פון די מתפּללים און אז דער כָּל נדרי נוסח איז עכט ייִדיש מחיק, וואָס איז נכנס ללב און איז נשמה פֿאַרכאַפּנדיק. דורך איר לאָנגער גע-שיכטע האָט די ייִדישע וועלט געוואוסט די גרויסקייט פון כּוח פון חזנ׳ס נגינה, ספּעציעל ווען דעם חזנ׳ס נוסח האָט געשטאַמט פון חסידישע קוואַלן.

מען דערציילט וועגן ר׳ נחמן בראַצלאַווער, אז ער האָט אַמאָל געזאָגט צו זיינע תלמידים: „וי אזוי דאָוועט איר צו גאָט? קען מען דינען גאָט בלויז מיט וועריטער? קומט, וועל איך אייך ווייזן אַ נייעס וועג צו גאָט, נישט דורך וועריטער, נאָר דורך געזאַנג".

די גרינדערס פון מאָדערנער חזנות האָבן דאָס גוט געוואוסט. צווישן די חזנות וועגוויזערס זיינען געווען שלמה זולצער, לואיס לעוואַנדאָווסקי, ר׳ זיידל ראָזענער, זבולון קווארטין און אליהו זאָלודקאָווסקי. חזנים זיינען געווען באַליבט בים פאָלק און דערי-בער האָבן זיי אפט געדרופן זייערע חזנים מיט אינטימע וואַרעמע נעמען, ווי יאָסעלע (ראָזענבלאַט אַדער שליסקי), לייבעלע (גלאַנץ), משה׳לע (סידקיס) און אַנדערע.

דער חזן אַלס שליח ציבור דריקט אויס די טיפסטע געפילן פון תשובה און חשבון הנפש. ער הויבט אָן מיט דער שטילינקער פרי-וואַטער תפילה הנני פאַרן ראש השנה מוסף. ער איז מודה זייַנע אייגענע חסרונות און בעט, אַז ער זאָל זוכה זיין, טראָץ זיינע פע-לערן, צו זיין אַן אמת׳ער רעפּרעזענטאַטיוו און פאַרטרעטער פון ציבור צום רבונו של עולם. מען דענקט, אַז די תפילה הנני שטאַמט פון אַ חזנ׳ס קאַמפּאָזיציע אין מיטלאַלטער.

אַ הויפּט-טייל פון ראש השנה דאָוונען איז צו הערן שופר בלאָזן. דער רמב״ם טיטשט אויס, אַז די ראָל פון שופר איז אַפּ-וועגדן יעדן פון זיינע זינדיקע וועגן און זיך אומקערן צו תשובה — אריינצוטראַכטן זיך אין זיין נשמה און פאַריכטן זיינע לעבנס-וועגן.

הי-יאָר, וויל דער ערשטער טאָג ראש השנה פאַלט אויס אום שבת, בלאָזט מען נישט קיין שופר, טראָץ דעם, וואָס אין בית המקדש האָט מען אפילו שבת געבלאָזן שופר און אויך זיך באַנוצט מיט טראַמפּיטן. דער שופר איז געווען דער ערשטער היליקסטער מוזיק אינסטרומענט בייַ ייִדן און האָט נעדיקט אין אַלע תקופות פון ייִדישע היסטאָריש צייטן אַלס דער חשוב׳סטער מיטל צו וועקן די גייסטיקייט בייַם פאָלק.

דער יזכּור טייל פון דאָוונען ריידט און דריקט אויס טיפע פערזענלעכע געפילן, ספּעציעל דעם חזנ׳ס „אל מלא רחמים" מיטן ווי געשריי, גרויליקייט און צער פון דער טראַגישער פאַראַג-ענהייט פון אונדזער פאָלק. אין דער זעלבער צייט פאַרבינדט אונדז דער חזן מיט זיין שירה מיט האָפענונג פאַר דער צוקונפט מיט זיין תפילה פאַרן קיום פון מדינת ישראל.

דער חזן בייט דעם נוסח התפילה לויט דעם פרוש המלות — דעם טייטש פון די וועריטער. טיילמאָל מיט שטילערע מתיקות׳די-קע ניגונים, טיילמאָל מיט אַ דינעם הויכן פאַלסעטאָ, און טיילמאָל מיט אַ שטאַרקן בקול רם אויסלאָז, וואָס רופט אַרויס בייַ די מתפּללים טיפע רעליגיעזע געפילן.

ווען דער חזן בעט זיך פאַר אַלעמען „אַל תשליכנו לעת זקנה", נישט צו וועדן פון גאָט פאַרגאַכלעסיקט אויף דער עלטער, באַ-וויזט זיך אפט אַ טרער בייַם צבור. און טיילמאָל נעמט אויס דער חזן בייַם עולם בלויז מיט זיין זאָגן, דאָס הייסט „רעציטאטיוו", אַן מעלאָדיע, אויסדרינגדיק דעם געפיל פון דער תפילה.

ווער קען פאַרגעסן זיין אייגן האַרציק געפיל, ווען דער חזן הויבט אָן „בראש השנה יכתבון", ווער זאָל בליבן לעבן און ווער וועט נישט דערלעבן דאָס קומענדיקע יאָר. דאָס זיינען נאָר ווער-טער, אָבער מיטן חזנ׳ס קרעכץ זיינען די תפילות ממש געווייקט אין טרערן. און לויט דעם אָפּקלאַנג פונעם עולם ראש השנה און יום כּפּור קען מען אָפּמעסטן דעם חזנ׳ס ראָל אַלס שליח ציבור.

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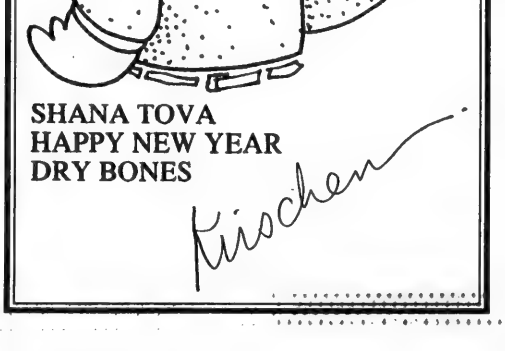

L' Shanah Tovah

Israel looks to the desert

By DAN GOLDBERG
WZPS

According to Jewish Agency figures, more than 700,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union have arrived in Israel since 1989. While the general problems of such mass immigration have been confronted and largely overcome, long term structural solutions are still being developed. One such proposal follows in the footsteps of Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, who envisioned the development of the desert as the key to overcoming the problems of immigration.

"We need men of the desert who will ... lead us in transforming the wasteland into a blessing, a place in which to work and live. Unless we conquer ... the desert ... we cannot succeed in the tasks of immigration and resettlement."

Over 50 years later, Jewish Agency professionals and government ministries are still nursing Ben-Gurion's notion while deliberating on a potential panacea. With the population of Israel fast approaching five million, the majority living in the central part of the country, the Ministry for Housing and Construction recently issued a proposal for a new development project in the Negev desert called Pitchat Nitzana — the City of Peace.

The Nitzana region lies in the south west Negev, close to Israel's border with Egypt. Despite the establishment of towns such as Dimona, Ashkelon and Arad in the northern Negev and a handful of villages and kibbutzim in the Arava, the Negev desert is one of Israel's last havens of largely undeveloped, natural beauty.

Veteran politician, Lova Eliav, is the modern day Ben-Gurion. An ex-Labor party member, he is among the brave who have followed the vision of reclaiming the desert and making it bloom. In the late '80s, he began building a youth village on the Israeli-Egyptian border, which today accommodates more than 450 students and counsellors, and offers programs on desert ecology, flora and fauna. "The Nitzana youth village," says Eliav, "was the catalyst for Pitchat Nitzana."

The suggested location, 50 kilometres south of Pitchat Shalom, will be linked to Beersheva and the centre of the country by an efficient and effective infrastructure of railway tracks and roads. The proposal intends to develop communication networks not only within Israel, but with neighboring states too. Both Jordan and Egypt lie near a main trade route that will be directed through Pitchat Nitzana. Currently, the youth village joins a main road into Egypt, which will eventually be linked up to Jordan and Gaza.

The notion that this City of Peace could become a bridge between Africa and Eurasia would certainly vindicate the choice of its name and substantially open up trade in the region. Indeed, Pitchat Nitzana (literally the corridor of Nitzana) has — according to historians — acted as a bridge between the continents of Africa and Eurasia in the past. Clearly, the planners have similar intentions for the future.

Bridging continents

While this plan is new, it is not original — some 60,000 Nabateans and Byzantines existed in this area approximately 2,000 years ago (between 200 BCE and 800 CE). Indeed, the ruins of this settlement are expected to attract a tourist industry already thriving from the opening of the youth village. Furthermore, plans to build a 500-room hotel will accommodate tourists interested in the ancient history of the area, the ecosystem of the desert, and act as a gateway to the Sinai and Egypt in general.

Ultimately, the plan is to build a settlement of between 50,000 and 100,000 people. A border terminal will be set up and there is a proposal to develop the area into a free trade zone. The national water carrier already runs to Nitzana and will provide water for personal consumption. Saline water will be used for irrigation purposes, which according to Erez Kapara, acting director of the Negev Region (Department For Rural and Urban Development, Jewish Agency), is already yielding successful tomatoes and other crops.

In the first stage of development, 1,000 houses will be built for a starting population of 3,500, which will also justify the founding of an elementary school. Industry in the area will provide work for 1,200 workers, 600 of whom will be new to the region, and assorted public services will be introduced. The area is expected to attract new immigrants, Israelis looking for a higher quality of life at a lower cost, and army personnel located in the Negev.

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A Talmudist from Beijing

Ever since his arrival in Israel two years ago, Ping Zhang, a Beijing University lecturer, now doing a Talmud-related doctorate at Tel Aviv University (TAU), has been struck more by the similarities between Israel and China than the differences. It was these similarities which attracted him to study Talmud.

"Both cultures have tried to build a society based on infallibility," he says in explanation. "The drive for perfectionism is evident both in the halachic observance of laws and also in the moral code of Confucianism. In addition, both traditions place a strong emphasis on learning and scholarship and rely strongly on debate and argumentation."

Zhang was studying for an MA in Oriental literature at Beijing University, when he was informed that he would have to learn a second foreign language. Hebrew was one of the options. Perhaps influenced by the fact that his grandfather had been a Bible-loving Christian, Zhang chose to learn the language of the Bible.

His class, taught by a Jewish American woman, had only eight students and was the first program in Jewish cultural studies established at the university (1985), approximately eight years before the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Israel. To date, the program has graduated two classes, with three students entering the diplomatic service in the growing area of Chinese-Israeli relations.

Zhang was very enthusiastic about his Hebrew studies, becoming so proficient in the language that he was able to translate two stories by the Israeli writer Shmuel Yosef (Shai) Agnon, a Nobel laureate, from Hebrew into Chinese.

Beijing University decided to send him for a year's study at Jerusalem's Hebrew University, within the framework of a cultural exchange agreement between China and Israel. Once in Israel, he was granted permission from Beijing to stay on and do a PhD at Tel Aviv University. At first it was to be on modern Hebrew literature, but a new translation project persuaded Zhang to choose another topic.

This project was the translation of a section of the Mishnah, Pirkei Avot (The Sayings of the Fathers), from Hebrew to Chinese, which took him three months of morning-to-night work. At the same time, he prepared a commentary that would put this work of Jewish philosophy into context for readers in China.

"As things turned out," says Zhang, "the effort was worthwhile, for it convinced me to devote my thesis to Hebrew writings of the past rather than of the present, as I originally intended." Zhang's dissertation involves a comparative study of the Mishnah and Confucian texts, with special emphasis on the notion of fallibility and infallibility in both traditions.

Ping Zhang, a Beijing University lecturer presently doing a Talmud-related doctorate at Tel Aviv University.

Zhang supports himself by teaching Chinese to Israeli students, who express enormous interest in his country. "The interest is reciprocal," he says, for since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations, there is a growing interest in China about Israel. The increasing popularity of books about Israel, he adds, attests to this.

Zhang is one of nine Chinese students stydying at TAU. "We are extremely busy," he says, "and share a serious attitude toward our studies with Israeli students." However, he points out, the life of a student in China is much easier than that of his Israeli counterpart: "In China," says Zhang, "a student entering university is fed, clothed and housed by the government — with a guaranteed job at the end of the line. I admire the Israeli student's sense of individual responsibility."

Zhang, who lives in student dormitories at TAU, has made many Israeli friends. "Israelis are very friendly, though perhaps more to foreigners than to one another," he comments. "But I suppose the same is true of my own countrymen."

As far as everyday life is concerned, Zhang has become used to eating falafel, hummus and tehinah. "It's not as terrible as I thought in the beginning," he jokes. One aspect of Israeli life that strikes him the most is the large number of religious people. "There are more religious people in Israel than I expected. In China, Confucianism as a practice is almost non-existent. No one can afford the luxury of being able to study the five classics of the Confucian texts."

When asked what he finds the most strange in Israel, Zhang says, "What is surprising is that I don't feel anything strange — the ordinary people are just like the Chinese. My Israeli friends are always ready to help out; as in China, friendship is treated very seriously here." **(WZPS)**

Two boys express their excitement during a group bar/bat mitzvah ceremony for children with special needs. [Debbie Cooper WZPS photo]

Children defy disabilities to mark milestone

By BONNIE ROCHMAN
WZPS

Eldad sits, brown knitted kippah pinned to his silky hair as he bobs up and down, chest touching his knees. He stops his davening only when he is called to the Torah.

He stands gazing out at the crowd as he painstakingly pronounces the unmistakable words of the Torah blessings.

Defying the odds, Eldad is one of 10 children with developmental disabilities who celebrated a bar or bat mitzvah last spring in a packed Haifa synagogue.

What began in 1995 as a Conservative pilot program in Israel for 20 students with cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy has blossomed into a full-fledged project, with official recognition from Israel's Ministry of Education and new funding to expand the project to additional special schools and to children with other disabilities such as Down's syndrome.

Keren says the blessing without any coaching from her teacher and peeks at the audience, giggling and covering her mouth. One girl with glasses and a flowered shirt reaches out a chubby hand to touch the Torah as it is carried around the synagogue, and lays her cheek against the silver breastplate for several seconds. Bracha, a tiny girl wearing a chunky pearl necklace, canvasses the crowd after completing her Torah reading, shaking hands with everyone.

The 10 b'nei mitzvot, students at the Ginagar School in Haifa, are watched by their smiling classmates and their beaming parents.

Nadav, the only one in the school who can't walk, is helped to the Torah by his teacher and 11-year-old sister, who holds him tightly and silently mouths the words to the blessings along with him.

She gives him a hug and, like a doting mother, adjusts his kippah. Nadav's grin is contagious as he polishes off the blessings, prompted by his teacher. Planting a kiss on his cheek, Nadav's mother, looking slightly dazed, wears the same exuberant smile.

"He originally wanted to sit for the brachot," says special education teacher Gary Kamen. "We spent hours convincing him he could stand and hold on."

Preparing the children for bar mitzvah requires learning aids, says Kamen. Since most of the children can't read, they must learn the blessings by heart, which raises the problem of short- and long-term memory.

To compensate, Kamen and teacher Ziva devised a sheet that paired symbols with the different words to the blessings. Sky, for example, was the cue for God, and the children learned to say "Adonai" every time the sky symbol appeared.

"They need a lot of repetition, but they are very highly motivated," says Kamen, who along with Nativ, prepared the group for the religious ceremony in 2½ months.

"It was a very emotional experience working with them. Every time they learn something new, they get so excited and scream and jump. These are kids who thought they would never be bar mitzvahed."

At another group bar mitzvah last year, 10 children with cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy read, signed, pointed to or made use of a recorded message to express personal blessings penned by themselves. At that ceremony, the teachers decided to call each child to the Torah with the Hebrew word *Ya'aleh* (come up) instead of the traditional *Ya'amod* (stand up), since the majority of the group could not stand.

"Yigor didn't fall off the stage, Rafi didn't have a seizure! Vicki's voice output machine worked!" says Susie Dvoskin, one of two teachers who worked to prepare the group.

"One child with a terminal disease even said, 'Thank God for my health,' " recalls Judith Edelman-Green, the project's coordinator.

Enabling children with disabilities to overcome barriers is what motivates Edelman-Green, as she works to expand the program to all parts of the country where there is a Conservative congregation to supply teachers to the program. There are facilities in 13 schools and one hospital at present organizing Jewish education and bar/bat mitzvah training.

By October, Edelman-Green hopes to have 20 teachers training 100 children who otherwise would have been denied the chance to celebrate their religious coming-of-age.

L' Shanah Tovah

Ben Blidner
Alan Lerman, Dana, Amy & Neely
Mark & Joan Blidner
Dov, Ilana & Rebecca
Bunnie & Howard Schwartz,
Noah, Arlee & Samantha
Best wishes to all our relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Abe & Freda Blankenstein, children & grandchildren
Wish all their relatives and friends a Happy, and Healthy New Year.

Allan & Nancy Blackstien
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Michael & Lynda Birnbaum
Shera, Daniel & David
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Leo & Sara Beliak
Marlin & Michelle Bendayan,
Chaim, Chava & Shoshana Beliak
Robert, Tamara, Samantha,
Dexter & Joshua Beliak
Murray, Stacey & Matthew Beliak
Arnold, Ruth, Elliot, Faye
& Bryan Kravetz
Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

David and Sandy Bleeman
Amanda-Beth, Marni and Jesse
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Sam & Bella Bojman
232 Strathallan Wood
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Rose and Dave Brown

Majer & Renia Britstone & Family
3000 Bathurst St., P.H. 4
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Joe & Carmela Betel
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

"The Benyovits Family"
Miriam & Ted
Amit, Patti & Jamie,
Ronit, Dale & Joshua
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Bella Brand and
The Hennick Family
Barry, Sylvia, Eleanor and Karen
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Anne & Allan Bank
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Larry & Helen Bossin
Brian & Helen
Melanie & Robbie
Wish all our relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Brand, Bonnie, Barry, Toby, Morris and Grandchildren
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Alan Bobkin
Erin and Alyssa
wish their patients, relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

L' Shanah Tovah

Molly & Bert Bainerman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Esther Birnbaum & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Joseph & Rose Berkan Ruth & Howard

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Soorah & Sid Borovoy
Ruth, Chris & Alexander
Barry & Lori & Joshua & Lorne

Susan, Fred & Ricki Birnbaum

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Kalman & Cynthia Bielak, Yakov & Pamela, Simcha, Shneur, Gideon & Shlomo

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sharon & Syd Bojarski Michelle & Michael

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Rita & Manny Brykman Natalie, Bobby, Kyle, Jennifer & Michelle

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Renee & Jack A. Blustein

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Abe & Dorka Blady

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

C's . . .

Marshall & Ella Cohen

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Cheslow

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wayne and Ann Caplan Elana & Dayna

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Howard & Elsa Chandler and Family

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Ted and Joli Chester and Family

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Cooper

Mrs. Fannie Caplan
Sid & Nancy Caplan

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year

Bedouin woman is a role model

By BARBARA GINGOLD

She flies across the campus, white veil billowing, long black dress lifting incongruously above cluncky, high-heeled shoes. "Amal, Amal!" In every corner of Ben-Gurion University, there's someone clamoring to talk with Amal El-Sana. Arab students in jeans call her to join them for coffee. A Jewish social worker stops to confer about some courses. The president of the university strides by with some colleagues. "What's new, Amal?" he asks.

The answer to his question is Amal herself: a new kind of woman never before seen moving Israel's Bedouin. Proud of her tradition, aware of its shortcomings, and determined to change what needs to be changed — first and foremost, for the Bedouin women of the Negev. Twenty-two years old and headed for law school at Tel Aviv University, Amal El-Sana of Lagiya Village leaves no doubt that if anyone can improve the lot of her people, it is she.

"When I was five," she says, her strong, open face a striking contrast to the white veil, "I already knew I wasn't like other little girls. Instead of sending me to kindergarten — they didn't think it was very important — my family let me take the sheep out to the fields. A great responsibility, usually just for boys. But my father wanted to build my personality, to show people that girls could do something, too."

It was El-Sana's father who bestowed upon her a feminist consciousness along with her name. "When I was born, my parents already had four daughters and a son. They didn't want another girl. The whole family was in tears. And angry: they tried to convince my father to take another wife who would give him sons. He gave me the name 'Amal' — Hope — so that his next children would be boys!"

His next offspring were indeed boys. By the time El-Sana's youngest sibling was born, six brothers had taken their "rightful" place among eight sisters. "At home, I always got the leftovers," Amal asserts darkly. "Whether it was food, clothes, or education, the boys always got theirs first.

"Actually," she concedes, "my father wasn't sorry that he had daughters. He believed that we should all be educated. He not only agreed to send my eldest sister to teachers' college in Beersheva — she was the first Bedouin student there — but drove her to and from school every day. People in our village couldn't understand how Dad could send my sister to school in the city, at a marriageable age and they made his life miserable. 'Your daughter is a prostitute,' they taunted. 'Take her out of school or we'll kill her.'"

No wonder, then, that the El-Sana family tried to keep their younger daughters at home for as long as possible. While her brothers were sent off to good secondary schools in Haifa, Amal was left behind to attend the local Bedouin high school at Tel Sheva, a half hour's ride from Lagiya.

"I was a better student than all my brothers," she says, "but I couldn't get my parents to send me to school in Haifa. Tel Sheva High was dreadful! I knew more than some of the teachers; the guy who was supposed to teach us English had only a high school diploma himself! So I started becoming a 'troublemaker.'

"The teachers were so bad, I was always organizing strikes against them," she explains, relishing the memory. "We ran political demonstrations, demonstrations for better education in our village, for improving the status of women. I didn't stop moving!" By 17, she was a seasoned organizer and a public personality. More than ready to leave her village behind, she entered Ben-Gurion University's School of Social Work — threatening her parents with a hunger strike if they didn't allow her to live in the college dormitories.

Today, with the perspective of a social work student and a bit of distance from her home village, Amal casts an analytic look at the Bedouins of the Negev, a traditional society in the process of radical transformation.

"The past 20 years have been very hard for the Bedouin," she begins. "For many hundreds of years, we were a nomadic community. Then, suddenly, the Israeli government decided that we should live in permanent villages. For similar communities elsewhere in the world, the transition from tribal tents to private homes took centuries. We were forced to make it overnight."

Since the 1970s, almost half the Bedouin in the Negev have been settled by the government in permanent towns and villages with a grim minimum of communal infrastructure. Those who have preferred to maintain their traditional, tent-dwelling lifestyle live in even harsher conditions, denied access to such basic public services as electricity and sewage systems. Both from personal and academic experience, Amal is particularly, painfully aware of the terrible toll this revolution has taken on Bedouin women.

"My grandmother tells me how women used to be the backbone of Bedouin society. When we lived in

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Amal El-Sana (right) with Dvorah Oreg. [B. Gingold photo]

Bedouin woman is a role model

[Cont'd. from page B 48]

tents, women didn't just sew them, they also decided when the family would pick them up and move. Women worked the fields, milked the goats, prepared all the food, stitched the clothes, wove the rugs, managed the family economy... Each woman was a whole factory, and the men were there to help her!''

The enforced transition from nomadic life, El-Sana declares, has reversed gender roles, leaving Bedouin women ''unemployed,'' prisoners in their concrete desert homes. While their men go out to work in mainstream Israel, primarily as laborers or self-employed businessmen, wives and daughters cannot do so.

''When we moved into permanent homes, all of women's traditional skills were laid aside, like in a museum. Ninety-nine percent of Bedouin women above the age of 40 are illiterate. Bedouin society nowadays is 'For Men Only.' Women have no self-esteem, no communal feeling. The only thing left for them to do is to have children — and our birthrate shows it!''

While still in high school, El-Sana and some girlfriends took it upon themselves to change the situation. In 1991, they created the Lagiya Women's Committee, offering women courses in health care, home economics, reading and writing, and regular social events to bolster their sense of community as well as their sense of self. A summer ''day camp,'' now in its third year, attracts 14- to 20-year-olds with lectures on women's rights, health, and equality. But the committee, totally run by volunteers from the village, began to flounder a year ago for lack of funds and organizational experience. Amal credits the committee's survival to SHATIL.

''SHATIL found us and gave us all kinds of help. How to register as a non-profit association. How to write proposals and press releases, how to do fundraising, how to work together. Now we meet with the SHATIL coordinator three times a week, at her office or the village. And,'' she adds gleefuly, ''the women of Lagiya have taken over the village social hall, which used to be just for men. The New Israel Fund is even going to find us seed money for our activities.''

In SHATIL's Beersheva office, director Dvorah Oreg says that ''Amal's energy is boundless.'' ''This year alone, she applied to a foundation and got academic scholarships for 10 young women from Lagiya — women who would otherwise be sitting at home, just waiting to get married. For those who won't be going on to study after high school, her Women's Committee set up a project based on women's traditional crafts — not just producing them, but also learning to market them in the village and beyond. Then Amal recruited another Bedouin student at the University to establish a Women's Committee in her own village, drawing on the Lagiya experience. All this on top of her studies, demonstrations, public meetings, publishing weekly segments of a novel in the Arab press ... and in a world where, barely a few years ago, a Bedouin woman was not allowed to leave her own neighborhood, much less visit another tribe!''

Of the 39 organizations served by the SHATIL office in Beersheva, half are Bedouin. ''We asked our client groups,'' Oreg says, ''if they would prefer to meet separately — some training sessions for Arabs, some for Jews. They all refused. There's 'chemistry' between the groups, and it's good for everyone. Men and women work together, Ethiopians and Russians and Bedouin and third-generation Israelis exchange ideas and form coalitions. The Women's Committee of Lagiya thinks up an arts education project for their young children — and they turn for help to a group of Russian immigrants! It's all new. Nobody forces them or their communities to change. It just becomes part of a natural process.''

Isaac & Nancy Claitman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Fred & Celia Chapnick

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Lydia & Sam Charyk

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

D's . . .

THE DAITER FAMILY
Ronnie & Rene
Joel & Cindy, Aaron, Liane & Carey
Stephen & Tammy, Alexis & Nicole

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Morris & Gloria Dadoun

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

E's . . .

Sam & Sara Eker and Children

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mrs. Sarah Elkind

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ida Edison

4001 Bayview Avenue, Apt. 806

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

F's . . .

Joe, Marlene, Elyse Melanie & Jason Flicht

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Chaim & Eda Feinstadt

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Darryl, Michelle & Aaron Fisch

Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

שנה טובה
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fox *and* **Charise**
Felicia & Warren Spiegelman *and* **Samantha**
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy Shana Tova

Sylvia & Edward Fisch and family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Phyllis & Irving Feldman Jonas & Brandon

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

The Finkelsteins
Henry, Molly, David & Matthew

L' Shanah Tovah

Philip & Cyla Fiksel
Nathan, Miriam, Jaimie & Stacie Birnbaum

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Steven Frohlich
Simon & Arie

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Allan & Pat Friedland
Jeffrey & Marla

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Esther Freiman
Borys Kowal & Family

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Fialkov and Family

Jerry & Helen Fishman
Mark & Doreen, Aimee, Haley & Stacy & Shain Fishman
Gary & Sheryl, Robbie & Raquel Rubinoff
Len & Marcy & Ryan Susman

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Phil & Rochelle Feldberg
Jeff & Waleuska, Robyn & Adam

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Betsy, Lou & Marla Fruitman
Pamela & Howie Gould
Lisa & Dan Belzowski

Jerry, Miriam, Tamara
Sharona, Ronit, Meir Faivish

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

G's . . .

Ruth & Ernest Goldsmith
543 Fairlawn Avenue

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Israel Goldgrub and Family

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

Ruth Gilad and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Gladstone and Neil
Dr. & Mrs. Terry Davis and family

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Moishe & Mania Gruda

Joseph, Nina & David Glincman

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Cutting cloth in the dressmaking department of Chazon Fetaya, a Jerusalem-based occupational rehabilitation centre for the emotionally disabled. [Sarit Uziely WZPS photo]

Helping workers get back on track

By SARAH AVERICK
WZPS

Where can a young man who suffers from low self-esteem and outbreaks of physical violence acquire the self-discipline and skills to work in a conventional business setting? Where can new immigrants from the former Soviet Union who had emotional breakdowns from the stress of the transition find jobs? Where can a young mother debilitated by postpartum depression gain the confidence and vocational training to work outside the home?

Today, 130 men and women with a variety of emotional and psychological problems have found a place at Chazon Fetaya (Fetaya's Vision), a pioneer occupational rehabilitation centre based in Jerusalem.

Founded 20 years ago, the three-branch enterprise was the brainchild of Shaul Fetaya whose own child suffered extended severe depression. In 1975, when the conventional wisdom shared by the medical establishment and the Health Ministry was that mental patients were best left in hospitals, Fedya understood the simple, therapeutic, restorative power of giving someone a job. A decade later, the Health Ministry seized upon the idea and set up a countrywide network of rehabilitation centres modelled on Chazon Fetaya.

Young, middle-aged and elderly, observant and secular, native-born and new olim, men and women from Jerusalem, Bnei Brak and Haifa, as well as several smaller settlements, all work intently and unselfconsciously at the well-equipped work stations.

Some tasks are more sophisticated than others in the factory's departments, which include computers, desktop publishing, bookbinding, dressmaking, carpentry, signmaking, hairdressing and label-production. Workers are paid between four and nine shekels an hour based solely on their work performance.

"On principle, we won't give our employees simply rote tasks," said executive director Simcha Ovadia, Fetaya's daughter. "We train them on sophisticated equipment whenever possible so they can get a job in the free market when they are ready."

Each year, Ovadia estimated, 10 to 15 percent of the workers are mainstreamed into jobs outside Chazon's protected framework and since its establishment, she said, some 2,000 people have passed through the centre's doors.

Take Asher, for example. Chazon supervisor Shmuel Munk recounted, with Asher's permission, that the 22-year-old's struggle with low self-esteem began as early as nursery school, where he was derided for his unusual height and awkwerdness. One of six children, Asher became more and more disruptive, even violent, both at home and in school. He came to Chazon Fetaya four years ago after being hospitalized in his late teens.

Chazon worked at modifying his behavior through a point system, rewarding him for good work habits by increasing his salary based on the number of points he received in his personal workbook.

For the past year, Asher has been working in desktop publishing in an office near his home in a Tel Aviv suburb. By choice, he returns to Chazon twice weekly for enrichment courses on the Macintosh and in computer music.

Chazon's success has led Israel's mental health establishment to reconsider the importance of a steady job. "I have a waiting list with tens of people who've been referred by their doctors," said Ovadia. "Would that we had the funds and the premises, we could touch that many more lives. We live from hand to mouth and put our trust in the Almighty that we will keep going."

L' Shanah Tovah

New program stresses pluralistic approach to Jewish studies

By GAIL LICHTMAN
WZPS

Diaspora Jewish communities are not the only ones with Jewish education problems. Israel's general (secular) public school system has never been quite sure just how to approach teaching Jewish studies.

Caught between the need to address diverse world views and the traditional halachic approach to Jewish studies, the general public schools opted for limited studies in order to escape the moral and educational conflicts inherent in teaching this subject.

Now, a new program, designed to present a pluralistic and not necessarily halachic approach to traditional Jewish studies, is bringing the enrichment and excitement of Jewish texts and sources to Israeli high school teens in the general public school system.

The program, developed by Elul, a non-profit organization founded in 1989, aims to create a pluralistic educational framework for Jewish studies to encourage dialogue and understanding between religious and secular Jews. It combines the study of traditional Jewish sources with modern Hebrew and Israeli texts, through non-conventional *batei midrash* (houses of learning).

"For many years, Jewish education in general public high schools consisted of no more than the mandatory three hours a week of basic Bible studies," says Moti Bar-Or, Elul's co-director. "The teachers tended to be very academic or very Orthodox, and not really in touch with the students, and the Ministry of Education didn't seem willing to do much about the problem."

Then, in 1991, the ministry appointed the Shenhar committee to undertake a three-year study of Jewish studies in public education. "This was the first time that Zionist, secular Israel was examining Jewish studies and not leaving it to the Orthodox community," says Bar-Or. "The committee recommended putting forth a revolutionary idea — that the non-Orthodox take responsibility for Jewish education in their own sector."

But this was easier said than done. With no infrastructure and a shortage of qualified teachers, the Ministry of Education turned to Elul to develop a program.

"The reason the ministry turned to us," says Elul co-director Melila Hellner "is because Elul's basic guideline is to empower people to take active responsibility for textual Jewish studies. We were the first outreach centre propounding the idea that people from different backgrounds can invest in textual study together and through passionate engagement with the sources develop a sense of shared destiny deeper than their religious and ideological differences."

"Elul takes an interdisciplinary approach to learning Jewish texts," says Bar-Or. "Our students are exposed to different strata in Jewish literary culture; not just Bible or Mishnah but a variety of Jewish genres. We also examine how the text has been treated by different groups in different times. Our programs are based on the traditional *havruta* method of study in which two or three people study a text together. This creates powerful and unique relationships. We also believe in giving those studying a feeling of being part of a chain of continuity, which links them with those who studied before them and those who will study after them."

Since the program's inception two years ago, 12 *batei midrash* have been started in 12 different high schools in the Jerusalem area, with nearly 500 students in grades 9 though 11 participating. Next year, Elul hopes to be able to expand beyond the Jerusalem area.

At the same time, Elul has embarked on a teaching training program designed to help teachers create interactive Jewish study frameworks for their students. Now in its second year, more than 40 teachers from 13 schools are taking part.

The teachers meet seven hours a week to learn how to develop alternative methods of conveying Jewish texts to Israeli youth. The program includes unique meetings between religious and secular teachers to enable them to compare methods of instruction.

In addition, Elul has just started a curriculum development project and has been asked by the Ministry of Education to develop a nation-wide curriculum for Jewish studies.

The Experimental High School in Jerusalem is one of the general public schools which has opted for the *beit midrash* program. Some 25 students, mainly in grades 9, 10 and 11, have chosen to spend an extra two hours a week in school to study Jewish texts.

"These kids could go home," says Roni Yavin, a history and Jewish studies teacher, one of three teachers (two Orthodox, one secular) conducting the *beit midrash* at the Experimental School. "The *beit midrash* is optional. Yet they come here week after week to take part."

The learning is non-frontal. A theme is selected and the group begins with a general introduction to that theme. Sheets are passed out with selected texts relating to the theme, which include both traditional Jewish sources, modern Hebrew literature, psychology,

[Cont'd. on page B 54]

MORI, ANABELA *& now*
RACHEL EDITE *(Born 07/18/96)*
GOLDLIST

wish family & friends a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. Special wishes to daughter & sister

JORDANA

Morris & Ada Rose Glick

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Bella & Willy Goldstein

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Norm & Joyce Goldstein
Ilaina, Jamie & Joshua

34 Garnier Court

Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Leo and Sarah Goldstein & Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Leon & Nina Goldstein

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Grad

9 Beaver Valley Road

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

לשנה טובה תכתבו

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Fay Goldlist
Marlene & Sam Hait
Barry & Randee Goldlist
Rochelle & Seymour Frydrych and Families

Annie Goldlist

Best wishes my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Charles & Charlotte Goldlist

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Sarah & Nathan Goldlist

David & Gert Goldberg
children Jill & John

64 Carscadden Drive

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Rae and Sam Goldberg
Debbie, Sol & Esther

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Beatrice, Hymie & Alyssa Guttman

Jack & Ruth Gutholc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Irving & Faye Gold

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Irving & Paula Goldhar

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sam & Gitta Ganz
Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

L' Shanah Tovah

Regina and Charles Goldfinger and Family

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Felice Gropper

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Max and Greta Glicksman

Anne Gottlieb Marc, Beth and Brian Gottlieb

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy Shana Tova.

D's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Hochman
49 Sultana Avenue

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our families and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Sonia & Yehudi Hendler
Jeff & Fran
Sindi, Joel, Fern & Mark Kachuck

Gusta Hefner
Jerry, Lynda, Glen & Andrew Hefner

Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

I's . . .

Joseph & Faye Isakow and Family
10 Barksdale Avenue

wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Izzy & Ellen Isakow Dori, Jesse, Zachary and Sarena

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Larry & Bunny Iskov Howie & Rachel

wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Paula & David Ingber

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

J's . . .

Family Jedrzejak

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Joe & Cypora Jonsson Adam & Rachel
29 Winborne, Thornhill

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Isaac & Basia Jesin & Family & Sonia Slawin

wish all our friends & extended families a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

Wolfe & Miriam Justein

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Jewish and Arab lung transplant recipients give the thumbs up sign at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital. In the centre (wearing glasses and a tie) is Dr. Motti Kramer, head of the hospital's transplant unit. [Avi Hayon WZPS photo]

Israelis becoming aware of need for organ donations

By NAOMI FEINSTEIN KESSLER
WZPS

The metaphor of the honey and the sting is a frequent feature in Jewish life, and hence in the life of the Jewish State.

A recent example of this was the tragic death of 20-year-old American student Alisa Flatow by a suicide bomb in Kfar Darom and the decision of her family to donate her organs. Not only did this decision serve to save the lives of four of the six Israeli recipients of Alisa's organs (two died the day after the transplants), it also rekindled interest in the issue of transplants, and has raised awareness among the Israeli public of the necessity for donating organs.

Nine hundred and forty-two people are presently awaiting organ transplants in Israel and according to Dr. Pierre Singer, a transplant surgeon in Israel's Beilinson Hospital. "Fifty percent of them will die within the year if they don't receive organ donations."

In a survey sponsored by the Israel Ministry of Health in October 1994, it was revealed that over half of Israel's Jewish population mistakenly believes that donating organs for transplant is forbidden by Jewish law. Some believe it is a desecration of the deceased, while others expressed fears that there might be a discrepancy in determining the time of death or even that doctors might be in a hurry to determine the death of one patient in order to transplant the organs into another. These fears are groundless.

The time of death, which by law must be determined by two independent doctors, and, if possible, a rabbi, is fixed at the time the brain ceases to function, not, as commonly thought, when the brain and heart stop functioning. The heart can continue to beat even after death. Some rabbis oppose transplants on these grounds, even though in 1986 the Chief Rabbinate of Israel studied the issue and drew up directives for the authorization of heart transplants at the request of the Ministry of Health.

Changes are also evident within Israel. Although the proportion of organ donors in Israel is still lower than in Europe (9.6 donors per million people in Israel compared to an average of 14.7 in Europe), the number of transplants being performed in Israel's six kidney, three liver and three heart transplant centres, is increasing.

Kidney transplants, for example, have doubled since 1988 with 156 transplants being performed in 1994 alone. Eighty-two of the organs came from accident victims and 74 from living donors. In 1994, 12 liver transplants and seven lung transplants were performed as opposed to 11 liver and one lung transplant in 1992.

The Ministry of Health is in contact with the Eurotransplant Organ Bank which coordinates organ donations and their allocation in European countries. But as Israel does not donate organs to the bank, it is not eligible to receive organs.

Every attempt, however, is being made to improve the situation and to date, individual agreements have been signed with Cyprus (1993) — an accord in which Israel agreed to teach Cypriot surgeons to perform transplants in return for receiving organs — and with France (1995) for liver transplants.

In early 1995, then Israel health minister Dr. Ephraim Sneh presented a proposal to the World Health Organization to establish a regional organization in the Middle

[Cont'd. on page B 55]

L' Shanah Tovah

Netanyahu honed skills in the U.S.

By SHAWN COHEN
Washington Jewish Week

Long before entering Israeli politics, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had already honed his skills of persuasion while attending school in the United States. According to people who knew him then, Netanyahu the student demonstrated many of the qualities for which he is known today: he was a workaholic and he was focused, self-assured and well-spoken.

Then a nonpartisan advocate for Israel, Netanyahu, the son of a Cornell University professor, primarily focused on school and seems to have left little time for a social life.

As a first semester freshman at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1972, Netanyahu, then 23 and going by the name Ben Netay, was looking to take a fast track through college and refused to have a freshman advisor.

Since he wanted to pursue not only introductory courses, but also sophomore, junior and senior level classes, he sought out someone other than an advisor to help structure a seemingly impossible workload. Instead of taking the traditional three or four classes, Netanyahu wanted to take six in his first term.

"He was the only student I knew in 25 years that blew beyond the freshman advisory system right away," marvelled Prof. Leon Groisser, then executive officer of the Department of Architecture, who became Netanyahu's advisor.

"He was also the only student ever to convince me to let him start with six classes. He made it clear that he didn't have four years to get an undergraduate degree."

Netanyahu completed eight years of work in less than four years at MIT, earning a bachelor's degree in architecture and a master's in business at the Sloan School of Management. He was working toward a PhD in political science when he abruptly returned to Israel following the death of his brother Jonathan, who was killed leading the Israeli commandos liberating the hijack victims at Entebbe in 1976.

"This was clearly a man with no time on his hands," said David Lampe, a student at the time and now director of communications for MIT's Alfred P. Sloan School of Management. "He was extremely ambitious. Most people don't remember him because he didn't take time to stop and build personal relationships."

In the mid-1960s, the Israeli-born Netanyahu attended Cheltenham High School in Wyncote, Pa., an upper middle-class school with a high concentration of Jewish students. Dr. Marc Fisher, a schoolmate of Netanyahu's and now a resident of Gaithersberg, Md., described him as a "serious person, definitely not a normal, immature, partying high school kid."

Fisher, who was in the school chess club with Netanyahu (who also played soccer and was in the science club), remembers the future leader as not very sociable.

"He had an intense look on his face all the time," Fisher recalled.

After high school, Netanyahu served five years in an elite Israeli commando unit, earning the rank of captain before returning to the States for college. He enrolled in MIT's School of Architecture, Groisser said, because Israel needed more housing. He earned good grades through an exceptional work ethic.

"He was not a genius," said Groisser. "He was making it by working much harder than anyone else, having absolutely clear goals and working towards them. He organized his time extremely efficiently."

When the Yom Kippur War broke out in October 1973, Netanyahu left the school for several weeks to fight for Israel. Groisser recalled that when he first met Netanyahu, the new student warned him that he would take the first plane to Israel should his service be required.

Netanyahu spent his January break at MIT catching up on course work, but while maintaining the workload, he also found time to engage in pro-Israel politics.

As head of the Israeli Students Association in Cambridge, he spoke in support of the Jewish state and strong U.S.-Israel ties.

Netanyahu became friends with, among others, Alan Dershowitz, a young Harvard law professor with a strong Jewish education who was himself head of a faculty support group for Israel.

The two met in 1973 at a city-wide celebration for Israel's 25th anniversary at which both were featured speakers.

"I had always thought that I was the fastest talker in the world," said Dershowitz. "But no – he was the fastest talker. He was a very take-charge, no-nonsense guy.

"I admired him enormously," added Dershowitz. "We were allies in the same cause. And even in those days, he was an effective advocate for Israel."

Interestingly, Dershowitz said, "At the time, I never got a sense of his political leanings. He was a defender of Israel, period."

In 1973, "Netanyahu was standing up very strongly for the Labor party government. Like me, he felt that we needed to present a united front for Israel," Dershowitz said.

The two men have remained friends. Netanyahu recently present-

[Cont'd. on page B 54]

K's . . .

Leonard & Joyce Krieser
Ryan, Shawn & Cody
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Helen Krieser
Robert & Regina
Alisse, Jodi & Brian Lee
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs. Rose Krieser and Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Harry & Lucy Kreitzman
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kranc and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Bernyce & Marvin Kalifer
Ronnie, Nancy & family
Debbie, Wayne & family
Ellen, Gerry & family
Wish their friends & families a peaceful, healthy & happy New Year.
לשנה טובה

Blossom Klein & Family
Best wishes for a Year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Nancy & Howard Kleinberg
children & grandchildren
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Ruth Kerbel and daughter Donna

BEST WISHES FOR A YEAR OF PEACE AND SERENITY, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO OUR CHILDREN, MACHATONIM, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.
Joe & Jean Kichler

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year
שנת שלום
Betty & Izzy Kirshenbaum

KAY & KELLY KLERER
196 Torresdale Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario
wish all their children
Shawn & Marsha, Howard,
Joel & Pamela
grandchildren
Marc, Seth, Daniel, Jonah & Brandon
family and friends
a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful coming year.

Mr. & Mrs. Israel Koplowitz
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Marilyn Kostman
Elayne & Roberto Slimak
Sasha, Jonathan & Noah
Arny, Jesse & Tyler Kostman
Best wishes for a year of Peace and Serenity, Health & Happiness to all our Friends

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
The Koltun Family

L'Shanah Tovah

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Al & Rivka Kochen

Izak & Regina Kozlowski and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Kon

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Rita, Tom & Brandon Kolin

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Susie & Murray Klein
David, Robbie & Jamie

Ronny and Shelli Klayman
Shayne, Brandon and Sam

Wishing their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mara & Eugene Katz
Linda, Leon, Michael, Aaron & Daniel Katz

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dora, Harry, Andrew & Jonathan Kichler

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

L's . . .

Sarah & Simon Laski

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Herb & Gloria Landis and sons, Martin & Stuart

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Anne Landau, Doris Rothenberg, Esther Freedman

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sonia & Ben Lant

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

I wish my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Mary Levitt

Saul & Fela Lichtblau and Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Shelly & Marilyn Little
Adam, Jeremy & Sari

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Rose Lipszyc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Teddy & Lorraine Libfeld and Family

PM honed skills in U.S.

[Cont'd. from page B 53]

ed Dershowitz and eight others with the Jerusalem 3000 Award for commitment to the state of Israel and the Jewish people.

At MIT, Netanyahu earned his bachelor's in architecture after 2½ years and then entered the Sloan School of Management.

"At some point along the line," Groisser said, "he figured that, even though he was doing very well in architecture, he really didn't have extraordinary talent in this area. That's why I think he entered the Sloan School."

Netanyahu is said to have told MIT professors that he hoped to use his combined studies in management and architecture to alleviate Israel's housing shortage.

According to Lampe, Netanyahu "zipped through" the Sloan School, pursuing studies as relentlessly as he had as an undergraduate.

Completing a master's degree in May 1976, he co-authored a thesis about computerization in the newspaper industry. Even then, he demonstrated savvy for politics and the media and forecast a future development.

"Computerization may enhance the political power of newspapers," Netanyahu wrote in the dissertation, "by providing them with databanks and the ability to compile and disseminate pertinent information on issues or people at a very rapid rate."

On the way to a doctorate in political science, Netanyahu abruptly left MIT in July 1976 after his brother Jonathan's death.

Fifteen years later, Groisser saw his former student again when Netanyahu, as Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, addressed a Jewish group in Boston. The Israeli, Groisser said, spoke about the difficulties of achieving real peace with the Arabs.

"He did superbly and got a standing ovation," Groisser recalled. "The fact that I did not agree with anything he said is only a higher compliment to how he did," Groisser half-joked.

"I am not surprised that he became prime minister of Israel," Groisser said in retrospect. "What I saw then at MIT is exactly what everybody is seeing now.

"It was clear he had the drive and ambition and ability and focus to do anything he wanted. He sets up a goal and he meets it. To his credit, he was also willing to re-evaluate and reformulate those goals along the way."

Pluralistic program set

[Cont'd. from page B 51]

world literature and general philosophy. The students divide up into their *havruta* groups to explore the different texts then return to the group to discuss each group's insights and ideas.

"This method of learning is very appropriate for our school, which is based on independent learning" says Gila Bar-Or, a literature teacher who initiated the idea of the *beit midrash* at the Experimental School.

"Elul gives us the general framework but we are free to build our own program in accordance with our needs and students' levels. Most of our students have had no previous experience with Jewish texts outside of school, so this is the first time they have delved into Jewish learning," she says.

Shlomo Guzman, with his mop of tousled blond curls, is hardly your typical yeshivah student, but he was no less earnest as he pored over the texts at the Experimental School's *beit midrash*. This is the 16-year-old's second year in the program. "I come because this interests me and I feel I'm getting a different sort of knowledge from the Jewish texts."

For Elul, the high school *batei midrash* program is another successful link in its outreach efforts, which also include programs for new immigrants and Bezalel Art Academy students, as well as the general public.

Elul believes that by making the insights of Jewish learning available to the mainstream of Israeli society, it will be creating a common language for dialog and understanding between all Jews in Israel.

Children from Jerusalem's Experimental High School study Jewish texts in a *havruta*. Twenty-five boys and girls voluntarily participate in this non-conventional *beit midrash* program. [Sarit Uziely WZPS photo]

L' Shanah Tovah

Transplant centre begun

[Cont'd. from page B 52]

East for cooperation in organ transplants.

In 1993, a national organs transplant centre was established with the assistant of the Eurotransplant Organ Bank, in order to facilitate donation procedure. Located in Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva, the centre serves all the country's hospitals and works in cooperation with ADI, a voluntary donors organization established in 1978 by the parents of Adi, a young man who underwent a belated transplant and did not survive.

According to Ruthie Zucker Weiss, director of ADI, "At present, some 80,000 potential donors are registered with ADI, which is engaged in educational activities to encourage people to agree to donate organs and to carry donor's cards." The increase in members, she claims, is due to successful transplants, positive publicity and the organizational work of the National Organ Transplant Centre.

Another factor which has undoubtedly contributed to the willingness of the Israeli public to donate organs is the decision of the Flatow family, an Orthodox family living in the United States, to donate the organs of their daughter for transplant in Israel. Rather than seeing this as an act of desecration, they felt, as her sister Gail said, that it would enable Alisa to live on.

The general willingness to donate organs has also increased among the Orthodox population. This is largely due to the Chief Rabbinate's ruling that organ transplantation is permissible under Jewish law and the support the ruling received from rabbis such as Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerback, one of the foremost haredi halachic arbiters. Some Orthodox, however, stipulate that they will only donate to Jews.

One must not forget, of course, that transplants give life to others. "The best thing families can do is to donate organs," said Yitzhak Sa'ada whose brother Herzl underwent a liver transplant one year after Yitzhak himself underwent the same surgery. "This saves the lives of people fighting for every breath and every moment of life."

According to Yakov Salinas, who received Alisa Flatow's heart after a year-long wait, "usually recipients are unaware of the identity of the donor and have no contact with the family. In my case, I knew exactly where my heart came from and under what circumstances. I even met with Alisa's sister, Gail, in Israel. On the one hand I feel a strong bond with the family, while on the other, I am trying to re-establish my own life. I have the deepest respect for Alisa's family. They saved my life."

ULPAN

New immigrants learning Hebrew at Ulpan Etzion in Jerusalem. [Miriam Sushman photo]

Yetta Lanys
Marty & Sandy Lanys
Shawn & Jana
Shane & Patricia Lanys
Tiffany & Lori

Best wishes to all our relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Vicki & Syd Lanys
Michael, Sheryl & Sheldon Cheskes
Lindsay Sarah & Sean David
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Ronnie, Risa & Mark Litwin

Wish our relatives and friends best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Marilyn, Bruce, Erin, Michael & Brian Lubelsky

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Max, Shirley, Shaun Lacob & Rozanne & Jeff Kippel

M's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Marcus

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Alice & Morris Macarz

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Melnik children & grandchildren

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. David Mendlowicz & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Carl & Sylvia Mahler

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing all pur family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Lil & Lou Melamed and Family

Harry, Pola and Julius Michaels

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Max Moneta

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

JOE & HELEN MORGAN AND FAMILY
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Seymour Moskovitz and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

N's . . .

Chaim & Sarah Neuberger and Family

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ben & Karen Nightingale and Family
Kitchener-Waterloo

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

L' Shanah Tovah

Volunteerism thriving in Israel

By GAIL LICHTMAN
WZPS

With the limitations of the welfare state a hot topic of debate in both the United States and Europe, there have been increasing calls for voluntary organizations to take up where government leaves off.

In 1981, Israel, which has an outstanding tradition of volunteerism, set up a mandatory program for volunteerism in Israel's high schools. Beginning with 33 schools, the Personal Commitment Program has grown to include more than 250 schools nationwide, including both secular and religious schools.

The Israel Voluntary Services Organization lists some 250 voluntary organizations operating in the country, with more than 50,000 Israelis (out of a population of five million), or about 25 percent of those over the age of 16, engaged in some form of volunteerism.

These organizations run the gamut from the AIDS Task Force to Zahavi, an organization aimed at helping large families; from immigrant absorption, child welfare, senior citizens, health and the disabled, to soldiers' welfare, quality of life and security.

"Everywhere the government is not operating, we do. We fill the gap," says Batya Warshitz, head of the Council for Social Services and Volunteerism, the umbrella body for voluntary organizations in Jerusalem.

The goal of the one-year program is to strengthen the link between youth and the community by making participants in the program aware of the needs of the community and their responsibility to it. Once a high school decides to be part of the program, it becomes a requirement of the school.

Most schools choose to implement the program in Grade 10. "This is because the students are generally mature enough to cope with volunteering," says Ruth Itzhar, director of the Ministry of Education's Department for Community Schools which runs the program.

"Since they still have two more years of studies, it is hoped they will continue their volunteerism on their own. But there is no doubt the students need guidance so as not to get lost or be overwhelmed in adjusting to the tasks," she says.

For this reason, the ministry provides special training for program coordinators and supplies a wealth of workbooks and other materials, including videos, simulation games and role playing, to help the students cope with their volunteering.

Not unexpectedly, in every school, there are some parents who feel that the program takes away time from studies. "We explain to them that the program attains a number of goals beyond just volunteering," says Itzhar.

"The personal goals achieved are in some respects even more important for teenagers who are at a stage in life when they are searching for identity. The program exposes them to a side of life they do not find in school and they learn about themselves and their ability to meet personal challenges and take responsibility," she says.

"Personal responsibility is a very important part of the program," says Nili Eisen, program coordinator at the Leyada School in Jerusalem. "Our teens enjoy being treated like adults and having the responsibilities of adults. They know that once they have made the commitment, they must come every time, even if it's raining or they have a big test the next day. Volunteering has elements of real life. It's like going out to find work for the first time. The students have to present themselves and be interviewed. Not everyone is suited to every task."

Leyada chose to implement the program in Grade 9. The majority of students work with the elderly and a good number work with the handicapped or with disadvantaged children. Those who have difficulty handling emotional stress can do volunteer work in, say, the botanical gardens or one of the country's hospitals.

"The nice thing about this program is that the students don't just give, they also receive," says Eisen. "Sometimes I don't know who gains more, the students or those they are helping."

Eisen cites the case of two girls who volunteered to help an elderly woman, a poet and writer. "She taught them so much about language and enriched their lives with new and exciting ideas and concepts."

As in real life, some of what the students encounter is heartbreaking. One boy discovered his charge, a 5-year-old, was being beaten by his father. "He was in shock," Eisen recalls. "He didn't know what to do."

Some of those working with the elderly have to face debilitating illness and death. Ela Ayalon started helping an elderly man in his 80s. Shortly after she began her weekly home visits, he became very ill and had to be hospitalized.

"I began visiting him in hospital. He was quite sick. In the beginning, it was very difficult to see him like that, to see such difficult things. I didn't feel good. But later, I realized how important it was to visit him and I began to feel better. I know I am doing something important for him," she says.

O's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Orlan

Matthew, Shawna & Lewis Orzech

Best wishes to our family and friends for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Fayga Orzech
Sharyn & Ellis Jacob, Lauren & Risa
Donna & Barry Ross, Jeremy, Alanna & Melanie, Gail Rabinovitch & Paul Orzech & Aiden Louis
Shawna & Matthew Orzech & Lewis Andrew

Wish our wonderful family and friends a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mark & Barbara Obar
Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

P's . . .

Isaac & Sylvia Peck
Ryan, Jared & Samantha

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Rhoda & Max Ptasznik & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sam & Dora Prince

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Pearl
Melvin & Rhonda, Jordan
Michael, Zane & Samantha
Jack, Sigal, Tommy, Mickie & Tal

SADIE PEREL
ARNOLD & HYLA PEREL
STEVEN, BRYNA & YOSEPHA

wish their relatives and friends a Peaceful, Healthy and Happy New Year

Isaac, Minny, David, Barbara, Sammy & Alyssa Peters
Morris, Marsha, Michelle & Jennifer Goldstein

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Dorothy & Ben Pinkus
Wendy, Ernie, Bev, Stacy, Michael & Shawna

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Leib and Fanny Pillersdorf and Family

83 Collinson Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Zalman & Pola Pila

199 Clanton Park Road

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Moniek & Genia Prusznowski

Rose & Sam Pacht
Children & Grandchildren

Wish all their relatives, friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

L' Shanah Tovah

Hanna & Phillip Price
Avri & Kobi Snitz
Downsview
Tzvi, Dvora, Neora & Alona Snitz
Israel
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

R's . . .

Jack & Mary Rapoport
147 Almore Ave.
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Helen Reich
52 Evanston Dr.
Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Genia & Henry Rakowski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Martin, Lena, David & Joshua Rauchwerger and Helen Rauchwerger
wish theur relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

David & Wendy Rechtsman Mikael & Noah
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. P. Rechtsman and Family
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mike & Sally Rosen
31 Denmark Crescent
Wish all their relatives, friends and clients a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Ralph, Yona, Jesse, Danielle, Joanna, Kari Rabinowicz & Mrs. Bell Rabinowicz
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Max & Sabina Rosenbloom Joseph, Lee, Sheera, Avi & Adina Minkowitz
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Lily & Mike Rosenberg children & grandchildren
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Myer & Miriam Rosenberg
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ryan & Fay Rotstein
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Willie & Bertha Rosengarten & Family
672 Briar Hill Avenue.
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Paul & Phyllis Rosengarten
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Morris & Dena Rozen Eryn & Daniel
Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Hedda Rothman
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Bread for Katzenelleboigen

By DAVID SHENTOW

This story tells the eyewitness account of David Shentow, Auschwitz tattoo 725-85.

It was not widely known that thousands of Jews were sent out of Auschwitz to clean up the Warsaw Ghetto in the aftermath of the uprising. I was sent in the first transport and arrived in the first week of September 1943, four months after the ghetto's destruction. That's when I stumbled upon a group of emaciated survivors, still hiding in the ruins.

Our transfer from Auschwitz started with a dreaded selection. We knew that no one ever came back from a selection. We hugged each other goodbye. We were then marched silently towards the ominous building with the big chimney. It was a magic moment when we all realized that the head of the column had passed the fateful turn. I let out a deep sigh and heard a muffled echo as others did the same. It was miraculous even for those who didn't believe in miracles.

Another shock came at the sight of regular passenger trains, with normal windows. Then to our delight, we each received a loaf of bread and a jar of jam, before boarding those trains. We didn't know that this would be our only food for the next few days. Although, considering that we were famished, and euphoric at leaving Auschwitz, I doubt it would have made a difference. We had a feast. We had reason to celebrate, for us, the unimaginable was taking place.

Our train dawdled along. The trip was extended by interminable siding diversions to allow German military trains to pass on their way to the Russian front. We were crammed like sardines, with no room to move or sleep, in compartments meant for six. Whether we were sitting or standing, the only rest was by fitful dozing. Yet, to the thousands of fellow Jews who had been brutalized and pushed beyond endurance at Auschwitz, the three day ride was a welcomed reprieve.

A rumor circulated that we were heading for Warsaw. We were not taken by surprise when we arrived there one morning, before daybreak. It was a hungry, cold and anxious crowd that clambered down the siding. We had had no food for days and our striped rags afforded little protection against the stinging autumn wind that already promised a harsh Polish winter. Fate was merciless: cold, hunger, fatigue and biting lice would be our constant companions. Six weeks later, a typhus epidemic would ravage the camp. During those days, I felt like a zombie in a daze, my recollections are merely glimpses of a nightmare.

From the train station, we were marched directly through the massive arched ghetto entrance and ordered to pile up heavy bricks with our bare hands. We were lost in a sprawling desolation of blackened rubble that stretched across the ghetto as far as the eyes could see. Here and there, a maze of ruins rose above the rest. Those Polish bricks were about three times the size and weight of normal ones. I could never carry more than one at a time.

I had worked only a few moments when, suddenly, I had the sensation of falling. In a flash, I thought my turn had come, as it had for others who fell, never to get up. Yet finding myself still standing, I slowly got hold of my senses. It had been an uncanny illusion caused by a trap door opening and heaving the grounds at my feet.

The dust was still settling when a ghastly scarecrow figure emerged. I was accustomed to the sight of death, but this was like an apparition from a grave. I couldn't quite focus my eyes or my mind. We stood bewildered, staring at each other, to decipher each other's face, to grasp the meaning of each other's presence. It was a moment of supreme puzzlement. I was still trying to take in the scene when his gurgling voice cleared its throat passages.

"*Bist a Yid?* — Are you a Jew?"

I answered in Yiddish, prolonging the O somewhat to give it the unmistakable Polish-Yiddish accent.

"*Yo* — yes."

He continued in Yiddish, in an eager, hopeful tone.

"Is the war over?"

I was dumbfounded. It was sad to have to tell him the truth:

"No, the war is still on, there are German guards all around the ghetto walls."

Puzzled, he asked:

"So what are you doing here?"

What was I doing here? I needed a moment to pierce through the shroud of mystery that surrounded that simple question. Let me see, what am I doing here? Where do I start? I heard myself say:

"I'm here because I'm a Belgian Jew."

I hesitated. That didn't make sense. Other words came to my lips: "We are Belgian, French and Dutch Jews, sent from Auschwitz to turn the ghetto into a park."

On the train someone heard from a guard that we had been specially selected because supposedly, we couldn't speak Polish and would not be able to communicate with Polish workers. They had not reckoned that most Belgian and French Jews were likely to have had Polish speaking parents and could get by quite well in Polish.

[Cont'd. on page B 58]

'I'm a Belgian Jew'

[Cont'd. from page B 57]

He continued in his throaty voice:

"So, where are the Russians?"

The question startled me. Maybe he knew something I didn't. Maybe I missed some vital world events. I was curious, and bounced the question back to him:

"Where are the Russians?"

It turned out that weeks earlier they heard artillery and explosions and had been hoping the Russians were coming. I had to disappoint him again.

"No. As far as I know, the Russians are far away."

In sheer desperation, he pleaded: *Host a shtickel broit?* — Have you any bread?"

Bread meant life. We were now past trying to sort out each other. What could I do? I could only tell him about our own dismal situation, that we had had no food for three days. What else was there to say?

He responded calmly:

"Nu, vos zol men tien? — What is to be done?"

He then motioned me to follow him. I glanced around fearfully, uncertain what to do, then nerved myself and trudged down the steps behind him. Walking along gloomy shadows of still walls, he introduced himself.

"Ich heis Katzenelleboigen — I am Katzenelleboigen."

A cold underground space opened before me. There were 10 to 12 ghostly figures, some standing, some seated on chairs and on a bench by the wall and others lay on the floor. Despite the cold, one man stood bare from the waist up. A small candle flickered on a wooden table. In a corner, I spotted some bottles with sand or something in the bottom, and presumed they were molotov cocktails. The stench was unbearable even for me. Katzenelleboigen introduced me:

"Dos iz an andern Yid — This is another Jew."

I suppose it must have been strange for them to see me in striped rags as it was for me to see Jews not wearing them. It was obvious that they were all glad to see me. Those on the floor simply nodded my way, while others came over, taking turn to greet me with the casual Yiddish salutation:

"Vos macht a Yid? — How is the Jew doing?"

From the few words we exchanged, I pieced together a bit of their story. They joined *"die aufstandt* — the revolt," when they saw Jews rounded up by the thousands every day. Following the destruction of the ghetto, they managed to survive by trading their gold teeth and clothing, such as winter coats, for bread, with Polish workers who came daily to work. By the time I met them, they had already run out of things to trade and had had nothing to eat for weeks.

They were even skinnier than I was. It was obvious that their days were numbered and that without help, they were condemned to starve in silence. Still, I admired them. Could it be that I also envied their underground freedom? I don't know, but I experienced a sense of compassion I had not felt for a long time. I wanted to give them back the breath of life. I promised Katzenelleboigen to bring whatever food I could find. Waving goodbye, I scrambled back up the stairs, driven, muttering to myself. I thrust my head above ground, looking out furtively for guards. We were lucky that they rarely ventured in the ruins.

Hour after hour, I collected cold bricks with mortar still clinging to them. We each had to pile a shoulder high mound by the end of the shift. These would then be carried away by the Polish workers. I recovered my bearings during those interminable hours, punctuated by hunger pangs. We were all in the grips of starvation and exhaustion, barely one step from the grave. It dawned on me that my feelings of generosity were naive and meaningless, how was I to help a whole group when I couldn't even help myself?

Only wretched misery awaited us at camp, at the end of that first grueling day. There was no food, no washing facilities, nor barracks to protect us from the cold. I eagerly talked to others, seeking help for those abandoned Jews. Nobody was interested, not even our group leader. What could I expect? Our own misery and helplessness stared us in the face. We slept huddled together, on the ground, fending off the lice with scratching bouts. Hunger pains lingered through the night. I didn't think anything could be worse until I was crazed by thirst on our death march to Dachau, in the stifling heat of the following August. Thirst can make you go raving mad.

Nothing happened in the suc-

[Cont'd. on page B 59]

L' Shanah Tovah

Sam & Eva Rotholc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Nathan & Heddy Rydel

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

S's . . .

Rachelle, Lisa, Mindy & Jessica Salamon

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Annette & Michael Sacks Jordan, Brooke & Eric

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Sigmund Schmidt
3900 Yonge St., PH. #3

Oscar & Florence Shainhouse

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

The Sandlers
David, Rosie & Danielle

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

David Scheer & Naomi Weinfeld and their children

Rosita & David Salomon

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs. Belle Shub & Family

471 Coldstream Avenue

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Dorice & David Silverman & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Siwak

Best wishes to our children, grandchild, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Minka Smith

35 Purdon Drive

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends, relatives & neighbors for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Harry & Hania Sporer
Michael, Marsha, Jonathan
Ethan, Amanda & Rebecca Lax

Wish all their relatives, friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Nachum & Lea Shore

23 Fanshawe Dr., Richmond Hill

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year to all our relatives, clients & Friends

Mr. & Mrs. Milton Snow
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Snow & family
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schwartz & family
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Cohen & family

L' Shanah Tovah

Laury & Evy Snow

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Alan & Anna Schwartz

Best wishes to our mother, children, grandchild, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Larry & Pam Shapiro
Jodi & Robyn
Mark & Lori Shapiro
Annie Okun, Syd Shapiro

Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing our parents, family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Henry & Susyn
Lisa & Carl Smith

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Louis Szikla & family
Fay Kolinsky

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mrs. Pauline Sporn

Max & Dorothy Stern

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Zanvel & Sylvia Stern
Derek and Corinne
37 Steele Valley Road

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Morris & Yetta Sternberg and Family
90 Overbrook Pl.

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Anne & Joe Steinberg
Bella, Elliot, Jason & Adam Sinukoff
Wendy, Stuart, Zachary, Cory, Matthew & Michael Himmel
Evy, Elliot, Hailey & Carly Sugar

Wish their relatives, machatunim & friends a happy & healthy New Year.
52 Green Acres Road

Alter & Helen Steinfeld

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

The Steinman Family
6 Barclay Court

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stork and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Jack, Lola, Rose-Mary Sylman
Sid, Evelyn, Madison & Tyler Rochwerg

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Isaac and Mary Szames

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Szmeiser
Leora, Steven, Robyn & Justin Hazan
David, Shelley & Tabitha Star

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year

'Only wretched misery awaited us at camp'

[Cont'd. from page B 58]

ceeding days to relieve the hunger or raise our spirits. It was dismal. What kept me going was hope, and the vague notion that they would have to feed us soon, if they wanted us to keep on picking up bricks. At least Katzenelleboigen was a free man underground while I was reduced to slavery. He came up to plead every morning:

"*A shtikel broit?* — Any bread?"

He would scrutinize my shaking head. I didn't have the luxury to feel any pity. I only hoped that he believed me. He always used the same farewell before vanishing underground:

"*Nu, vos zol men tien?* — What is to be done?"

I wondered how such a frail figure could move that iron trap door.

We crossed path with the night shift, on our way back to camp, at the end of the fourth day. Gleaming eyes and eager head movements thrown our way signalled that there was food. We could barely manage to drag our feet over the rubble. At camp, we made a beeline for rows of tables laden with half loaves of bread. Each man was to grab the next portion in front of him. We advanced quickly, yet not quickly enough.

At one point, I fixed my eyes and sized up my portion in the distance and scrutinized the others to see if there was a bigger one to snatch. Ten, nine, eight ... Every cell in my body tensed. Three, two, my turn! ... I yanked my half loaf, and jostled forward to a free spot on the ground. Ceremoniously, I placed my striped cap on some bricks, making like a plate and placed the bread in the centre. I tore off pieces with my mortar encrusted hands, and wolfed down delicious mouthfulls of the soft bread. It was divine. I always devoured my portions right away however much I invariably regretted it the next morning.

This time it was different, I couldn't finish it. Maybe my stomach had shrunk to nothing or maybe a half loaf was too much to be eaten at once. For lack of pockets, I contrived to hide a big piece in my right pant leg, taking the risk that it might be stolen at night. I had to keep holding it with my wrist and to push it up from time to time, all the while hoping not to attract attention. As an added precaution, in case it should fall, I tied my pant leg snugly with a string around the ankle.

Before daybreak, I felt a hand grazing my back, no doubt, someone looking for corpses, to search for hidden morsels of bread. I felt more spirited at roll call that morning. The sun shone on my face and caressed the forsaken grounds. It warmed me up. It lulled me to daydream ... Maybe, one day, this nightmare will pass. I could feel the bread by my hip.

I waited eagerly for Katzenelleboigen all morning. I waited and waited until I couldn't take it any longer. I went over to the trap door and tapped it a few times, calling out his name. The knock resounded hollow and loud, but there was no answer. I had someone help me lift the trap door, and went alone, down the steps, into the darkness below. The other didn't want to follow.

When my eyes got used to the darkness, I saw three corpses seated erect on the bench by the wall. Others lay scattered on the floor. Katzenelleboigen was seated at the table, his back towards me, holding his head in his hands, with his elbow resting on the table. I called out his name, and moved to tap his shoulder.

"Katzenelleboigen"

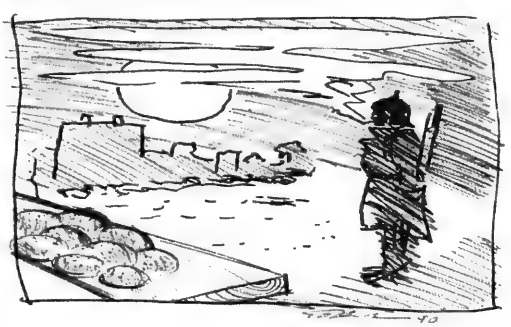
He didn't move. I whispered again:

"Katzenelleboigen"

Tapping lightly on his shoulder, I bent over to whisper in his ear:

"Katzenelleboigen."

His body twisted sideways, as if I had pushed him and his head crashed on the table with a bang. He was stone dead. I could see his eyes bulging out of their sockets, glaring at me menacingly. It was a dreadful sight. I scrambled out of that ghastly place as fast as I could. I left the corpses in the freedom of their tomb, to carry their secret with them and, with the passage of time, to turn into remembered heroes.



L' Shanah Tovah

AFTER TWO THOUSAND YEARS WE ARE LOVERS AGAIN

How do I speak of love
shrouded in mists of Europe's hate?
How do I play the Shulamite -
a foundling from alien lands?
How do I breathe in myrrh and frankincense
when my spices are rosemary and thyme?
Even your moon is different. Pale apricot,
not Halloween's orange.
And your smile, enigmatic,
tilted like a pensive head.

My art is not
Bezalel's wisdom of the heart.
My fruit not passion fruit
but apple and plum.
The people I know
dispute Plato and aesthetics.

Yet I recognized you.

And you knew me at once.

After two thousand years we are lovers again.

Donia Blumenfeld Clenman

TEN YEARS AFTER

Ziva Mekonen, a 22-year-old student at Bar-Ilan University, was one of 8,000 Ethiopian Jews brought to Israel in Operation Moses in 1984. She successfully completed high school in the framework of Youth Aliyah and went on to do two years of national service before enrolling in university. [Paul Samson photo]

Leon & Bela Sniatowski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Nathan & Helen Shiff
Martin, Michelle & Mitchell Shiff
Jeffrey, Aviva, David & Tatum Shiff
Adam, Barbara & Matthew Altberg
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy & healthy New Year.

T's . . .

Sonia & Manley Tessler and Family
Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. G. Thaler and Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Dina & Willie Tenenbaum
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Mrs. Rose Tenenbaum
Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Abram & Genia Tushinski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Victor & Nancy Tucker
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Norm & Sandra Turk and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our parents, relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Ian, Tobe, Karen & Sheldon Tweyman

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tenenbaum
Sid, Judy, Gary, Louise, Tamara, Ari-Lev, Elie, Josh & Avichai Tenenbaum
Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year

Norm & Ruth Trachter
Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

U's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of israel
Harry & Yetta Ungerman

V's . . .

David & Sara Visenberg and Family
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

W's . . .

L' Shanah Tovah

Sylvia & Henry Waks

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

David & Ruth Warsh Family

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Albert & Helen Waisglass

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Norman & Sonia Wagner and Family

344 Hillhurst Blvd.

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Ted, Perlan, Mark & Marnie, Aaron & Randy Waxman

83 Stonedene Blvd.

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Anne Weinbaum & Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and muchatonim friends, and the people of Israel.

Harry & Rose Wolfe

43 Kennard Avenue

Harry & Ida Weisleder & Marsha
Mark, Jodi & Hillary
Louis, Marlene & Joshua
Anne & Sam Himelfarb
Adam & Eric

wish their relatives and friends a peaceful happy and healthy New Year.

Leslie & Miriam Wise
38 Nevada Ave.
Willowdale, Ont. M2M 3N6

Wish their relatives, friends and customers a happy and healthy New Year

Lou & Helen Wronzberg

Rick, Debbie, Alexis & Danielle
Larry, Darlene, Lynsey & Tarah
Randy, Debbie, Jordan, Ashley, Dustin & Melissa
Donna, Jonah, Nechama, Chaim & Shmuel

Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Hy Weinrib & Marla
Danny & Risa
Shane, Lauren & Jamie Fine

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Laurie & Larry Wise and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Leonard, Gloria & Barbara Wiseberg
Azriel & Sigal Har Lavan
and recent arrival
Nitzan, Yosef

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes to all my friends & relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Mrs. Anne Weinstein
645 Castlefield Ave.

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Weinstock
David, Moss, Mark & Daniel

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Lynda & Charles Weinberg
Jodi & Lisa

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sarah & Abe Wertman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy holiday and a healthy and Peaceful New Year.

YOUR MICHAL
BATHSHEBAH
SHULAMITE

Come my Jerusalem and be my love.
On my breasts lie and I will scent them
with myrrh and frankincense.
Your balm pour over me
anoint me -
I will be your Michal
Bathshebah
Shulamite.

Poppies and anemones I will strew
on our bridal bed
malachite for a pillow
cyclamen and hibiscus to garland our heads.

Though two thousand years old
I am young in your sight
and passionate in desire.

Come my Jerusalem
you will find me a young love -
your Michal
Bathshebah
Shulamite.

Donia Blumenfeld Clenman

MAKING THE DESERT BLOOM
A JAFI-sponsored experimental program is enabling farmers to grow grapes in the Negev using brackish water. [David Haas photo]

L' Shanah Tovah

Ted, Annette
Madison & Eden Wine

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Blanche & Sidney Wolbrom

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Beth and Stephen Werger
Jennifer, Tanya and Samuel

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Y's . . .

Hy & Ruth Young

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Z's . . .

Morris &Tamara Zeitman
extend best wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year to our children
Dr. Henry & Paula Zeitman & Children
in Dallas, Texas
Jack & Lily Bitton & Sons
in Toronto
and to our family and friends in Toronto, Paris & Israel

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Abe & Margot Zukerman

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Zajdner

Edith, Jack & Jo-Anne Zeidenberg
Michael, Marla & Family

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

יְרוּשָׁלַיִם בְּכָחֹל

כְּשֶׁטִּפַּסְתִּי אַחֲרֵי חֲצוֹת
מֵחַלּוֹן הַמָּלוֹן
אֶל הַגַּג הַשָּׁטוּחַ,
אֶל הַלַּיְלָה הִירוּשָׁלְמִי,
וְרֵיחַ הָאֲבָנִים
בָּאֲוִיר הַזָּךְ
עָלָה בְּאַפִּי,
יָדַעְתִּי
פִּתְאֹם
שֶׁאֲנִי שׁוּב בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם.

זְרִיחָה אַחֶרֶת לַיָּרֵחַ כַּאן
בְּתוֹךְ הַכָּחֹל הַשָּׁקוּף
הַמְּיוּחָד
שֶׁיֵּשׁ רַק לִירוּשָׁלַיִם.
טַעַם הָרוּחַ
עַל שְׂפָתַי
כְּטַעַם יַלְדוּתִי
וְנֹצְנוּץ כּוֹכָבִים קָרִיר,
כָּזֶה שֶׁהָיָה פַּעַם,
כְּמוֹ שֶׁנִּגְלָה לַאֲבוֹתַי הַקְּדוּמוֹנִים.

בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא יָשַׁבְתִּי עַל הַגַּג הַשָּׁטוּחַ
וְהַדְּמָמָה הָיְתָה מְלֵאַת קוֹלוֹת
עַתִּיקִים, הֲדִים עַתִּיקִים.
הַדְּמָמָה הָיְתָה רְוּיַת צְלִילִים
שֶׁלֹּא נִשְׁמְעוּ לָאֹזֶן
מִמִּין הַצְּלִילִים שֶׁטּוֹעֲמִים בְּנֵי מַזָּל
רַק בַּחֲלוֹמוֹתֵיהֶם.

לִפְנֵי שֶׁהָאִיר הַיּוֹם נָשַׁמְתִּי שׁוּב
אֶת הַתְּכֶלֶת הַמְיוּחֶדֶת שֶׁל טֶרֶם זְרִיחָה,

הַתְּכֶלֶת הַשְּׁקוּפָה
שֶׁעָטְפָה אֶת כָּל הֲוָיָתִי
בְּיֹפִי הַמָּתוֹק בְּיוֹתֵר
בָּעוֹלָם.

בְּנְעוּרַי הָיִיתִי הוֹלֶכֶת
עִם קְבוּצַת הַיְלָדוֹת שֶׁהִדְרַכְתִּי
אֶל סַנְהֶדְרִיָּה בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם.
לִפְנוֹת בֹּקֶר,
לִפְנֵי הַזְּרִיחָה.
נָהַגְנוּ לָשֶׁבֶת עַל הַסְּלָעִים,
עַל יַד קִבְרֵי הַסַּנְהֶדְרִין,
וְלֹא לְהַשְׁמִיעַ מִלָּה
עַד שֶׁזָּרְחָה הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ.

כְּשֶׁהָיִינוּ יוֹשְׁבוֹת כָּךְ,
מַבִּיטוֹת אֶל הַמְּעָרוֹת בְּפָנֵימָנוּ,
הָיָה הָאוֹר הַתָּכֵל שֶׁלְּפָנֵי שַׁחַר
חוֹבֵק אוֹתָנוּ, כְּמוֹ עוֹטֵף אוֹתָנוּ
בְּאוֹתָם בְּקָרִים נִפְלָאִים שֶׁל קַיִץ.

אַשְׁרַי, כִּי בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא
אַשְׁרַי כִּי בַּשַּׁחַר הַהוּא זָכִיתִי
וְהָיִיתִי
לְאַחַת
עִם אֲבוֹת אֲבוֹתַי
הָיִיתִי לְאַחַת
עִם יְרוּשָׁלַיִם.

Miriam Schneid-Ofseyer

Jerusalem in Blue

When I climbed after midnight
through the window of my hotel
unto the flat roof,
right into the Jerusalem night,
and the smell of the stones
in the fragrant air
hit my nostrils -
I suddenly felt
that I was in Jerusalem again.

The moon shines differently here
in that unique lucid blue
that only Jerusalem has.
The taste of the wind
on my lips
felt like the taste
of my childhood
and the cool glittering
of stars,
was the same one
that my ancient forefathers saw.

On that night I sat on the flat roof
and the quietness was filled
with ancient voices,
with ancient echoes
that could not be heard.

these were the same kind of voices that
the lucky ones
could hear, perhaps, in their dreams.

Before dawn I felt again
that special translucent light blue
that was here before sunrise,
that light blue that wrapped
my all being
with the sweetest beauty
of the world.

In my youth I used to walk
with my troop of girls that I guided
in the youth movement,
to Sanhedria in Jerusalem. It was always
before sunrise.
We used to sit on the rocks
near the Sanhedrin's burial caves
and not to utter a word
before sunrise.

When we were sitting so quietly
Looking into the caves within our hearts,
the blue light was embracing us
on those wonderful mornings
of summer.

How lucky I was that on that night
and that dawn
I became one
with my ancestors,
I became one
with Jerusalem.

L' Shanah Tovah

Dry Bones — A YEAR IN REVIEW

THE PEOPLE WHO THINK THAT THE ISLAMIC WAR AGAINST THE JEWS...
...IS BASICALLY A PROBLEM OF "ECONOMICS"
ARE THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD FIGHT THE SPANISH INQUISITION
BY MAKING A DONATION TO THE CHURCH.
THE JEWISH YEAR SEEMS TO CLOSE DOWN DURING THE SUMMER
AND THEN POW! IT'S BACK WITH A VENGEANCE!
THE HIGH HOLIDAYS?
ACTUALLY I WAS REFERRING TO THE START OF THE FUND RAISING SEASON.
AN ELECTION YEAR IN ISRAEL...
IS A TIME OF HEATED, ANGRY NATIONAL DEBATE AND DIVISIVENESS
SECOND ONLY TO THOSE YEARS IN WHICH
THERE IS NO ELECTION
THE PROBLEM OF JEWISH UNITY IS THAT...
WE ARE ONE PEOPLE...
WITH ONE HEART
... AND SEVERAL CONFLICTING OPINIONS!
ISRAEL'S SECRET STRENGTH IS THAT WHEN WE STAND TOGETHER...
NOBODY CAN DEFEAT US!
OF COURSE THE ONLY TIME WE EVER STAND TOGETHER IS...
WHEN WE'VE BEEN PUSHED INTO A CORNER.
ON THIS SIDE ... SHIMON PERES
AND... ON THIS SIDE... BIBI NETANYAHU.
NETANYAHU AND PERES ARE ON THE SAME SIDE?
YUP.
SOMETHING THAT NEITHER THEY NOR WE SHOULD EVER FORGET.
WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT THE ISLAMIC WORLD HAS VOWED TO DESTROY US
AND THE FACT THAT THE BIBLE PROPHESIZES OUR SURVIVAL...
BELIEVING THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS WILL DECIDE OUR FUTURE..
IS AN ACT OF SUPREME HUTZPA!
VOTE
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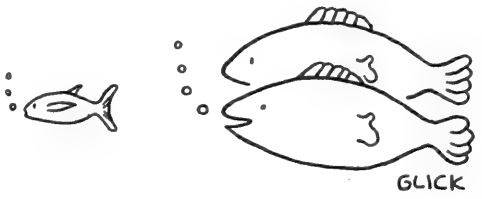
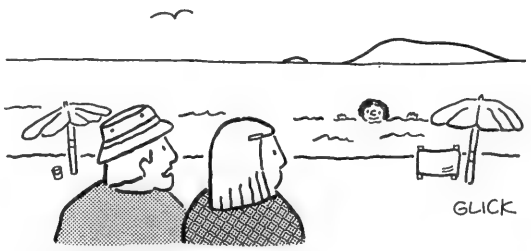
SHMOOZIN — A YEAR IN REVIEW



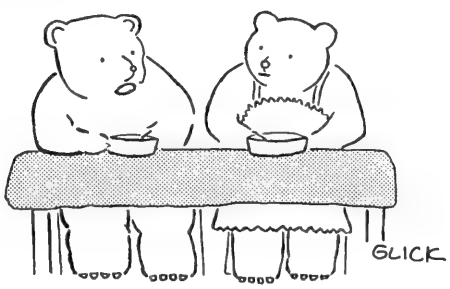
"That should do – all I want right now is a nosh."

SHMOOZIN

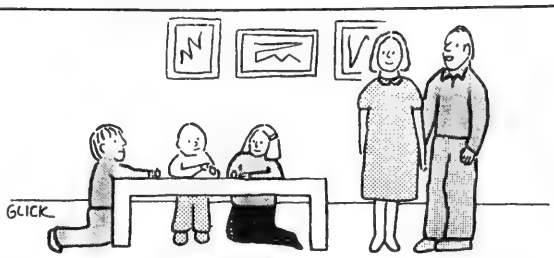


"Watching Aunt Gertrude cool off in the ocean makes me think of Passover – because on all other beach days Aunt Gertrude doesn't dip even once, but today she has dipped twice."

SHMOOZIN



"Now that we've come out of hibernation, I am going to start looking forward again to my Shabbos afternoon nap."



"To me the miracle of Chanukah is that the kids will play for hours spinning a simple plastic top that can't be plugged in, operates without batteries, and emits no electronic flashes or beeps."

L' Shanah Tovah

Photo by Mimi Fleiss

"Remember us for life, dear King who yearns for us to live; and inscribe us in the Book of Life, for your sake, dear living God."

Rosh Hashanah Machzor

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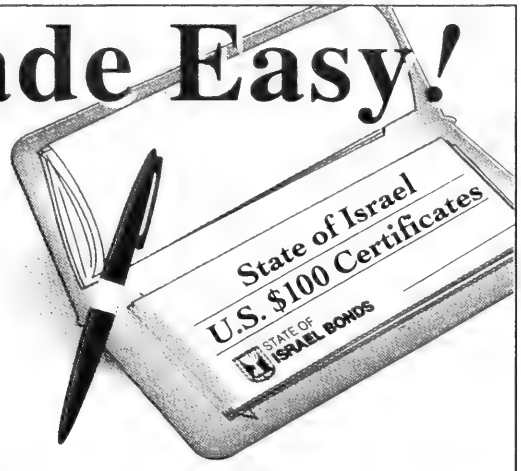

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto producers Simcha Jacobovici and Elliott Halpern win Emmy Award for *The Plague Monkeys.* **Page 4**

Moscow lied about Raoul Wallenberg, sister says. **Page 5**

Jewish Life

Aish Hatorah Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest a smashing success. **Page 16**

Coast to Coast

Foreign Affairs department in Ottawa split over Israel and the Middle East. **Page 25**

Israel & the Jewish World

Lebanon remains an albatross around Israel's neck. *Analysis* **Page 32**

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Shabbat: Haazinu
Candlelighting 7:02
Tishrei 7, 5757
Havdalah: 8:07

Arab League pressures Israel

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo warned Israel on Sunday that they will freeze ties if there is no progress in the peace process.

The Arab League meeting called on Qatar, Oman, Tunisia and Morocco to re-evaluate their relations with Israel, according to a Channel 1 report Sunday night.

"These are independent countries capable of evaluating their national interests very well. External pressure does not serve the interests of the peace process. It has precisely the opposite effect," said Dore Gold, Benjamin Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser, in response.

Ministers at the two-day Arab League meeting repeatedly warned that a collapse in the peace process is imminent.

"There has been a unanimous demand to tie relations with Israel to progress on the peace process," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara said outside the meeting.

"Israel is wrecking the peace process and the basis on which it was established," he said.

Sources in the Israel Prime Minister's Office Sunday night described these statements as "manoeuvres of pressure that are counterproductive to the peace process. Israel will not act under pressure."

In June, a summit of Arab leaders in Cairo warned that Arab states would reconsider their role in the peace process and economic ties with Israel if it did not stick to the principle of trading land for peace.

Little progress has been made since then. Negotiations with the Palestinians have gone nowhere, despite the recent meeting between Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat. Peace talks with Lebanon and Syria, meanwhile, have not resumed.

While not detailing the steps to be taken, Arab officials have suggested boycotting multilateral talks between Israel and Arab countries. That, however, will apparently not include the economic summit in Cairo scheduled for Nov. 12 to 14. Despite earlier threats, Egyptian officials now say that conference will be convened as scheduled.

"The Arab states need the multilateral meetings more than Israel does. By withdrawing, they are harming themselves more than they can harm Israel," a source in the Prime Minister's Office said.

Netanyahu also dismissed the threats to end regional cooperation.

"We are not taking these things seriously," he said Sunday in an interview with Israel Radio. "I don't recommend anyone use these tools against us. It will not help."

Arafat complained Saturday that Israel was only play-acting at peace and was not serious about implementing agreements it had made with the PLO.

"There is an impasse not only on the Palestinian track but on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, where nothing has been implemented concerning the agreements signed and agreed upon," Arafat told reporters at the Arab summit.

"There is an attempt only to make a political show, to give the impression that there is a tendency from the Israelis to move in the right direction, while on the ground there is nothing concrete in our hands," he added.

"This was an important opportunity to put my Arab brothers in the picture regarding the dangerous circumstances that we are going through and that directly affect the peace process," Arafat said.

NETANYAHU TAKES NEW YORK
Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke last week at a meeting of the Association for a Better New York during a two-day visit to the U.S. Association president Lou Rudin looks on. See related story on page 29.

CJC refuses Bloc's request

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) refused to go along with a request from Bloc Québécois (BQ) leader Michel Gauthier that it denounce Howard Galganov, the anti-separatist crusader who spoke at Wall Street's Harvard Club last week, especially for his calling the Parti Québécois (PQ) government "bastards."

CJC Quebec region's community relations chair Max Bernard appeared taken aback that Gauthier should think that because Galganov is Jewish, CJC has any responsibility for his actions. Galganov has no ties to CJC, nor has he claimed to speak for the Jewish community, Bernard said, adding that Jews are not "homogenous."

'Mr. Galganov has apologized [for his remarks] ... There is no reason for us to intervene just because he is Jewish ... We have nothing else to say."

Bernard said Galganov appears to have been a victim of a "smear campaign" among some of the French-language media and certain nationalists for their focus on his having been involved with the Jewish Defence League (JDL) in his youth. On the eve of Galganov's trip to New York, Gauthier emerged from a one-hour closed-door meeting with CJC officials at its national headquarters and told the media that he had asked CJC to "disassociate itself from the remarks" of Galganov.

Continued on page 26

INSIDE

Rabbi Howard Joseph of Montreal pleads, during these Days of Awe, for piety not to squeeze out morality. Please see page 9.

to have
ir door

Al Gore pledges solidarity with Netanyahu — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

CJHS Gets New Name

ST. CATHARINES, Ont. – At its annual meeting at Brock University, the Montreal-based Canadian Jewish Historical Society voted to change its name.

It will now be known as the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies/Association d'études juives canadiennes.

The association remains a national organization affiliated with Canadian Jewish Congress.

ISRAEL

Fighting Neo-Nazism

JERUSALEM – Following recent outbreaks of international neo-Nazism, the Israeli Ministry of Education has released a specially made videocassette and book dealing with the spate of incidents that have occurred in Western Europe, the United States and the former Soviet Union.

Reform Threatened

JERUSALEM – An Israel-based group of the the Reform movement is criticizing the Jerusalem police for failing to find those responsible for making telephone threats to the movement's office.

The Israel Religious Action Centre, an agency of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, filed the complaints after coming under a barrage of anonymous hate calls in the past three months.

Police officials said they had traced some of the calls to telephones located near the chassidic yeshivot of Gur and Slonim in haredi areas of Jerusalem.

WORLD

Reservists Not Pleased

JERUSALEM – Half of Israeli men say they would not do reserve duty if they were not forced to do so, and four out of five believe the country is not doing enough to divide the burden fairly among reservists, according to a survey conducted by the IDF's behavioral science branch.

Patt To Head Israel Bonds

NEW YORK – Former Likud minister Gideon Patt has been appointed president and chief executive officer of Israel Bonds.

He will take over the international operation after Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Nathan Sharony leaves the position in December.

PM Defends Policies

WASHINGTON – Faced with mounting pressure from the United States to redeploy Israeli troops from most of Hebron, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu went on the offensive to defend his government's policies in a whirlwind visit here.

At the same time, Netanyahu sought to focus attention on finding a formula to resume talks with Syria during his second visit to Washington since taking office in June.

European Shul Reopens

BUDAPEST – A former Israeli prime minister, the president of Hungary and a host of foreign dignitaries recently joined thousands of Jews here for the reopening of Europe's largest synagogue.

The reopening of the Dohany Street Synagogue came days before another reinauguration – of Bulgaria's 137-year-old Sofia Synagogue, the largest in that country and one of Europe's most ornate.

CJC Mission

WASHINGTON – Canadian Jewish Congress president Goldie Hershon, Holocaust Remembrance Committee co-chair Nate Leipciger and war crimes committee chair Irving Abella recently led a group of federal MPs on a study visit to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Kemp On The Ropes

WASHINGTON – Republican vice-presidential candidate Jack Kemp has found himself locked in a torrent of criticism for heaping praise on part of Louis Farrakhan's philosophy.

When asked in an interview about his opinion of the Nation of Islam leader's self-help philosophy for the black community, Kemp said, "It's wonderful, it's wonderful."

OMISSION

In the Rosh Hashanah greetings supplement we published a story entitled *Bread for Katznelleboigen*. The author was listed as David Shentow. This was incorrect. The story was written by Nestor Hobe of Orleans, Ont. It was narrated to him by David Shentow. *The CJN* profoundly regrets this omission and apologizes to the author.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Sept. 17, 1971

EBAN IN U.S. FOR DIALOGUE ON CANAL, PHANTOMS

Abba Eban, the Israeli foreign minister, will arrive in the United States this week to attend the UN General Assembly and to resume the dialogue with Washington on the questions of an interim Suez Canal settlement and on Israel's outstanding unanswered request for more Phantoms.

******

CONGRESS, WELFARE FUND MERGER PROPOSED

The United Jewish Welfare Fund (UJWF) and the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) are planning on merging. Julius Hayman, a member of the Save CJC Committee, and John Geller, a member of the National Executive of Congress, presented their views in *The CJN*.

Hayman: This is a proposal which the community must reject. The UJWF has its specific responsibilities and is, generally, fulfilling these responsibilities adequately. The CJC, too, has its unique functions and is performing reasonably well. Nothing can be gained by merging. Much would be lost.

Geller: The proposed merger would have the desirable effect of creating a strong Jewish Community Council which would be an integral part of Congress. No organization can stand still. Unless it is prepared to change when necessary, it will cease to have relevance.

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Vol. XXXVII, No. 21 (2,817)

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Na'amat puts Quebec minister on hot seat

Boisclair calls meeting 'form of defeatism'

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Quebec Minister for Relations with Citizens Andre Boisclair got a taste of the anxiety in the Jewish community when members of a women's organization challenged his dismissal of the seriousness of current language tensions.

At one point when the level of grumbling rose, Boisclair, 30, reminded his audience that he had come out of "goodwill" and that he expected a "respectful hearing even if you do not share my point of view."

Boisclair had been invited by Na'amat to speak on the topic Why Should Our Children Stay in Quebec? In his prepared text, he dealt little with the subject directly, suggesting the question was "a form of defeatism."

He did say young anglophones should stay, "above all, because Quebec is their home" and that "Quebec society cannot afford the luxury of losing its most precious asset: human capital and brains."

However, he insisted that they are leaving mainly because they find better jobs elsewhere and that this is not unique to anglophones. Many young francophones are also going outside Quebec for employment, he said.

On a different but related matter, Boisclair maintained that the underrepresentation of non-francophones in the civil service is not the issue; it is rather that young people under 30 in general do not hold a fair share of the jobs. (Only 2.5 percent of the permanent staff is that age; and 15.8 percent of those on contract, he said.)

"Working as a civil servant is not the only measure of participation in Quebec society. You can't conclude you are excluded because of that."

Activists criticized

He suggested young anglophones and francophones are getting along better than their elders. "It's easy to find success stories of young anglophones and francophones pooling their expertise and going into business ... Personally, I am as at home on Crescent Street as on St. Denis Street."

The tone of the evening was set when Evelyn Haber introduced the minister by stating that the Parti Quebecois' (PQ) "vision" appears to exclude minorities, yet "we are asked to renounce our country ... the country we love for giving us undreamed of opportunities, and to trust" in the new one the PQ wants.

Things became more tense in the question period when Wendy Small compared the certificate of eligibility that she needs for her two children to attend English schools to the armbands that Jews wore in Europe during World War II to show who they were.

Rosa Finestone was applauded when she said Jews are ready to be part of a French society, "but not at the expense of separation," and this is causing "deep angst."

Boisclair criticized anglophone rights activists who threaten to boycott stores that do not post bilingual signs according to Bill 86.

The audience of about 70 women rattled Boisclair with their obvious disagreement, after his defence of the law restricting immigrants to French schools. "It is not the responsibility of the state to finance [schooling of immigrants] outside the French network."

In response to a question on whether the political uncertainty is having a negative effect on the economy, Boisclair said he thought some investors are holding up projects "for partisan reasons," rather than making decisions on economic facts, and thereby contributing to the uncertainty.

Boisclair was confident independence will be soon. "When a nation is walking as Quebec is doing, it will never stop ..."

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From the editor's desk

Asking forgiveness of other people

It is customary during the 10 days of awe, the period between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for individuals to seek forgiveness from family and friends for any injury, slight or harm caused to them intentionally or unintentionally. As with all of the customs developed by our sages, this one too is profoundly effective.

It elevates human behavior.

In this case, it removes "seeking forgiveness" from the realm of the abstract to the realm of the concrete, from merely thinking about the other to actually having to look into his eyes. When spoken sincerely, the phrases, "I am sorry," or "Please forgive me," pave a path to the heart. And it is generally true to say that on this path, understanding and reconciliation are frequent travellers.

Seeking forgiveness from another human being is one of the key "religious" aspects of the 10 days of awe. But it is still only a prelude to seeking forgiveness from God on Yom Kippur itself.

The confessional prayer in the Yom Kippur machzor is a work of compelling and powerful poetry.

It is written in the plural voice yet is recited by the individual. It is rooted firmly within a community context but is meant to tug at the individual conscience. "Transgressions" are listed according to category of behavior in an alphabetical acrostic. The list is comprehensive and thus one with which all of us are familiar and for which all of us have reason to seek forgiveness.

It deftly combines in one moving utterance the individual with the community. It can therefore be legitimately described as a great equalizer aimed both at the conscience of the wealthy and at the poor, at the pious and at the secular, at the self-assured and at the self-conscious. We appeal to God, as it were, on an equal footing, which, after all, is the only way we can imagine that God would receive our appeals.

* * *

If forgiveness is appropriate for individuals, it is no less so for *The CJN*. The paper itself has also inadvertently caused injury or slight. Thus, we too beg the forgiveness of those whom we have injured.

We make mistakes. We try very hard not to, but mistakes occasionally creep into the paper.

Because we trade in words, those mistakes generally bear repercussions ranging from mild to severe for the people whom they have affected.

When we become aware of a mistake, we try immediately to correct the record. But it is true, unfortunately, that the correction does not go as far in undoing the injury as the original mistake goes in creating it.

Possibly the worst of all mistakes is the failure to give proper credit to an author, to fail to identify someone, who, having labored to create an original work, is nevertheless unrecognized for it. On page 2 of today's paper, we acknowledge having made such a mistake.

In the Rosh Hashanah greetings supplement to last week's issue, we published a very moving story called *Bread for Katzenelleboigen*. We identified the author as being David Shentow. But that was an error. Nestor Hobe was the author. Hobe wrote the story that Shentow recounted to him, enshrining it forever through love and reverence, onto the pages of public record.

The mistake was as ironic as it was painful. For Hobe's story was the very first item which I had decided to include in the Rosh Hashanah supplement. I spoke with him after I read the story some months ago, commending him and thanking him for submitting it to us. In the busy, frenzied race against deadlines, I failed to catch the error and correct it before sending the paper to press.

Other omissions, while equally as innocent, bear less serious consequences. An example which comes to mind is the mistake which we committed when we published an essay by Prof. Martin Lockshin in which he called on Orthodox Jews to search their souls. It was written in the aftermath of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. It was a delicate and controversial subject which demonstrated resolve and no small measure of courage by the author.

In the concluding paragraph, we left out the word "not." Of all the words to have left out! Though discernible from the context, the proper meaning of the paragraph had been entirely altered from that which the author had intended.

* * *

As I have written in the past, the mandate of *The CJN* as ordained by its directors is "to serve the Jewish people in Canada, in Israel and in all its habitations." The paper does this by attempting to inform in the best, most reliable and most comprehensive manner that it can. In trying to fulfil our mandate, we do indeed make mistakes.

It is appropriate then, at this time of year, that I apologize to anyone who may have felt injury or slight because of our mistakes. To them I say "I am sorry. Please forgive me."

G'mar chatimah tovah. MBD

Film captures Emmy

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish film-makers Simcha Jacobovici and Elliott Halpern have won an Emmy Award for "outstanding investigative journalism (program)" for their 1994 documentary, *The Plague Monkeys*.

Emmys for news and documentaries were presented last week in a non-televised evening in New York City.

The Plague Monkeys, a film about the deadly Ebola virus, first aired on CBC-TV's *Witness* and was later showed on the Arts & Entertainment network's *Investigative Reports*.

The Plague Monkeys, which has aired in over 30 countries, also won a 1996 Gemini Award and a 1995 Cable Ace Award.

Halpern and Jacobovici's most recent documentary, *The Selling of Innocents*, deals with child sex slavery in India, and will air on *Witness* Oct. 8 at 9 p.m.

Jacobovici's other well-known documentaries are *Deadly Currents*, a provocative look at the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and this year's *Expulsion and Memory*, which examines the growing number of crypto-Jews descended from 15th-century conversos who fled Spain and Portugal.

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Moscow lied about fate of Wallenberg, says sister

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Why has Moscow stuck to its tired story that Swedish World War II hero Raoul Wallenberg died in a Soviet prison in 1947 when there is ample evidence suggesting the contrary?

"They lie," comes the unusually blunt answer from Wallenberg's half-sister, Nina Lagergren, an otherwise charming, modest grandmother of 10 from Stockholm. "They have always lied."

But Lagergren's Swedish sense of fair play is soon evident: "The Russians now have difficulty maintaining that story because they don't believe it themselves anymore. And we never believed what they said from the start."

Lagergren, now 75, prefers to be known as Wallenberg's sister. "We were very close," she recalled in an interview last week, after a bronze bust in tribute to her famous relative was unveiled in Earl Bales Park [*CJN*, Sept. 12]. "He was my best friend, my idol. Nobody knew him as I did."

One of the few true heroes of the war, Wallenberg is credited with using his diplomatic status to rescue 100,000 Budapest Jews from certain death in the Holocaust. Working feverishly from the Hungarian capital's Swedish legation in the last half of 1944, he issued an estimated 25,000 fake Swedish passports (the *Schutz-pass*) to Jews — placing them under the protection of the neutral government in Stockholm — spirited them to safe havens, and persuaded the Nazis to call off the razing of Budapest's largest Jewish ghetto, with its 75,000 inhabitants.

For his troubles, Wallenberg, a non-Jew, was arrested by invading Soviet troops in January 1945, taken to Moscow and never heard from again.

Thus began one of the great mysteries of this century.

In the last 20 years, Wallenberg's fate — and the tantalizing prospect that he may still be alive — has also spawned a veritable cottage industry of books, documentaries, articles and even a Hollywood treatment starring Richard Chamberlain as the hero. Cutting through all of it has been Lagergren's relentless efforts to find out what really happened to her older brother.

In the chaos of the war's dying days, Russian-controlled radio in Budapest announced that Wallenberg had been killed, probably by the Nazis or their Hungarian compatriots, the Arrow Cross. That created a certain passivity on the part of the Swedish government, until rumors kept surfacing that he was alive in a Soviet prison cell.

It took until 1957 for Moscow to unearth a document stating Wallenberg had died 10 years earlier of a heart attack in Lubyanka prison. The problem was that no one could vouch for the document's veracity, since the official who signed it was dead and his boss had long since been purged by Stalin. It's the same story Moscow clings to, to this day.

That despite at least a dozen reported sightings of the hero by newly released prisoners through the 1950s, including one German PoW who said he communicated with the Swede by knocking on their mutual cell wall. This sort of testimony continued until the early 1980s.

One telling episode involved a Soviet general who had been imprisoned by Stalin. The general said in 1979 that he once spent three weeks with Wallenberg in the gulag. He was promptly arrested and five days later, was dead of a "heart attack."

Nina Lagergren

Then, in 1989, a breakthrough: Lagergren and her brother, Guy von Dardel, were summoned to Moscow. There, authorities presented them with Wallenberg's diplomatic passport, driver's licence, food ration coupons, an address book, a packet of Hungarian currency and a gold cigarette case.

"They put this box with all these items in front of us," Lagergren recalls, "and they thought I was going to cry and say there's no more hope. But I reacted the other way around, and said, 'Now we must do everything we can to get the truth.' "

For Lagergren, the episode reinforced Moscow's mendacity in the matter. "They said they found them in a storeroom on a shelf, just by accident. They said a cleaner found them."

But the meeting established a Swedish/Russian working group that still meets regularly. In 1990, Moscow agreed to cooperate with an international panel of inquiry into Wallenberg's fate, headed by Montreal human rights lawyer Irwin Cotler. Among other things, the panel found that the Soviets never conducted a serious investigation into Wallenberg's disappearance.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, documents released by Moscow showed that the KGB, the defunct secret police, took extensive pains to expunge from its records the name of Raoul Wallenberg.

But the big question has always been whether anyone can survive this long in the brutal Soviet penal system. "I think you can," Lagergren submits. "There are cases of people surviving for 40 and more years." Her brother, she says, had the mental toughness needed to survive.

But he was also charming, funny and sophisticated. She was nine years younger than he was and she very nearly worshipped him. Wallenberg's mother remarried after his father died of cancer before he was born, and his paternal grandfather was determined to shape his upbringing.

The young Wallenberg was sent to university in Michigan and learned banking in South Africa and in 1936, in Haifa, where he first met Jews who had fled Nazi Germany. He was fluent in German, English, French and Russian, and exuded elegance.

Back in Sweden, he had many business partners, among them a Hungarian Jew who put his name forward as an emissary from Sweden who could be dispatched to Budapest at the behest of the War Refugee Board, set up by then U.S. president Franklin Roosevelt.

By that time — the summer of 1944 — the Germans had, in just two months, deported an estimated 400,000 Jews from the Hungarian countryside to their deaths. Now, they set their sights on the 200,000 in Budapest.

"Raoul was aware of the danger," Lagergren said. "But he went very enthusiastically. That's the kind of person he was."

Once in the thick of his mission, Wallenberg bullied, blustered and threatened the Nazis with a vigor that impressed even hardened German soldiers. That doesn't surprise his sister. "He could be soft, then very determined."

Today, Wallenberg is an honorary citizen of Canada, the United States and Israel. Monuments and streets named after him can be found in several cities, Toronto, Montreal and Budapest among them, but none in Sweden. Lagergren sighs. "Apparently, you don't become a prophet in your own country."

Apart from pressuring Moscow to cough up the truth, or at least a death certificate, Lagergren and her brother are now on a mission to get schools named after Wallenberg. (There are already two, in New York and San Francisco).

"It's important for young people who are depressed because they feel they can't do anything to know that one man can make a difference," she says. "After finding Raoul, that's the most important thing."

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Greater Toronto Area

Israel gets ready to launch own 'United Way'

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For years, Avraham Burg had a dream: that Israelis would be as generous to their own domestic charities as the Diaspora had been for decades.

Not that Israelis have shallow pockets. But over the years, there has been a backlash, especially among younger people, over the perception of Israel as a charity case, and in general, there has been lacking a Western style of giving.

Now, Burg, the youthful (41) chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel, is about to have his dream realized: this Chanukah, the Jewish state is scheduled to launch its first-ever national *makbit* (literally, central fund), along the lines of North America's United Way campaigns.

The yet-unnamed campaign has already hired staff and hopes to raise millions of shekels for the poor, women's shelters, seniors, immigrants and wherever the need is greatest.

Avraham Burg

"I call it Jews for Jews," the energetic Burg told *The CJN* last week while in Toronto for meetings with United Jewish Appeal fundraisers. "On the one hand, Israel is doing well economically, but on the other, those who do not have, have *a lot* less. The social gap is troubling. Half-a-million Israelis are below the poverty line."

Burg is banking the campaign will succeed, mainly because he believes in the adage that charity begins at home. But the idea is also an extension of one of his old themes: that education — Jewish education — anchors almost everything.

When Burg took the reins of the beleaguered Jewish Agency last year, he said his top three priorities were education, education and education.

"That hasn't changed," he notes. It all comes down, he adds, to whether "the Jewish people can survive without an external enemy. The answer is education. It is our only instrument."

Unfortunately for Burg, who would rather pursue his other dream of high-quality, universal Jewish education, much of the last year has been taken up by cutting the Jewish Agency's massive deficit.

Established in 1929, the Agency is Israel's central distributor of money raised by United Jewish Appeal campaigns the world over. Its main task is in immigrant absorption, which has exploded since 1989. It also employs some 1,000 short- and long-term *shlichim* (emissaries), mainly in the former Soviet Union, who teach Hebrew and Jewish values and prepare Jews for emigration to Israel. All that has cost a lot of money.

Now, Burg has assumed the unenviable task of having to slash the Agency's budget by a whopping $500 million (US) over the next five years.

He's blunt when asked why his organziation needs such a dramatic budget cut: "Fundraising has failed to supply the general needs of the Jewish people." Thus the need for a strong, domestic sense of charity within Israel itself, and of new ways of doing things.

Already, in year one, the Agency has cut, painfully, one of its more popular programs: the government has agreed to take over its $60 million Youth Aliyah department.

Borrowing a North American phrase, Burg says he's also "downsized" the Agency's staff by 500 people. "We are now more effective and leaner," he says.

Burg is a long way from abandoning his quest for more and better Jewish education, but now says the Agency's most immediate priorities are aliyah and *klitah* (immigration and absorption) and more twinnings of Israeli communities with those in the Diaspora. Currently, 80 communities around the world are twinned with 23 Israeli regions and towns, providing economic boosts traditional fundraising cannot.

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Jewish groups warn of messianic holiday services

TORONTO – The Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress and Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary group, are warning of "enticing" brochures advertising High Holy Day and Sukkot services at messianic congregations around Metro.

Jews for Judaism director Julius Ciss says the services are at congregations that worship Jesus as the messiah.

Ciss says the brochures and other printed matter used by the congregations often employ Jewish symbols, like stars of David and shofars, which can attract Jews.

Beth Sar Shalom a messianic congregation that rents space in a church on Finch Avenue West, recently distributed brochures touting Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot services with "Russian translation available."

"Come and celebrate atonement through messiah Yeshua," it said. "We are a congregation of Jews and gentiles who believe in Yeshua (Jesus) and Messiah."

It said services are in English "with a touch of Hebrew."

Other messianic groups advertising holidays services are Jews for Jesus and City of David Messianic Fellowship, which meets in the Barbara Frum Library.

Greater Toronto Area

Video identifies Kalejs as AK member

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Lawyers for alleged Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs last week began their defence by playing videotaped testimony from former members of the Arajs Kommando (AK) — and they promptly identified Kalejs as a member of the unit.

Edgars Jurgitis, who worked in the AK's supply section, said he knew Kalejs as a senior lieutenant and company commander: "When he came, he came to the supply department to settle the matters of the company, but how often he came, I cannot tell you."

Jurgitis' evidence was videotaped in September 1987 in Riga, then part of the Soviet Union, as part of a U.S. immigration case against Kalejs. Kalejs, an Australian citizen, was eventually found by U.S. courts to have participated in the wartime persecution of civilians and ordered deported.

In 1994, he moved to Canada. Authorities here are seeking an order removing him, alleging he is not a genuine visitor to Canada and that he participated in war crimes.

Kalejs has denied the charges and says he has come to Canada to clear his name.

Justice Department lawyers representing Canada's Immigration Department have piled up evidence from Kalejs' former comrades-in-arms identifying him as a senior officer in the AK and linking the AK to the mass execution of Jews. The defence has suggested evidence recorded in the former Soviet Union is unreliable.

However, Kalejs' counsel, Win Thompson and Lloyd MacIlquaham, began their defence by playing videotaped testimony of former AK members, which was recorded in the former Soviet Union. The evidence confirmed Kalejs' involvement with the unit and the unit's participation in mass killings.

Jurgitis, who joined the AK shortly after it was formed in July 1941, said he twice guarded areas where mass executions took place. He said the commander of the supply depot, an officer named Elmuts, told him the entire AK complement participated in the shootings.

Jurgitis said he and others from the supply depot stood guard while Jews were shot in the Bikernieki Forest, near Riga.

On another occasion, Jurgitis' supply department accompanied the unit to the town of Rezekne. Jurgitis said he remained with the provisions while the rest of the AK "went somewhere. I don't know where ... I don't know what they did and where they went."

"Didn't they tell you when they returned that they had executed Jews while the local police guarded the execution site?" asked U.S. attorney Ronnie Edelman, representing the Justice Department.

"There were such talks, yes ... I can't tell you whom they shot at, I was not there. But they got their meals when they returned," Jurgitis responded.

Later in Edelman's cross-examination, Jurgitis acknowledged that in December 1941 "there were talks to the effect that [the Jews of Riga] were liquidated" and that members of the AK guarded the Jews as they were led out of the city to their deaths.

In other videotaped testimony presented in Kalejs' defence, Leonids Jansons said he had "vague memories" of Kalejs as a member of the Arajs Kommando.

"As far as I can remember, he worked in July 1941 in the Latvian Security Auxiliary Police," which was more commonly known as the Arajs Kommando.

Jansons said he joined the unit around the same time and worked in its administrative department, doing paperwork and distributing identifying armbands that were decorated with a skull and crossbones.

Jansons said that in July 1941 he participated in arrests and apartment searches in Riga and "in the moving of the arrested people from the prison to the Bikernieki Forest."

Under cross-examination, Jansons offered more details: Jews were brought to the forest, where pits had been dug; as he and others stood guard, the Jews were brought to the edge of the pit where 10 members of the AK methodically shot them in turn.

From 50 to 100 Jews were killed on that particular occasion, Jansons said.

Jansons also testified that he stood guard in August 1941 while a synagogue in the "Moscow" district of Riga was burned down.

The hearing continues.

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Haifa mayor's mission to awaken 'Sleeping Beauty'

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Amram Mitzna has made it his mission since becoming mayor of Haifa three years ago to "take a city known to be the Sleeping Beauty [of Israel] and try to awaken it."

The 51-year-old retired army general could as easily use Cinderella as the metaphor for the northern Israeli city where he was raised and educated.

Under his direction, Haifa, Israel's third-largest city, has begun to undergo a transformation to dramatically boost its esthetic and tourism appeal: plans are under way to change the city's airport into an international terminal; a new convention centre is scheduled to open in early winter; new hotels, cultural and sports facilities are being built; public promenades on the beach have opened; and a kilometre-long hillside garden is being built by the Baha'i community.

The garden, for which the Baha'is have budgeted $250 million, will be "a real landmark" with waterfalls and hanging foliage, said Mitzna. Some 40 projects in total are expected to bring in $1 billion in investments by the year 2000.

The mayor visited Toronto and Vancouver recently as part of a whirlwind North American tour to meet with board members of the Haifa Foundation, an international group registered as a charity here in January 1995.

He also met with Mel Lastman, mayor of North York, one of over a dozen cities worldwide to be twinned with Haifa.

A visit scheduled for June was cancelled to allow Mitzna to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu immediately following the latter's election. Mitzna wanted to ensure that Haifa projects begun under the previous Israeli government would continue to receive Netanyahu's support.

As a staunch member of Israel's Labor party, representing a city known as a Labor stronghold, Mitzna doesn't see eye-to-eye with Netanyahu politically, but he is confident that "Haifa-wise, we will get along with them."

Arab and Jewish inhabitants of Haifa continue to coexist peacefully, despite the change to a right-wing national government, said Mitzna in an interview at a North York hotel.

Following the Hebron massacre two years ago, Mitzna took the unusual step of organizing and participating in a demonstration together with local Arabs to condemn the killings.

When he took office, there was some apprehension among Haifa's Arab population, he said. Not only does he have a military background, but the West Bank was under his command during the Intifada. "I was the bad guy."

Amram Mitzna

Now there is even an Arab chapter of the Haifa Foundation in Israel, he said proudly. "It's very unique. Never before did Arabs contribute to Israeli foundations." Foundation scholarships have been established for Arab students and other funds are allocated for projects in Arab neighborhoods.

The foundation supports a variety of community projects, but its main focus is on tourism and "being the informal capital of northern Israel."

Although Mitzna has been criticized for moving too fast in implementing change, he says if it were up to him, he'd move even faster. He is anxious that Haifa not "miss the windows of opportunity that opened the last few years — the economy [booming], peace on our doorstep, our proximity to Lebanon and Jordan. We must be ready for the time when borders will be open again."

Mitzna is convinced that Israel will achieve peace with its Arab neighbors, but not as quickly or nearly as smoothly as he once believed possible.

Mitzna hopes that by the end of his five-year term of office, some of his critics may become supporters. "Politicians promise a lot of things to be elected. If you have five years, people will criticize [at first] and only later on will they recognize the benefits to the city. It's impossible to be popular every day, in every neighborhood. Israel is developing in many places. If [Haifa] falls behind, it will not be able to serve its people."

Farrakhan visits Toronto

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakkan, who once referred to Judaism as "a gutter religion," took time from his speech here last Sunday night to wish the Jewish community a happy New Year.

"I didn't know this was a Jewish holiday [Rosh Hashanah]," Farrakhan told a packed room at the Westin Harbor Castle Conference Centre in his first-ever Canadian appearance. "I do in fact wish members of the Jewish community a happy New Year, but I came to talk to you."

He was referring to the overwhelmingly black crowd — mainly young men — who came to hear Farrakhan's message of black self-reliance and pride.

Prior to his Toronto visit, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) had lobbied federal officials to bar Farrakhan entry to Canada, on the grounds that his record of anti-Semitic statements in the past — including likening Jews to the Devil — provided "reasonable grounds" he would violate the anti-hate provisions of the Criminal Code.

Farrakhan's presence "would constitute an assault" on Canada's efforts to foster harmony, CJC national president Goldie Hershon wrote Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard.

But the immigration department said it could not bar the fiery 63-year-old American preacher because there was nothing to render him inadmissible.

Louis Farrakhan

Farrakhan told the capacity crowd, estimated at between 2,600 and 3,500, that he did not intend to break any laws of Canada.

"And I am certainly not here to try to pit one group against another, one religion against another, or black against white, or white against black, or black against Jew. My aim is to speak truth out of a spirit of love."

He began his three-hour talk with a greeting in English, Arabic and Hebrew.

Despite claims he was not trying to stir up racial tensions, Farrakhan referred to whites as the "enemy." And outside the convention room, his supporters were selling anti-Semitic booklets, including Martin Luther's *The Jews and Their Lies*.

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A thin veneer

It may have been innocently asked, but it was not an innocent question. Last week, Michel Gauthier, the leader of the Bloc Québécois, the official opposition in the House of Commons, asked the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to disassociate itself from the campaign by Howard Galganov to discredit the separatist government of Lucien Bouchard.

Galganov is not a member of the CJC. He does not represent them. Nor is he campaigning against separatism in its name.

Nevertheless, in Gauthier's mind the fact that Galganov is Jewish was a sufficient link to the CJC to justify his request. It is Galganov's religion, plain and simple, which ties him in Gauthier's mind to all his co-religionists, as embodied by the CJC. The insidiousness of the thought process is very unsettling and deeply troublesome. It is an example of the group stereotyping of Jews which, in every century since the early days of the church, has resulted in collective accusation, collective defamation and the collective "guilt" of a people.

As the *Globe and Mail* pointed out in its editorial of Sept. 13, "Only someone completely ignorant of history could fail to see how disturbing that might be to [the] Jews in Quebec... If Mr. Galganov were Presbyterian, would the Bloc have complained to the Scottish Societies of Canada? If he were Catholic, would it have gone to the Catholic Civil Rights League? Somehow, we doubt it."

Gauthier not only fails to see how disturbing his behavior was, he also sees no reason to apologize. However much he and other separatists profess to want to calm the fears of the "ethnic" voter, it is clear they have no real understanding of those fears. The separatists' tolerance for diversity is apparently a thin veneer, a mere patina of sufferance, which scratches away at the slightest agitation or when their agenda is challenged. If Gauthier's response is typical, they cannot be trusted.

The sorrow of others

The Yom Kippur liturgy is a pathway of poignant pleading. Fallible, vulnerable, we entreat God to sustain us past our mortality for yet another year. But these entreaties to God lead us inescapably through corridors of self-discovery. For example, one of the most deeply stirring prayers of Yom Kippur begins with the words *Shma koleinu*, hear our voices. We recite it four times. It is a short prayer, succinctly written, with a simple honesty that cuts to the common centre of all human existence. Two verses in particular typify its moving message:

Please do not cast us aside in our old age,
When our strength ebbs, do not abandon us.
Please do not abandon us, dear God... (Our translation)

It is a melancholy, almost pitiable cry seeking God's intervention in our lives. In truth however, it is for us, human beings here on earth, to assist God in his work from heaven. For after all, we are partners in the responsibility of making the world a better place.

Thus, as virtually every level of government in every Western jurisdiction continues to reduce its social and welfare programs, we must ask ourselves how we can help those individuals who find themselves, suddenly and frighteningly, "cast aside" or "abandoned" by a society no longer able, or willing, to help carry some of their burdens. If Yom Kippur provides any lesson, it is surely that the sorrows of others are also our own. We must never remain indifferent to those sorrows. How we respond to the sorrows of others is part of what we discover as we walk along the path of poignant pleading, asking favor for ourselves.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
Whoever seeks forgiveness from a friend, need not ask more than three times. *(Talmud, Yoma)*

ANOTHER YEAR AND...
ONCE AGAIN WE'RE CELEBRATING YOM KIPPUR.
IF YOU CAN CALL BEATING YOUR BREAST OVER EVERY IMAGINABLE SIN WHILE FASTING FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS "CELEBRATING"
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Sept. 16, 1927, Rabbi Harry J. Stern gave his first sermon as spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El Reform Congregation, Montreal, a post he held for 45 years. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Hungarian Olympic champion was Jewish

The article entitled "Olympic Games 1936" by Rabbi Gunther Plaut begs for more information.

The most decorated medalist in the 1952 and 1956 Olympics was a Jewish woman named Agnes Keleti, who, representing Hungary, won a total of 10 medals — five gold, three silver and two bronze, all in gymnastics.

This woman defected in Melbourne in 1956, later immigrating to Israel, where she became the coach of the national gymnastics team.

It is evident that Jewish people in Hungary were able to display their prowess and skills and climb to the very top of their various ladders in world competition. This is outstanding in that it was from Hungary in the summer of 1944 that 600,000 of the 900,000 Hungarian Jews "deported" died in the Nazi death camps.

It should finally be noted that Keleti still holds the all-time Hungarian record for medals won by an individual.

Joseph Friedman
Montreal

Refugee story about Tzfat is false

Re: the article, *"Palestinian refugees in Syria dream of returning home after half a century,"* in the *Montreal Gazette*, Aug. 22.

While I sympathize with the plight of any displaced person regardless of their nationality, religion etc., I feel that certain distortions of the events described deserve to be corrected.

Abed Abdullah has apparently an erroneous picture of both the events that took place as well as of the state of the area his parents left behind.

He cannot remember, since he was not there. *I was!*

First, did Abed's father and grandfather ever mention to him that the day after the United Nations ended the British Mandate of Palestine and declared it as a home for the Jewish people, not one, but five Arab armies, well trained and equipped had attacked this tiny just-born Jewish state?

Was Abed told that under the British Mandate, Jews were not permitted to own any kind of firearms and the ragtag Israeli forces only possessed some rifles smuggled in by the kibbutzim? An Israeli company of soldiers was lucky to have three or four different makes of rifles, each make requiring a different calibre of bullets, of which there were not enough available anyway. Handguns were at such premium that only officers from the rank of major were given one by the army.

About the very beautiful picture of the land, let me tell you that 48 years ago, Tzfat was a village with houses mostly built from clay mixed with straw, one storey with barren floors. There were hardly any trees or birds but mostly wild cactus plants, as tall as six feet.

The paradise-like picture that Abed describes was built with hard sweat by Israelis and mostly under the Syrian cannon bombardment which lasted until the Israelis captured the Golan Hills across the lake from Tzfat.

Lastly, a word to the wise about the approximately 700,000 Arabs who left their homes in 1948. They were not chased away, but left or ran away of their own volition. Why did they run? Perhaps they feared reprisals for the continuous attacks on Jews that happened throughout the many years of the British Mandate, attacks for which they were not held accountable by anyone.

By the way, how many refugees are there now? Two million, four million or maybe six million. Are they all descendants of the 700,000 who left in 1948?

Albert N. Cohen
Toronto

Jewish schools in Ottawa

The article in the issue of Aug. 22, entitled "Ottawa: a hot spot for Jewish life," calls out for clarification.

Yitzhak Rabin High School, for instance, is the first co-ed full-time Jewish high school in the city, serving three grades this year. There is also a boys' yeshivah and a girls' yeshivah here. There are two day schools, and four afternoon schools. There is a high school program that runs in conjunction with a public high school, "Ariel," as well as the Akiva high school-aged program.

Dale Fyman
Ottawa

Wants to thaw the big chill

Re: "The big chill puts discussion on hold" (*CJN*, Aug. 22).

I was struck by the poignancy of the photograph that accompanied the article: a student from the March of the Living draped in an Israeli flag, walking down railway tracks.

I was reminded that no matter where one goes, one will almost always be able to find at least one person who will find something offensive. Should this mean an end to writings, songs and images that are ultimately challenging and moving for most of us? Congratulations to Eli Rubenstein for pointing out a problem which leads so many of us to feel scared.

Yael Markus
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Piety must not squeeze out morality

By RABBI HOWARD JOSEPH

Saturday evening, Nov. 4, 1995. A fateful time. Shabbat is over. The first news reports are in. As I look back upon the past year, I realize that a day has not passed during which I did not think of the event that shook us: the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

As a professional Jew involved with public Jewish life on a daily basis, I was profoundly shocked. As a private Jewish individual, this tragedy led me to reconsider some my most fundamental religious attitudes.

As a professional Jew, I was depressed. Is this what Jewish life was becoming? Is this the way we will be solving our disagreements? How long will it take after the establishment of the modern State of Israel to learn how to run a modern state? Or did we learn too quickly and begin imitating too readily the rest of the world? How much more pain and suffering will we cause ourselves in the process? After all, we have not had such a major assassination of a Jewish leader for about 2,600 years since the Babylonian appointee over Jerusalem, Gedaliah ben Ahikam, was murdered. This further aggravated the subjugated condition recently begun with the destruction of the Temple, the conquest and the exile. Indeed, so shocking was this event that we still maintain a fast day in his memory on the day after Rosh Hashanah. It has now assumed new and contemporary relevance.

Of course, there was also the sadness that one of the great modern leaders of our people had been destroyed. For many of us, Yitzhak Rabin was the symbol of the new Israeli type that was emerging. He devoted his life to the defence of our people since before the state's establishment and participated with distinction in each major military crisis. He seemed to know when to be kind and when to be tough, capable of great tenderness and yet fierce in battle. He was not a professional politician interested in being elected for the sake of power. He appeared to be a man with a lifelong mission, who now needed the power of election to achieve that mission. Many of us felt that if he was guiding the uncharted waters of a peace process that it was in pretty good hands, even if we did not understand or agree with all his positions and policies.

As a private Jew, many of my previously held attitudes seemed naive. These issues concerned the relationship between religion and morality, nationalism and religion, nationalism and morality, democracy and religion and many others.

For me, a religious person should naturally be committed to the welfare of the community and nation and should naturally pursue a morally elevated lifestyle. Those religious persons who did not do so, I believed, were being less "religious" than they should be. Maybe they were selfish, unrefined or just plain weak. But in the Rabin murder we faced a different reality.

It was not weakness that motivated the killer. It was in fact his claimed commitment to God and nation that led him to his immoral act and its justification. He believed and he still believes that he did the right thing. The dispute was one of principle and not greed. The killer totally delegitimated Rabin's principles — they were against the will of God. Only his own principles were correct.

Some explanation was required as to how this dynamic worked. What indeed is the relationship among the dimensions of religion, national commitment and morality.

This was all the more pressing and depressing because the killer was not really a "stranger" to me. No, I had never met him. But I thought I knew him and many others like him. In fact, like Baruch Goldstein before him, I know many like both of them. They both come from the religious Zionist background in which I grew up. This orientation is committed to religion and the nation. It is open to modern secular studies and many within this group believe that these studies enhance our religious life while they also enable us to participate in the creation of a modern state.

Awful deed

One was able to dismiss Goldstein somewhat, for he did not survive to tell his story. It seemed that he may have just cracked and he did his awful deed on that Purim day in a deficient mental state. But Rabin's killer survived to tell his story over and over again without any changes or regrets. From that story. it appears that everything he learned in his yeshivot led directly and unrelentingly to his crime against our people. As Rabbis Yehuda Amital and Aharon Lichtenstein said after the murder, "We are particularly pained by the fact that the perpetrator of this abominable murder grew out of the community with which we are identified, acting out of distortion of its values." How is this possible? What in the system leads to such a painful and lethal distortion?

I found guidance from the writings of Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, one of the most famous disciples of the Neziv, Rabbi Naphtali Zvi Yehuda Berlin. Rav Kook, who died in 1935, was active in the Zionist movement at the beginning of this century and became the first modern Ashkenazi chief rabbi in re-state Palestine. He wrote voluminously on all areas of Jewish knowledge from a kabbalistic orientation which was open to modern philosophic and scientific thought. He was one of the remarkable men of our century.

Rav Kook depicts three powerful forces that shape human beings and human societies: religion, nationalism and morality. A healthy person and a healthy society must blend these factors into a positive synthesis in order to sustain and further its life. When one of these factors expands at the expense of the others, the imbalance can be dangerous and even fatal: extremism results. The inner spirit of each force, its truth and love, are emptied from each of the vessels. The spirit can only be maintained by a well balanced and well proportioned vessel. Any extreme, in any of these aspects, risks the whole venture. Religion, nationalism and morality must each find its proper level and work together to sustain life. They also must leave room for each other while challenging each other not to expand beyond their proper spheres. Each must learn the limits of its scope and influence, in order to create harmony. Pushed to excess, any one of these constituents destroys the balance. This jeopardizes the entire process. Life cannot be sustained and nurtured unless proportion and balance prevail. Pessimism sets in and life deteriorates.

Rav Kook's analysis has a distinctly contemporary ring, despite being written almost 90 years ago. He seems to accurately portray the divisions in our community, then and now. We can locate elements of the community that are religious, nationalistic and humanistic, but we find very few who integrate — or even try to integrate — all the constituents. Religious people, for example, will make their religious commitment supreme. However, how will they conceive the scope of that commitment? In a narrow ritualistic fashion, or as they should know full well, with a commitment that requires of them a love of the nation and a moral duty to all? Can they live up to these demands?

At one time, it was the religious-Zionist camp that strove for this balanced perspective. Under the influence of Rav Kook and others, this was their stated ideal. Rabin's murderer has called all that into question.

Our great religious texts contain all these elements. They challenge us to harmonize all the forces together despite giving supremacy to the relationship with God. For a religious person, this is so important that it is liable to overshadow the other elements. Therefore, none other than God makes the demands upon us for loyalty to our people and moral responsibility. If it were so easy and natural, it would not be necessary to command this. God knows the dangers of intense religious enthusiasm.

Intense nationalism or humanism also bear dangers. Taken to extreme they too can produce tragedy. We all know very well what the ideologies of this century have produced: Nazism or national socialism on the so-called right, totalitarian communism on the left. No century ever experienced more mass-murder than was produced by these extremist ideologies in our time. Unfortunately, Rav Kook was right on.

The sages of our tradition have always recognized the dangers of intense piety. Even those immersed in Torah study and performance of mitzvot are not immunized from committing terrible acts. On the contrary, they may even be more vulnerable and liable. After all, they live on such a high pitch of intensity, enthusiasm and inspiration. They must exercise restraint, discipline and judgment or else they can fall into the traps of self-righteous disregard for others.

Love poetry

The Talmud (Yoma 23a) relates: "It happened once that two (young) Kohanim were running evenly up the ramp [in the Temple, in order to be first and thus be the one to perform the sacrificial service of the day.] One of them intruded in the way of the other. He drew a knife and plunged it into his heart … The father of the [slain] youth came and found him in his death-throes. He said, 'May he be your atonement — my son is yet in his death-throes and the knife is not yet defiled!' This teaches us that ritual purity was more serious in their eyes than bloodshed."

True love of God is conceived of very differently by our tradition. The sages recognized that love of God is similar to human love. In that regard, a lover seems to desire that his beloved will be admired by others. Hence, love poetry not only endears the beloved to the lover, but also instructs others about the virtues of the beloved. This is true for the love for God as well.

There is a Talmudic comment to the verse *Ve'ahavta et HaShem Kelokechah* (You shall love the Lord your God): cause the name of Heaven to be loved through you. You should read, study, apprentice yourself with scholars and deal kindly with people. What will people say? Blessed is his father who taught him Torah, blessed is his teacher who taught him Torah; how unfortunate are those people who did not study Torah, for look at him who has studied Torah: how pleasant are his ways, how refined his deeds … But one who reads, studies and apprentices himself with scholars while he is not honest in dealings with people … what do they say about him? Woe to him who has studied Torah, woe to his father who taught him Torah, woe to his teacher who taught him Torah" (Yoma 86a).

Note how the second part does not say "woe to him who has not studied sufficient Torah." It says "woe to him who has studied Torah." This text, contrary to the accepted notion, links his corruption to Torah study and not its absence. He has failed his beloved. Is his love true? If it were, the lover would behave in a proper manner in order to reflect well upon and gain admirers for the beloved. The true lover of God promotes the love of God through proper morally elevated behavior.

The murderer of Yitzhak Rabin claimed to be a lover of God. All he did was for the sake of God: it was God's wish that he executed. In actual fact, rather than enhancing God's presence in the world by an act which we call a *kiddush HaShem* — sanctifying God's Name — he desecrated God's Name in an act known as *chillul HaShem*. Rather than advancing the cause of religion, he perpetrated a crime against both man and God which led many people to question the value of religion altogether. This is a perfect example of the imbalance spoken of by Rav Kook. Truth and love disappear and important principles such as religion are emptied of meaning.

We live in strange and difficult times. The obvious truths seem lost and forgotten. Maybe we did not realize that no truths are so obvious that they will be automatically perpetuated. They have to be consciously taught and reinforced in order to construct the atmosphere and lifestyle we seek. If not, if we believe that at any one point we have become so perfect that all will continue along its merry way, we are indeed due for some awful surprises. The balanced perspective of life needs affirmation and reaffirmation in order to effectively construct a balanced and wholesome life. This is what we must wish, pray and work for in the new year.

Let us permit Rav Kook to have the final word. In Orot Hakodesh, (3, p. 27), he says, "It is forbidden for piety (*yirat shamayim*) to squeeze out man's natural morality … If you could imagine piety in such a manner that it had no positive influence upon life, — that there would be a greater tendency to do good and to actualize matters that benefit the individual and the community without it — a piety that lessens this actualization is an illegitimate form of piety."

Rabbi Joseph is the spiritual leader of Spanish and Portuguese Jews, Shearith Israel of Montreal.

Opinions

Some urgent questions

At this time of year, it seems, there are more questions than answers. That's why I declined to give the Israel Bonds appeal at my shul on Kol Nidre night. For me, that solemn evening is more about silent reflection than the urgency of a fund-raising drive or, for that matter, the clarity of a political analysis.

By Shira Herzog

Had I accepted the generous invitation, there are a few thoughts I would have shared with my friends and congregation. The Days of Awe are about prayer, hope and commitment. When it comes to Israel and the Jewish world, we pray and hope for peace, for security, and for continuity ... But it has become so much more difficult to take any of these for granted. Ironically, as we have become stronger and more secure, both in Israel and in the Diaspora, the bonds that were forged in our weakness have become more tenuous.

For decades, we prayed that Israel would no longer have to fight for its survival. While peace is not yet at hand with all its neighbors, Israel no longer faces the existential challenge that it did in its early years. Outside of Israel, Jews dreamed of the ability to live free of discrimination and persecution. For North American Jews, these are no longer issues.

For Israel, the challenge is threefold: the challenge of peace, the challenge of community and the challenge of the Jewish world. Benjamin Netanyahu won the last election because he pledged to continue the peace process — not because he promised to stop it. Indeed, the greatest pressure on him to keep his promise is his desire to be re-elected in the year 2000. But while Israelis have indicated their desire to "normalize" their relations with their Arab neighbors, adapting as a society to the challenges of peace is far more difficult.

Israel's symbols and national ethos were created when the nation was literally besieged by hostile enemies. Peace, or the absence of war, requires the creation of symbols that reflect the values of a nation that is strong, secure and prospering economically due to the "dividends of peace."

The challenge of community is not just to acknowledge that the status quo and compromises struck in 1948 among different visions of Israel as a Jewish state are no longer working effectively, due to political and demographic developments over the last 50 years. Rather, it is to understand that how the issues are debated is no less important than what is being debated. Without the glue of a battle for survival, Israelis have to forge a new sense of community that reflects the new realities of the country and its citizens, and identify shared values that reflect at least minimal common denominators.

The challenge of the Jewish world, in turn, is the urgent requirement for a new understanding by Israelis of the partnership for the future with the Jewish world. And if the automatic support of Israeli governments of the past has been replaced by an intense debate in communities outside of Israel on the issues of the day, Israelis have to recognize that Jewish communities yearn for more than political fundraising when Israeli election time rolls around.

We have a threefold challenge as well: the challenge of Israel as a democracy, the challenge of peace and the challenge of community. We proudly proclaim that Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, but when that democracy exercises its right to change the government, our support for the principle is sorely tested. Can we really respect the collective wisdom of the people that democracy, with all its imperfections, represents?

Our challenge of peace is to see Israel for what it is — the strongest nation and strongest economy in the region, and yet understand that in its strength lie new opportunities for connecting and belonging. We don't need Israel's vulnerability to feel needed. We can rejoice in its strength and affluence, and continue to enrich the quality of life of its citizens through our many contributions.

And finally, can we forge a sense of community and shared values that reflect our own strength, diversity and power? Can we renew and redefine the bonds of the past and create a new legacy of pride, engagement and belonging that we will pass on to our children and grandchildren?

These are tough questions. But they are necessary; they are urgent; they're ours. They are the kind of questions that we should think about as we reflect on the year that passed and the new year that is upon us. Shanah Tovah.

Looking back

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada publishes a magazine called *Shem Tov*, and its summer edition carried a remarkable reprint of an old article. It had appeared in the *Toronto Mail & Empire* on Sept. 25, 1897, and was written by a recent graduate of the University of Toronto who was practising journalism.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

The article was part of a series entitled *Foreigners who live in Toronto* and, in retrospect, assumes added interest because the writer was none other than W. L. Mackenzie King who later (from 1921 to 1930 and 1935 to 1948) would become prime minister of Canada. Here are some excerpts which will throw light not only on our Canadian community, but also on the way the man who served as prime minister during a crucial period of this nation looked at our people.

After describing the occupations and backgrounds of the 2,500 Jews then living in the city — and doing this objectively and without the usual superiority displayed by the people of his time — the author goes on to say:

"What has been accomplished in the course of their religion is already too well known to need comment here. The new synagogue on Bond Street (Holy Blossom Temple), dedicated a short time ago, is an edifice which testifies more forcibly than words to the religious zeal of the Jewish people and to the place which they hold in the community today. While it is unquestionably one of the finest structures in Toronto, it is also one of the few of the many churches in the city which are without a cent of debt.

"The Jewish Sunday coming on the busiest days of the week has pressed hard upon some of the poorer Jews. In their efforts to work five days and live seven they have felt the squeeze between the pressure of vigorous religious convictions and the necessary satisfaction of economic needs, but the fidelity with which most of them comply with the demands of their faith is heroic.

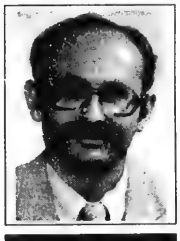
"Their families are usually large and the houses of the poor are invariably small, but it is seldom, if ever, that two families are found living in the same house, or that sickness prevails amongst them. Here again religion is operated to affect their material condition.

"The 'unclean thing' is rejected by the Jew, and even to the poorest among them, the custom of keeping separate dishes in the 'milky' cupboard and the 'fleshy' cupboard is rigorously maintained. Moreover, the Jews are very abstemious people. It is a great rarity to see a Jew the worst for liquor ... There are practically no criminals amongst them, and it is only when they quarrel amongst themselves that they give trouble to the police."

The clearly positive view which King had of our community did not, alas, translate itself into accepting a sizable Jewish immigration when our people needed it most, during the 1930s and '40s. There is nothing in this article to suggest that the author saw Jews as a foreign, unassimilable part of the population — a position which later on the unspeakable Fred Blair (the villain of *None is Too Many*) purveyed with such zeal.

New reading for a new year

Two new Jewish magazines have appeared. They add something different to the liberal end of the socio-political spectrum, alongside magazines like *Moment* or *The Jerusalem Report*.



By Morton Weinfeld

The first, *Davka*, is published by young, radical/hip Jews based in San Francisco. It is striving to link Jewishness to new cultural currents like rap and hip-hop. The issue I saw (in a Barnes and Noble in Burlington, Vt.), featured an article about a Jewish woman supporting tatooing and body piercing, another about Jews involved in rap music (they are at best marginally Jewish), and a short piece by the playwright David Mamet. It is clearly aimed at Jewish generation Xers, and those younger.

The second is *commonQuest*, published jointly by the American Jewish Committee and Howard University, a distinguished African American educational institution. It is dedicated to fostering rapprochement between Jews and blacks in the United States and is earnestly liberal. While it stresses its commitment to honesty no matter how brutal, it also seeks to restore black-Jewish relations to the harmony which allegedly prevailed in the early civil rights era, before Jesse Jackson, Louis Farrakhan, the O. J. Simpson verdict, Crown Heights, affirmative action debates and the like polarized the two groups.

Both magazines seem like heroic efforts. Is there a sufficiently large constituency of readers of *Davka* among progressive and avant-garde young Jews alienated from the mainstream Jewish community? It would be easy to dismiss the effort in cynical fashion as being Jewishly shallow. The real issue is not that *Davka* will ever become a major force of Judaic intellectual renewal. It won't.

What is intruguing is why those alienated and marginal Jews involved in putting out this magazine feel compelled to articulate a Jewish identification. Why not simply let the whole thing slide? Clearly Jewishness in some form retains at the least a symbolic value for them.

The magazine reminded me in some places of a very pale imitation of the Jewish counter-culture of the 1950s (that produced the Havurah movement among other things).

The *Davka* crowd does not have the Judaic background or commitments of the earlier group. But I suspect that if they persist and survive as a magazine with a following, some space within organized Jewish life will open up for them.

Reading *commonQuest* (the cover page title had a lower case "c" and a capital "Q;" and why one word and not two?) left me conflicted. Who can be against rapprochement? Here in Montreal, black-Jewish rapprochement has also been in vogue. Last year B'nai Brith co-sponsored a symposium on black-Jewish relations, and more recently the Canadian Jewish Congress co-hosted a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's glorious year with the Montreal Royals. (There is a more explicit common agenda in Montreal, since both groups position themselves as anglophone, federalist communities.)

But Canada is not the United States. There, black-Jewish relations have been nastier.

The problem with *commonQuest* is the difficulty it will have in trying to find common ground in the two sponsoring communities. Despite joint past struggles, the socio-demographic and economic data point to increasing divergence between black and Jewish communities in the United States, and one suspects, in Canada as well.

One article was a symposium on Jewish and African American (differing) views on the Million Man March in Washington. A second was an excerpt from *The Temple Bombing* by Melissa Fay Greene. The book recounts the story of a bombing of a pro-integrationist Reform temple in Atlanta in 1958. What stands out from the excerpt is first, how assimilated those Atlanta Reform Jews were in 1958, and second, how the mainstream southern Jewish community did *not* play an activist, vanguard role in the drive for civil rights.

A magazine is not an ideal vehicle for an intensive group therapy session. I doubt that it will succeed in changing preconceived notions held by both Jews and blacks about the other.

Let me wish all readers, and their families, a *Shanah tovah u'metukah* — a good and sweet year.

The Kirshner File

Plumbing the puzzle of the Middle East

The Middle East, as it is so often portrayed in the media, is an unfathomable puzzle. But it need not be so. Delve into the following books and the pieces may fit into place.

By Sheldon Kirshner

A History of the Modern Middle East (Westview Press, $24.95 US) provides a first-rate overview of the region. The author, William Cleveland, is a professor at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia.

The book is divided into four parts — the development of Islamic civilization to the 18th century; the era of transformation in the 19th century; the Arab and Jewish struggle for independence; and the region since 1945.

The last segment is of particular interest, covering the age of Gamel Abdel Nasser in Egypt, the role of the United States in the area and the emergence of Ba'athist regimes in Iraq and Syria. Cleveland also expertly deals with the rise of the PLO, Israel and the Arab states, the Arabian peninsula, the Islamic revolution in Iran, the 1990-91 crisis in the Persian Gulf and the Mideast peace process.

All in all, a book of immense value.

The Arab World: Society, Culture and State (University of California Press, $15 US) serves as a complementary volume to *A History of the Modern Middle East.*

Halim Barakat, a member of Georgetown University's Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies, analyzes the nature of Arab identity, probes social structures and institutions and examines the dynamics of Arab culture.

A fine, thoughtful study.

Inside the Arab World (Harvard University Press, $27.50 US) explores the political, geographic and cultural reasons for the malaise which affects Arab countries today.

Michael Field, an expert on the subject, ranges far and wide as he considers such germane issues as the fragmentation of Arab society, the pervasiveness of corruption and the epidemic of bad government.

Muslim Extremism in Egypt (University of California Press, $12 US) is an incisive survey of the fundamentalist movement, beginning with the founding in 1928 of the still influential Muslim Brotherhood.

Gilles Kepel, a French scholar, offers a broadly conceived interpretation of the movement's leadership and ideology.

Rediscovering Palestine (University of California Press, $20 US) draws an intriguing portrait of Palestinian society in the district of Nablus during the late Ottoman period.

Drawing on local council records, private family papers and Islamic court archives, Beshara Doumani traces the relationship of culture, politics and trade with the production and distribution of cotton, textiles, olive oil and soap.

Jerusalem (Princeton University Press, $19.95 US) is a vivid portrayal of a contested city as seen through the eyes of Jews, Muslims and Christians.

F.E. Peters, a professor of Near Eastern languages, literature and history at New York University, draws upon the first-hand accounts of a multitude of observers — pilgrims, holy men, soldiers, merchants, tourists.

Running the Palestine Blockade (U.S. Naval Institute/Naval Institute Press, $25) tells a compelling story — the clandestine transport of Holocaust survivors to Palestine by the Jewish underground and volunteer American seamen.

The writer, Rudolf Patzert, was the captain of one of the U.S. surplus vessels — the Paducah — which brought the survivors from Europe.

Jerusalem looms large as a pivotal issue

Meron Benvenisti, the former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, has been an observer of the Arab-Israeli dispute for many years, having expressed his liberal views in newspaper columns, public speeches and books.

Now, in his latest work, a dispassionate book entitled *Intimate Enemies* (University of California Press), Benvenisti zeroes in on the subjects closest to his heart, Jerusalem and Israel's conflict with the Palestinians.

Benvenisti's view of Jerusalem is anything but monochromatic. Jerusalem is fundamental to Israel's identity as a nation, yet he describes it as "a collection of alienated islands ... separated by deep ravines."

He blames Teddy Kollek, the ex-mayor, for having originated and nurtured the myth that Jerusalem is unified. Going one step further, Benvenisti claims that the annexation of Jerusalem was "an illegal act," contrary to international law.

Like most Israelis, Kollek assumed the Palestinians of East Jerusalem would reconcile themselves to the city's unification and enjoy its benefits.

On this issue, Benvenisti is of two minds. On the one hand, the Kollek administration "openly discriminated" against the Arab population with regard to services, allotment of resources, licensing and environmental development. On the other hand, there were "huge improvements" in the Arabs' quality of life during the same period.

This dichtomy, of course, affects Palestinian attitudes. The Arabs support the *physical* unification of Jerusalem because it is in their interest. However, they reject the *political* implications of unification, given their desire for a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Benvenisti adds that Ehud Olmert's victory in the 1994 municipal election ushered in "a new era of polarization" in Jerusalem. Olmert, a right-wing politician, supports Jewish intrusion into Arab neighborhoods and agitation against the current peace process. As a result, Benvenisti maintains, Olmert has thrust Jerusalem into the political maelstrom and exacerbated friction with the Arab population.

The Palestinians, he goes on to say, have studied the Zionist movement assiduously. Above all else, they have learned that subjective will can overcome objective reality, provided the resources of the entire community are mobilized, proto-sovereign institutions are established on the basis of voluntary association, and a pragmatic policy unhampered by absolutist ideologies is pursued.

Benvenisti readily admits that the Oslo peace process came as a surprise to him. The majority of Israeli Jews embraced the 1993 Declaration of Principles because they were weary of the burden of trying to control two million hostile Palestinians in the territories. In his opinion, it interfered with their pursuit of a Western-style consumer economy.

In closing, Benvenisti calls for a confederation between Israel and a Palestinian entity. This arrangement would blend "a vertical geopolitical partition with a horizontal power-sharing partition."

In the present mistrustful climate, the idea sounds far-fetched and unrealistic. But in the Middle East, virtually anything is possible or feasible sooner or later.

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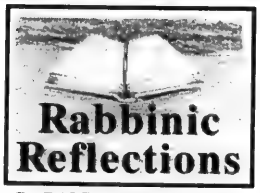

Time to examine deeds from past year

By RABBI IRVIN BEIGEL

One of the most distinctive features of the Yom Kippur services is the confession of sins.

In an age in which moral relativism is widespread, the notion that sin exists is itself a bold statement. The machzor reminds us that our conduct is judged by absolute standards. We may not say, "I did it because it is right for me." No organized community can sanction the right of individuals to create their own law, to decide what morally and ethically is right for them. Such an approach would condone, even sanctify, virtually every action no matter how destructive to society as a whole.

A community committed to the standards of right and wrong found in the Torah must ask that "what is right for me" give way before G-d's law. When we act contrary to the teachings of our Torah, *chatanu* — we have sinned.

The Hebrew word *chayt*, translated as sin, really means to miss the mark. The word suggests that most of the time we really want to do what is right, but sometimes we fall short and end up doing wrong.

The long list of sins we confess on Yom Kippur reads like an indictment of humanity. One can read it and become depressed, realizing the extent to which human beings can and do stray from decent, moral behavior. Yet, there is one statement on this list which suggests a more positive view of humanity. "For the sin we have committed before You with the evil inclination (*yetzer harah.*)

If this verse mentions the *yetzer harah*, what about all the other wrongdoing enumerated? If the evil inclination does not lead us to those sins, it must be the *yetzer hatov* (the inclination to do good) which is responsible. Most of the time, we do not set out to do wrong. We want to do what is right. Our motivations are the most praiseworthy. Given the chance, most of us try to do that which is moral and ethical. We are not evil by nature. We struggle to do good in the world, even if we sometimes miss the mark.

This favorable evaluation of people carries with it a warning as well. Good intentions are not enough to produce good behavior. Not only must we want to do right, but our actions must meet the test of rightness — the test of Torah and Jewish tradition.

As we approach the solemnity of Yom Kippur, may we examine both our intentions and our deeds. By doing so, may we bring more good into our lives and into the world.

Best wishes for the coming year. *G'mar chatimah tovah.* May all of our people be sealed for a good year of health, happiness and peace.

Rabbi Beigel is a member of the Toronto Board of Rabbis.

Sense of loss, failure awaits at Buchenwald

By ROBIN BERGART

Guest Voices

I recently returned from a student trip to Germany and Poland organized by the United Synagogue's Koach Movement. One of our stops was Buchenwald, the first visit to a former concentration camp for all 25 students in the group. Most of us consciously or unconsciously expected to feel a dramatic change in our environment and our feelings as we drove from Weimar to Buchenwald.

In her article of Aug. 8, Goldie Hershon writes of her recent trip: "When we left Weimar, the sun was shining; when we entered the gates of Buchenwald, it became bitter cold and a fine mist fell."

On the day that our group arrived in Buchenwald, the sun continued to shine and most of us found ourselves confronted, not with overwhelming emotion, but with bewilderment.

Buchenwald concentration camp is now a large, almost empty field of dried up grass and dandelions surrounded by a barbed wire fence. A thick green forest lies beyond the fence. The blocks which housed the prisoners were either demolished after the war or torn down to be used elsewhere as school rooms.

At the perimeter of the camp, several buildings still remain, including the barracks for the Germans working at the camp, a canteen and a small zoo built for the Nazis' recreation. The original iron entrance gate is also still in place inscribed with the words *Jedem Das Sein* (roughly: You Get What You Deserve).

At Auschwitz, the famous *Arbeit Macht Frei* faced those who entered the main camp, but at Buchenwald, the message was eerily facing the prisoners on the inside of the camp and could only be read from the inside looking out.

What is most striking about Buchenwald today, however, is that it shows memory-in-the-making. At least a dozen memorial plaques and sculptures have been placed throughout the camp remembering the Jews, the Russians, the Gypsies, the children, the political prisoners and others who were murdered here.

The overall impression we had was of confusion and a lack of completion. Rather than a unified effort to record the horrors of the past, the groups who created the memorials each seemed to be groping to accurately and adequately preserve the memory of 50 years ago.

Unlike Auschwitz, which has been turned into a sterile museum of the Holocaust, at Buchenwald there is a sense of loss and failure to sum up and preserve the past. Part of this may be due to the fact that Buchenwald suffers from a lack of funds and staff, but whatever the reason, the somewhat confusing and chaotic state of memory-making at Buchenwald makes it an extremely challenging and disorienting place to visit.

The visitor has to work hard to picture what the camp looked like from the time of its construction in 1937 until its partial demolition in 1950. The site reflects many different layers in the camp's history which are not simple to sort out. For example, the present-day bookshop is housed in a building constructed during the Holocaust. Even the present size of the camp is not the same as it was during the Holocaust.

Many in our group experienced strong negative reactions when we told friends and family of our summer plans to visit Germany and Poland. We were warned that we would have a depressing summer. Or we faced shock and disgust at the notion that we would set foot in these countries.

We were not naive: many of us were children or grandchildren of Holocaust survivors and/or had relatives who were murdered in the Holocaust. Most of us were well-read on the subject of the Holocaust and had our own ambiguous feelings about travelling through Germany.

However, one thing I think we all learned from the trip was that there are no easy answers and no easy feelings to be found in Germany. In Buchenwald, especially, the complexity of history and memory is apparent.

To polarize the experience of moving from the sunshiny city of Weimar to the "bitter cold" chill of Buchenwald does not do justice to this complexity.

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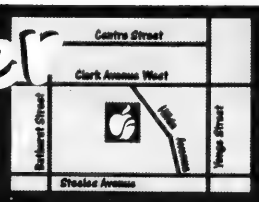

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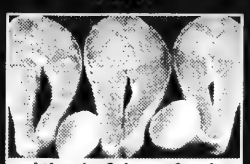

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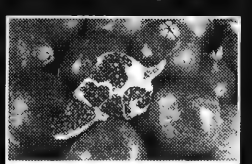

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מגן דויד אדום

Jews in the Bard's time

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Shakespeare And The Jews by James Shapiro, Columbia University Press $44.95

For the most part, this impressively researched book is not about Shakespeare, but about how Jews were viewed and treated in the time of Queen Elizabeth I. Although Jews were expelled from England in 1290, at least several hundred remained in an overall population of about four million. Archival evidence from the period reveals that Tudor kings allowed small groups of them to remain as merchants, Hebrew scholars and physicians. They were not officially readmitted into the country until 1656.

What is astonishing about this book by a professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia University, is how obsessed the British were with Jews in their midst. In addition to acknowledged Jews, there was a confusing mixture of Jews, including *conversos* from Spain and Portugal, professional converts who posed as Jews and accepted Christianity, false Jews (Christians who masqueraded as Jews) and foreign Jews.

Diaries, sermons, political, social and religious tracts, and travel literature inveighed against them. They were accused of the desecration of the host used in the mass and the poisoning of wells. The charge of ritual murder had a long and special history in England and remained a popular notion even when there were few Jews in the country and no manifestation of the crime.

In the prevailing interest in Jews, even Queen Elizabeth was accused of being among their number. A privately published book came to the bizarre conclusion that she was a "secretly practising Jewess." The Queen's personal physician, Roderigo Lopez, suspected as a secret Jew, was tried and executed in 1594 for an alleged plot to poison her. An observer at the time wrote, "He went to his death strenuously affirming that he loved the Queen as well as he loved Jesus Christ, which, coming from a man of the Jewish profession, moved no small laughter among the standers-by." Some scholars believe that the unfortunate physician, undoubtedly innocent, was the prototype for Shakespeare's Shylock.

It is the author's basic thesis that Jews were regarded as a threat to British culture and homogeneity — at a time of great social and political change — largely because the British themselves were unsure of their own essential nature. The question of whether Jews could or could not be Englishmen in the fullest sense became an intricate and indirect way of arguing who and what an Englishman was.

The author emphasizes that although Jews were not fully tolerated or granted citizenship in early modern England, they were never subject to violent attacks, forced to convert, penned up in ghettos or burned in inquisitional fires, as they were elsewhere in Europe. (The infamous York Massacre took place long before in 1190.)

No English political or religious writer in this period came anywhere near the virulence of Martin Luther's diatribes, which called for the burning of synagogues, prayerbooks and Jewish homes.

"The fate of the Jews of England proved to be quite different than it was and would be in other European nations, both Protestant and Catholic."

In discussing *The Merchant of Venice*, the author asserts that much of the play's vitality can be attributed to the way in which it scrapes against a bedrock of beliefs about the racial, sexual and religious difference of others. "I can think of no other literary work that does so as unrelentingly ... and as honestly."

This is an innovative, scholarly work — six years in the making with over 50 pages of notes and a full bibliography. But it is accessible to the general reader interested in a many sided and absorbing subject.

Kosher Foodfest a success

By **LEILA SPEISMAN**
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Food samples, arts and crafts, cooking demonstrations and Jewish books all combined to make the first Aish Hatorah Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest a smashing success.

In fact, organizers and exhibitors alike called the two-day event held at the Promenade Mall in Thornhill fabulous.

Exhibitors included a scribe, Rabbi Shmuel Yosef Zirkind, who showed how *t'fillin* and mezuzot are made; caterers, stores, food distributors and producers; and information tables for Aish Hatorah and the Israel Aliyah Centre. Even *The CJN* was there.

Debbie Korn, of B & D Kosher Cuisine, who demonstrated how to make challah, carrot tzimmes and honey cake, called the exhibit "a wonderful experience."

"It's great for people to see how easy it is to make these foods for themselves. It helps enlighten the community about what Judaism is all about."

One of the most popular exhibits was the Your Jewish Name table, at which you could find out the meaning and significance of your Jewish name and have a printout about it.

Eve Davidson (left) and Rene Daiter offer samples of lox, flatbread, smoked mackeral and low-fat cottage cheese at the first Aish Hatorah Jewish Life & Kosher Foodfest. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Devorah Ohayon, who organized the project, said, "Exhibitors were thrilled and told me that they want to come back again. We are already planning for next year."

She added that she hopes that the number of exhibitors will double next time. "It's a fun day and educational — and it doesn't cost anything."

The show was part of Aish Hatorah's mandate "to encourage people to learn about Judaism, to develop a love and pride about Judaism and Israel," she said.

Rabbi Ephraim Shore, Aish Hatorah's executive director, echoed Ohayon's comment that the show was fabulous.

"It was a celebration of Jewish life. Thousands of Jewish people were out, having fun, even learning a bit, in a nice Jewish atmosphere.

"We are so lucky to be in a country that allows us to show our pride in being Jewish," he said.

UJA tours its beneficiaries

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — United Jewish Appeal (UJA) missions usually refer to tours to Israel, with scheduled visits to UJA beneficiaries. A recent half-day "mini-mission" took place in Toronto, however, to familiarize participants with the local beneficiaries of UJA dollars.

Mission organizers were Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Women's Campaign.

Last year's UJA campaign raised a total of $34 million, just under $4 million of which was raised by Women's Campaign. Of the total, a little over half is put to use in the local Jewish community by agencies affiliated with the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Representatives from the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), the Bernard Betel Centre, the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and the Kehilla Residential Project spoke about their respective agencies, some of which were included on the tour.

About $7.5 million is provided by the community for Jewish education, said Phil Alter, an executive member of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE). Although that amount represents about half the UJA money earmarked for Toronto, school deficits are rising. There is a $3 million gap between their collective allocation and recommended needs, Alter explained.

The BJE has an $800,000 operating budget, and allocates $6,700,000 as tuition subsidies to parents, which are calculated on the basis of financial need. Day school tuition fees average $7,000 a year per child at the elementary school level, Alter said.

Toronto has 16,554 children in its formal Jewish educational system, which includes about 40 supplementary schools serving over 6,500 children, as well as eight high schools and 17 full-day elementary schools representing a wide range of Jewish ideologies.

* * *

Jewish Family & Child Service deals with a variety of societal issues, among them child abuse, addiction and placing foster children.

Florence Weinberger, JF&CS executive assistant, spoke about the agency's financial assistance program as one example of where the UJA dollars go. An estimated 21,455 Jews live below the poverty line in Toronto, she said.

Like many other agencies, JF&CS had its budget reduced last year: about $600,000 was cut from its budget, the majority of the cut being from provincial and municipal funding. At the same time it faces increasing community needs.

"Bertha" is a typical JF&CS client. A recently divorced single mother, she called the agency reluctantly when she found herself unable to pay the rent on her apartment, Weinberger said. Bertha's marriage had broken up following the failure of the business she and her husband ran when they lived in a "nice little house in Thornhill."

The agency worked with Bertha to set a workable budget for her and is providing counselling and a monthly $294 supplement to allow her to "live in dignity within a modest budget."

Other aspects of JF&CS's financial assistance include extra help at Passover and a budget of $80,194 to send children to summer camp. "We believe in summer camp, and even a week at a day camp is a stretch [for some of our clients]. We feel if they want it, it's a normalizing activity, and it's also a respite for the mom."

JF&CS has 10 low-income housing units at the Kehilla Residental Project, two locations of which were seen on the mini-mission.

Kehilla was established in 1982 with seed money provided by UJA/Federation and is now self-sufficient. Partners in one of its buildings include Senior Care, Reena, the BJC, JF&CS and the Betel Centre.

The latter agency, a community centre for seniors, was also included in the mini-mission. The Betel Centre offers subsidized hot kosher lunches and a wide variety of classes and programs. It serves 411 individuals on a daily basis, said program director Norma Steiner.

The BJC is probably best known for its athletic facilities and summer day camp, both of which are subsidized for those members of the Jewish community who cannot afford the fees. Other funded programs include the Community Integration Program (CIP) for Russian immigrants, the annual Jewish book fair, nursery school and day care, said BJC executive director Deborah Pinsky.

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שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן

רשמי מסע לארץ ישראל, קיץ 96:

בטורים הבאים אשתף אתכם ביומן מסע אישי, שמשקף כמובן דברים דרך עיני המסתכל. ראיתי שם הרבה דברים קשים והרבה דברים מעודדים, בערבוביה שיכולה לעשות קלקול קיבה למי שמערכת העיכול שלו עדינה. אז לדרך.

מושב בנגב, ספט' 96:

למרות שקוראים לחינוך בארץ "חינוך חינם", נדרשים ההורים לשלם אלפי שקלים לאורך השנה, כדי לממן הוצאות שונות, החל מספרי לימוד וכלה בחוגים. בבתי ספר רבים לוחצים על ההורים לשלם על ידי הקראת שמות הילדים שעדיין חייבים (יענו: שהילדים יתביישו וילכו הביתה ולחצו על ההורים). אבל יש בתי ספר שבהם נוקטים בשיטות יותר החלטיות כדי לחייב את ההורים לשלם: לא נותנים לילד "העבריין" ספרים ומחברות. אז הינה, ציטוט ישיר מ"ידיעות אחרונות" של 3 בספטמבר:

"ילד בן 12 מאחד מיישובי הנגב תלה את עצמו אתמול למוות בחדרו, לאחר שהוריו לא שילמו את אגרת החינוך לבית הספר, וחבריו לכיתה לעגו לו כי אין לו ספרים ומחברות. במכתב ההתאבדות שהותיר הילד מצאו ההורים המומים שאלה אחת שהופנתה אליהם: "למה לא שילמתם את אגרת החינוך". אה, וכדי שהזוועה תהיה מושלמת כדאי לציין שאחיו בן השבע של הילד הוא שמצאו תלוי. חשבתי לעצמי: בטח מה שהפריע לילד יותר מכל הוא זה שחבריו לעגו לו. אכזריותם של ילדים כלפי ילד חלש, עני או זנוח ידועה היטב. דרוש המון חינוך כדי ליצור סובלנות.

סובלנות או חינוך לסובלנות לא מצאתי בישראל של 96'. מצטער.

סיפור כד הכסף:

יום אחד הודיעו כותרות העיתונים בארץ שכד כסף עתיק שנתן הארכיבישוף היווני כמתנה לראש הממשלה המנוח רבין. הופיע במכירה פומבית. להגדיל את המבוכה, הודיעה דוברת מטעם גברת רבין כי הכד הוחזר לחנות בה נקנה והוחלף בעד שני מגשי כסף ש"היו דרושים להגשה בבית ראש הממשלה". איזה חוסר רגישות כלפי מיעוט שהחשיב מאוד את ראש הממשלה המנוח ואת ערכה האמיתי של מתנה עתיקה! לאה רבין התנהגה כאילו היתה זו בונבוניירה שמעבירים מיד ליד בפיליטון של אפרים קישון. התביישתי.

מהפיכת המנגו:

בילדותנו, וקרוב לודאי גם כיום, בקנדה, נחשב פרי המנגו למשהו אקזוטי, יקר, שקונים רק לעתים רחוקות. אבל לא בישראל. כתוצאה מפיתוחים חקלאיים מהפכניים, משווקת היום ישראל כל מנגו שלישי שאוכלים באירופה. לפני מספר שבועות התקיים בתל אביב כנס מגדלי המנגו העולמי, כי ישראל היא מעצמת מנגו ממדרגה ראשונה. ומדעני מכון וולקאני ממשיכים לפתח מנגו גדול יותר, מתוק יותר. מה אני אגיד לכם, למרות ש"ספר בראשית איננו מפרט את רוב פירות גן העדן (מלבד התפוח הגורלי של עץ הדעת), אין לי ספק שלמנגו היה שם תפקיד מרכזי.

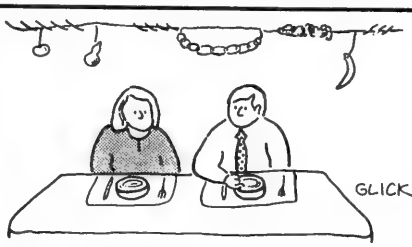
משהוא לראש השנה:

במקום תפילה, שיר יפה של לאה גולדברג, שענייננו ראש השנה:

"האמנם עוד יבואו ימים בשליחה ובחסד
ותלכי בשדה, ותלכי בו כהלך התם...
ונשמת את ריחו של התלם נשום ורגוע
וראית את השמש בראי השלולית הזהוב,
ופשוטים הדברים וחיים ומותר בם לנגוע,
ומותר, ומותר לאהוב..."

שתהיה שנה טובה.

SHMOOZIN



Although Barry and Ruth, while having dinner in the sukkah, at first merely thought that the soup was unusually watery, they eventually realized that it was raining out.

Greater Toronto Area

Yiddish enjoying resurgence among youth

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A banner year for Yiddish education in Toronto is expected as a result of rising interest in the language and completion of the first training course for Yiddish teachers.

Three of the first graduates of this course, Sylvia Tishler, Faye Kellerstein and Ruth Gerlock, will teach children from junior kindergarten to Grade 8 Sunday mornings at Associated Hebrew Day School, 250 Finch Ave. W. The acting coordinator is Jeanette Stein.

It is hoped that 75 children will enrol in these free classes, where Yiddish reading, writing and conversation will be taught in a creative and stimulating atmosphere. Jewish holidays, culture, customs and history, art and music are a basic part of the program, which starts Sept. 22 and runs from 9.30 a.m. to noon.

The classes are sponsored, as are Yiddish courses for high school students and adults, by the Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation in cooperation with the North York and York Boards of Education.

High school credit classes at Northview Heights Secondary School at Bathurst and Finch, for students in beginning and intermediate Yiddish, will prepare them for OAC credits. These are also free evening classes.

For adult beginners and for intermediate and advanced students, Yiddish conversation will be reinforced by the introduction of reading and writing to strengthen learning. Folk music and innovative learning games will be used.

Seniors taking the Yiddish classes pay a $6.50 registration fee. For other adults, the fee is $75 for a 10-week course.

For registration and other details call Sylvia Lustgarten, 635-2882, ext. 155.

Kindergarten children sing at a Yiddish concert.

A real Super Sunday

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Organizers of United Jewish Appeal's (UJA) recent Super Sunday hold the cool, rainy weather partly responsible for the day's take of a whopping $2 million in pledges.

"When the weather is unsettled, people are home and when they're home, they pledge," said Howard English, director of communications for Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

He also credits the 600 volunteers who made more than 6,000 phone calls to members of the Jewish community during the 12-hour day. "It was an outstanding volunteer turn-out. Every shift was overflowing, even those that are traditionally harder to fill."

The annual telethon, a prelude to UJA's Super Week which follows closely after the launch of its annual campaign, is one of Toronto's most successful one-day fundraising drives English said.

"The community is very receptive and there is a low bad debt ratio. Last year volunteers filled out 2,600 pledge cards on Super Sunday alone."

Volunteers who manned tables in the brightly decorated, balloon-filled room in the Lipa Green Centre came from all sectors of the community. A table of four men, all membners of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, estimated their total ages to be more than 100 years.

Children were also present, some as young as 6 years old collecting and sorting pledge cards, and others even making calls. To add to the festivities, radio station CFRB's Monica Desantis broadcast on-site, twice an hour for four hours.

"This is the first time we've had a radio station with us," said David Goldstein, chair of the 1997 UJA campaign.

Super Sunday co-chairs, the father and daughter team of Donald Rafelman and Debbi Stern turned out with their whole family including young children.

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I BELIEVE

I BELIEVE *that our community must continue to rise to the challenge of change.*

Today, we are a stronger and more vibrant community, more varied, with diverse priorities and new and emerging needs. We have become a "community of communities."

That means we must think differently, respond differently, and act differently in order to reach out to all members of our community. What's required is a new level of leadership and involvement.

I believe that UJA Federation is the organization to bind our community together, to serve as the most effective catalyst for change.

Elaine Todres

By funding our community's institutions, UJA Federation enriches Jewish life in Toronto. It provides help and hope to those in need. It ensures access to a Jewish education and fosters Jewish culture. It enables us to speak out on the critical issues that affect Jews here, and abroad. It builds living bridges with Israel.

But for all we have, demand is not being met. The resources we need can only come from one place: Our community. Each and every one of us.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY. FOR ISRAEL.
FOR OUR CHILDREN. FOREVER.

UJA FEDERATION

UJA Campaign gains momentum

UJA Federation's 1997 campaign is riding high.

The campaign is 6% ahead of last year at this time boosted by a successful Super Sunday and Super Week.

Last week's Atarah and Lion of Judah Women's Campaign luncheon, hosted by Rose and Sam Reisman, was one of several key campaign events.

Over 100 top Women's Campaign donors heard from Alla Levy, Director General of Jewish Agency operations in the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and Eva Ryterband, the president of a large automotive parts manufacturer, who received a fresh start 26 years ago, thanks to UJA Federation.

Ryterband recounted how she was helped twice by UJA Federation - once when she arrived as a young immigrant to Toronto and 10 years later, when her father was ill. She now wants to give something back to the community. "Without the Jewish community my family would have been destitute," she said.

According to Alla Levy, there are now 22 direct flights to Israel from the Former Soviet Union, funded by the UJA Federation supported Jewish Agency.

"We live in a big world," said Levy, "but in a small Jewish world where we must look after each other."

Francie Storm, who chairs the Lion of Judah division with Janice Langer and Bonnie Goldstein was enthusiastic about reaching new young contributors and thought Levy and Ryterband's speeches were "extremely powerful and inspirational."

"Today's program got to the root of what UJA Federation does for people in distress," added Janice Langer.

Rose Reisman, renowned cookbook author and business woman, applauded the "tremendous accomplishments of Women's Campaign volunteers."

Marilyn Gold, Maryka Weisz and Carole Herman Zucker are chairs of the Atarah division which together with Lion of Judah raised $1.9 million toward last year's campaign.

Above: Ruti Kinar (left), wife of Israel's Consul-General, and Women's Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell
Left (from left): Alla Levy, Eva Ryterband, Sam Reisman and Rose Reisman.

From left: Bonnie Goldstein, Maryka Weisz, Alla Levy, Francie Storm, Eva Ryterband, Carole Herman Zucker and Janice Langer.

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UJA FEDERATION ORGANIZES MONTREALERS REUNION

UJA Federation's Rockin' Montrealers Reunion promises to be as warm as the parking lot at the *Orange Julep* on a summer Sunday afternoon and as much fun as an evening at *Yesterdays*.

So if you're one of the 12,000 ex-Montrealers now living in Toronto, you won't want to miss a night of nostalgia and new friends on Saturday, November 2 at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

The reunion is part of UJA Federation's outreach to ex-Montrealers, designed to make the former Quebec residents feel at home in Canada's largest Jewish community.

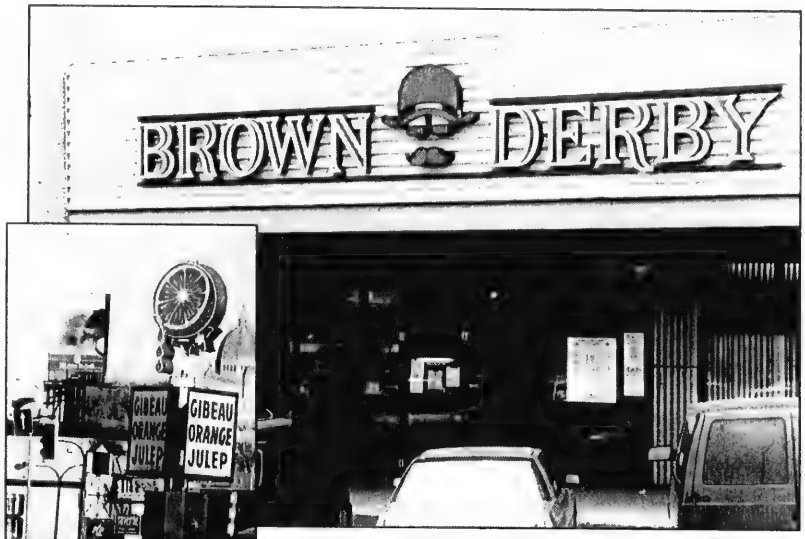
"My life has been enriched a great deal through my UJA Federation involvement," explains one-time Montrealer Judy Engel, who is chairing the event. After moving to Toronto 13 years ago, and knowing very few people, Judy called UJA Federation to find a link to the community.

"The reunion is all about making people aware of how UJA Federation can make them feel a part of the community," she adds.

Former Montrealer Loretta Levinson, and marketing coordinator for the event, says the reunion "will be a great opportunity for ex-Montrealers to see old friends and reminisce."

Participants will be treated to authentic Montreal-style deli, music from Mandell Entertainment and, promises Engel, "beaucoup de laughs." Ex-Montrealers can also sit in specially designated areas like Westmount, Snowdon, Cote Des Neiges and Hampstead as they take a trip down memory lane.

Tickets for the event are $36 in advance and $45 at the door. For more information, call Olga at (416) 635-2883 ext. 107.



The Brown Derby restaurant was a favorite hangout for Montrealers.

The Orange Julep provided a Montreal treat with a unique twist.

UJA funds business matchmaking

UJA Federation is helping to carve out new business links between Israel and the rest of the world.

Representatives of Business Network Israel BNI), a division of Operation Independence, jointly funded by the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government, recently met with members of UJA Federation's Economic Development Committee. BNI, Yael Varsano-Barzilay, Israel's Trade Commissioner to Canada and committee members explored joint venture possibilities between Israeli and Canadian companies.

BNI was created in 1992 to assist Israeli companies in expanding their business contacts in North America and to act as a resource for North American companies seeking partners in Israel.

The committee works with members of the community to enhance investment and economic activity in Israel which helps to absorb and employ thousands of new immigrants each year.

BNI's unique mission requires strong leadership and sharp business sense from its Managing Director who just happens to be the highest ranking female officer in the Israeli Army. Brigadier General (Res.) Amira Dotan not only revolutionized the way Israeli women participate in Israeli's Defence Force, she is now changing the way Israeli companies do business with the rest of the world.

Amira Dotan is Israel's first female General.

"We have a very practical, hands-on approach," explained Dotan, during her visit to UJA Federation. "BNI identifies viable Israeli companies and with the right research and contacts finds the best matches."

Dotan noted that the UJA Federation network of contacts is very useful in locating the right company.

"It's the best way to show our support for Israel," explained Economic Development Committee Vice Chair Beverley Abramson.

BNI and the Economic Development Committee have demonstrated success in matching companies from both medical imaging and vitamin supplement fields.

If you would like to become involved in the Economic Development Committee or find out more about BNI, contact Meir Klein at (416) 631-5739.

Getting young adults 'Out in Front'

Looking for a meaningful way to get more involved with your Jewish community? Here's how.

On Thursday, September 26, UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet is holding an *Out In Front* information session for anyone, 25-40, who wants to explore volunteering.

Participants will be able to mingle with some of UJA Federation's most dynamic volunteers and hear how they help hundreds of people. "It's especially aimed at newcomers to Toronto who are looking for a Jewish connection," explains David Rashkovan who is co-chairing the evening with Jacqueline Valmont.

Both Rashkovan and Valmont are ex-Montrealers who turned to UJA Federation as a way of becoming more connected with their new community.

David Rashkovan

Jacqueline Valmont

"The great thing about UJA Federation," notes Rashkovan, "is that there's something for everyone."

Valmont, who won UJA Federation's 1995 Rookie of the Year award for her work with the Young Leadership Cabinet, says she volunteers because she "wants to give something back to the community that helped her when she needed it most."

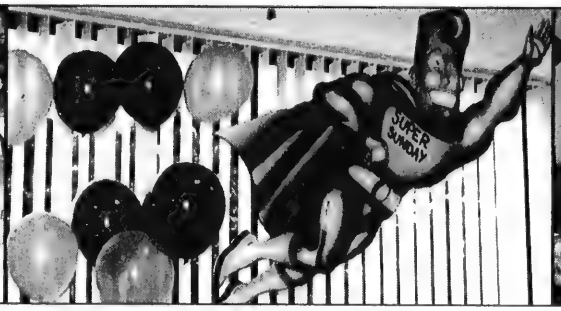
"We hope to peak people's interest in volunteer work but we're also offering them a great way to meet people," adds Valmont.

Out in Front will take place on Thursday, September 26, 7:00 pm at The Game Room, 449 Walmer Road. To reserve a space call Lydia English at (416) 635-2883 ext. 172.

Community Matters

SUPER SUNDAY....SUPER SUCCESSFUL

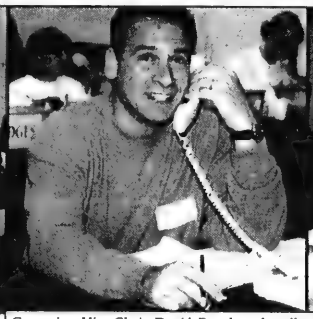
6,000 pledges...$2 million...not bad for a day's work. Campaign Chairman David Goldstein tallies pledges.



Super Sunday Hero points the way to success.

Co-chairs Debbi Stern and Don Rafelman called Super Sunday "a living example of Jewish continuity."

You're never too young to pitch in. Just ask 4 1/2 year old Candice Silver.



Campaign Vice-Chair David Engel made calls in between canvasser training sessions.

Super Sunday is super fun day for volunteer Robert Bercovici.

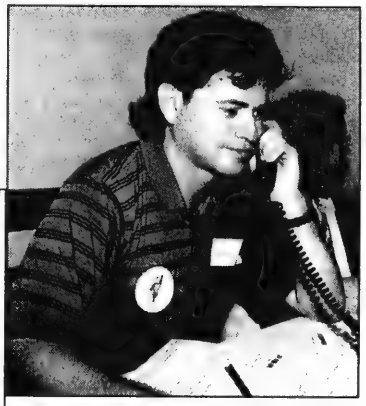
CFRB's Monica Desantis gets the story from junior volunteers Spencer Miller and Rebecca Baskin.

It was a day that symbolized belief in community. Super Sunday drew a record 650 volunteers, who received gift commitments from an unprecedented 6,000 contributors. They pledged $2 million dollars toward UJA Federation Campaign '97.

For 12 hours, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, grandparents and friends joined together on behalf of the community. The spirit carried volunteers into Super Week, with nightly telethons following Super Sunday.

Stephen Epstein captured the Super Sunday atmosphere in this photo-story of an exceptional day.

First timers Paulette Kestelman (above) and Suzie Epelbaum (right).



First timer, Marty Caplan.

◀ Campaign Vice-Chair Michael Daren updates crowd.

Danita Dubinsky Aziza and daughter Tali.

Susan Mogil and Herb Rosenfeld tangled in success.

Jana and Michael Stern.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation: Website: www.feduja.org

SUPER COMMUNITY TURNOUT

Super Sunday's volunteer corps included 250 enthusiatic representatives from 28 businesses, organizations and schools. Herb Rosenfeld and Beverley Holtzman co-chaired the outreach effort to community organizations. The following participated in Super Sunday: Adath Israel Synagogue, Arthur Andersen & Co., Associated Hebrew Schools, Bathurst Jewish Centre, Baycrest Men's Service Group, Baycrest Women's Auxiliary, Beth Haminyan, Beth Israel Hebrew Academy, Beth Tikvah, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Bloor JCC, Canadian Jewish Congress, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, Coopers & Lybrand, Durham Jewish Community, Goodman & Carr, Holy Blossom Temple, Intergenerational Holocaust Program, Jewish Camp Council, Jewish Campus Services, Jewish Vocational Service, Na'amat Canada, National Council of Jewish Women, Netivot Hatorah Day School, Senior Care, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, United Synagogue Day School, Weston Forest Corp., and Workmen's Circle.

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•Bookkeeper/Accounting Clerk; ACCPAC Computer Skills, Lotus & WordPerfect
•Data Entry Clerk/Administrative Assistant; upgraded computer skills
•Dental Assistant; 10 yrs. experience
•Electronic Technician; experienced
•Legal Assistant; Gen. office worker
•Library Technician
•Motor Trade Service Advisor
•Photographer/Videographer; 10 yrs. experience
•Receptionist/Word Processor; proficient in MSWord
•Shipper/Warehouse Worker
JF&CS VVS UJA FEDERATION
For more information or to arrange an interview of our candidates, please call Fran Giddens at JF&CS (416) 638-7800, Ext. 268

Kosher food importer fights federal labelling laws

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A box of crackers and a package of cereal bars were the prime exhibits as the case resumed in Quebec Court's criminal division against a kosher food importer who is using the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion to defend himself against charges of not complying with federal labelling regulations.

Prosecutor Gilles Villeneuve entered as evidence the labels from Lieber's Bite-Size Snackers and Sun Valley Oat Bran Crunchy Snacks, products imported from the United States by Importations Cacheres Hahamovitch Inc. that do not meet Canadian law on nutritional claims and information regarding cholesterol, fat and sodium content.

Hahamovitch's defence is that requiring imported kosher food to comply with these laws infringes on the religious freedom of Jewish Canadians. Lawyer Paul Nadler says U.S. manufacturers and Canadian importers find it impractical to affix separate labels to most products because the Canadian market is too small.

The Crown contends that even if Justice Bernard Grenier deems the law to be an infringement, it is "reasonable" and can be "demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society."

Villeneuve is trying to show that the greater public good, in this case, he maintains, the health of Canadians, both those at special risk and the general population, takes precedence.

There is no exemption for kosher foods from nutritional labelling, as there is for bilingual labelling, even for the Passover period.

Expert witness Margaret Cheney, chief of the nutritional evaluation division of Health and Welfare Canada, explained the development and rationale behind Canada's food labelling regulations and how they differ from those in the United States.

Canadian law, Cheney said, requires manufacturers to provide a detailed breakdown of the product's fat content by amount and by type, if it makes a claim of being low fat.

Objective is to protect consumers

In the case of the snack bars, for instance, whose front panel bears a claim they are low fat, there is no information whether that fat is saturated, polyunsaturated or monosaturated, Cheney said, as Canada requires.

The objective of the law, she said, is to protect the consumer by giving them "a full picture" of fat content.

In the case of sodium content, Canadian law requires that any product carrying a claim of being low sodium must not have more than 40 milligrams of sodium per 100 grams (except for meat, poultry, fish and cheddar cheese), Cheney said.

In the United States, however, a manufacturer can make a low-sodium claim if the product contains up to 140 mg per 50 grams.

The Lieber's crackers, which come from the United States and claim low sodium, have a much higher sodium content than is permitted in Canada, Villeneuve told the court.

Cheney testified that studies show the public is influenced by the labelling claims on food packaging and does read the nutritional panels.

Last year, the federal government laid 20 charges against Hahamovitch, under the Food and Drugs and Consumer Packaging and Labelling Acts. The charges were for lacking French on the labels, as well as nutritional and package size violations. Many of the illegally labelled products were seized from the shelves of at least seven major retailers in the summer of 1995.

In January, Grenier acquitted Hahamovitch of five of the 12 charges related to language. In his judgment, he said certain kosher foods may qualify as "specialty foods," as described in the Food and Drugs Act, and therefore should be exempt from the requirement of having French and English at any time of the year.

He did not, however, agree with Nadler that the bilingualism requirement is unconstitutional.

The Crown dropped charges of violation of packaging size standards because, Villeneuve said, it is expected that the Canadian and U.S. regulations will soon be harmonized under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The defence is scheduled to present its expert witness when the case resumes Dec. 18.

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Our Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year

From coast to coast

Likud throwing Ottawa a few curves

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — Canada's relations with Israel have taken a strange turn in recent days.

The striped suit bunch at Foreign Affairs in Ottawa still don't know what to make of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's new Likud government.

And they appear divided among themselves over what line to take on what is happening in Israel and the Middle East.

Relations deteriorated a notch last month after Israeli authorities destroyed a children's playground that had been built four years ago in east Jerusalem with Canadian funds.

There were some Foreign Affairs officials who advised doing nothing, on the grounds that it was a "domestic" Israeli issue, and Canada should stay out of Israeli politics. Others urged making the strongest sort of public protest because they viewed the playground demolition as a "regrettable and provocative action" that had involved the waste of Canadian taxpayers' dollars.

In the end, the Canadian government sent a mild protest note and issued a short public statement, but went no further, deciding to stay out of the issue on the grounds it was up to Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat and Netanyahu.

A more serious internal issue at Foreign Affairs arose about the same time last month, when a former Canadian ambassador to Israel, Norman Spector, wrote a column which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* on Aug. 16, praising the new free trade deal between Israel and Canada.

Spector was Canada's ambassador to Israel from February 1992 to August 1995 and knows a great deal about trade relations with Israel.

He described how there had been opposition to the free trade deal for "political" reasons, some of it within Foreign Affairs.

He made it appear that some Foreign Affairs officials were at odds with the Prime Minister's Office and praised Prime Minister Jean Chretien for going ahead and ignoring them.

But it was the next line in his column that has infuriated his former colleagues on Sussex Drive.

Spector wrote: "Mr. Chretien's demonstration of independence upset, but did not vanquish the Arabists at what was now called Foreign Affairs."

Spector added that a group within Foreign Affairs has not "given up trying to derail the agreement with Israel."

These were serious charges indeed. If Spector's charges are true, it means a group of public servants — whom Spector did not name — are deliberately working against official government policy, while they continue to collect a government salary.

The term "Arabists" implies that their approach to Middle East issues may be somewhat less than impartial, to say the least.

Spector's former colleagues were incensed. How could one of their own, a former ambassador to boot, turn on them and vilify them with the epithet "Arabists," and accuse them of betraying their public service oath, of working against government policy while they continue to collect a federal pay cheque?

Some wanted the minister to demand a public apology from Spector. Others insisted Spector be forced to name names or issue a retraction. Some wanted him to lose his ambassador's pension.

Several recalled that when Spector had been the principal secretary to then prime minister Brian Mulroney, he had clashed with Foreign Affairs on a number of occasions.

Others recalled the Prime Minister's Office in those days had frequently meddled in Foreign Affairs business, and surmised the heavy hand of Spector had been behind it.

Great consternation ensued, but in the end, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy issued no statement.

Foreign Affairs did absolutely nothing. No rebuke was issued and the whole thing died down as quickly as yesterday's news.

All of which could mean that Spector may have been closer to the mark than we figured.

But it didn't win Spector any friends at Foreign Affairs. Several have begun referring to Spector (who works for Imperial Tobacco in Montreal) as "that cigarette salesman from Montreal."

Don't expect Spector to be on too many "Arabist" guest lists at Foreign Affairs.

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B"H

Please be advised that the advertisement that appeared in the Toronto Star on September12, 1996 is not endorsed by the umbrella organization of

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Congregation Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Rabbi Imannuel Schochet
Chabad Israeli Community, Rabbi Yisroel Landa

Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year

CJC rejects Bloc's request to denounce Galganov

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Gauthier said he made the request, not specifically because Galganov is Jewish, but because Galganov has "presented himself as representing many people and many groups" and "we know this is not the case ... It is important that Quebecers know the reality: that he is not representing any organization when he speaks ... that he speaks for himself."

Gauthier said he wanted CJC to "clarify the situation ... that Galganov does not speak in their name." Although he did not get what he wanted, Gauthier said he was satisfied with the CJC response.

He said Galganov's statements have become "more and more difficult to accept" and specifically cited Galganov's calling the PQ government "bastards."

The meeting between CJC and Gauthier had been set several weeks in advance and was held at the initiative of Congress. That it fell the day before Galganov left for New York and Washington was coincidental. However, the agenda was supposed to have been to apprise the new BQ leader of issues of CJC concern, such as Nazi war criminals and multiculturalism.

Galganov called the PQ government "bastards" on an English-language radio station and apologized soon after. However, ardent nationalist Gilles Rheaume, leader of the Mouvement Pour la Souveraineté du Québec, turned the remark into one directed at all separatists and thus against the 60 per cent of French Quebecers who voted yes in the referendum.

Bernard was angry at Rheaume and at *La Presse* reporter Gilles Paquin for their focus on Galganov's long-ago JDL involvement.

Paquin's story appeared the day before Galganov left for New York. "The man who has set himself as the defender of anglophone rights and denounces furiously the 'ethnic nationalism' of Quebecers," it began, "went to school in the JDL, an outlawed racist movement in Israel."

The next day Paquin wrote a story on the JDL, headlined "The JDL: a violent movement in Montreal."

The theme was picked up by Rheaume who cited the "racist" JDL link as one reason he would not follow Galganov to New York.

Galganov, 46, has acknowledged that he was associated with the JDL as a youth in 1969-70 in Montreal and that its only attraction for him was its activism on behalf of Soviet Jewish emigration. He said he has had no association since then.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

CYCLE IN THE CITY: Start the New Year off Healthy! Explore the cycling paths of Toronto during Fall colours. Sunday, September 29th, 1996. Information: 905-707-0147.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIME OUT! presents its second sensational season! Great way to have fun, meet new people and keep fit. Teams and individuals welcome. **FREE** T-shirt for the first 50 to register.
CALL NOW! (416) 255-2230

Come Join the Mix & Match Jewish 5 Pin Bowling Week. Sunday evenings, have fun meet new people. For more info. Call 416-588-7202.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1130** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** wks. 398-7068.

METRO TORONTO SINGLES presents our 3rd Annual co-ed volleyball season, from November - March. Limited space. $65.00 Call 222-7111.

NEW IMAGE 50 PLUS SINGLES is having a dance on Sat. Sept. 21st at Earl Bales Community Centre. **D.J. Phil Allenbick.** Refreshments, Prizes, Members $5., Non-members $7. **FREE Dance Lesson from 7:45-8:15pm. Enjoy!!**

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Saturday, October 12th
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
7095 Woodbine Avenue

Jedwab calls La Presse reporter's actions 'despicable'

CJC Quebec region executive director Jack Jedwab was even stronger in his criticism of Paquin. He said Paquin has acted more like an "ultra-nationalist militant with an agenda" than a journalist, in his coverage of Galganov.

He said he found it "despicable" that Paquin had called some 20 Jewish "leaders" for an opinion on Galganov and tried to "transform this into a Jewish question."

Speaking to reporters last Friday, Gauthier said he had no regrets and felt no need to apologize over comments he made to CJC about Galganov.

New Edmonton congregation holds holiday services

EDMONTON — Members of the newly formed congregation Beth Tzedek held their first High Holy Day services this year, with Cantor Avinoam Sharon of Israel leading the prayers.

Founding Beth Tzedek members left Beth Shalom Congregation because, says a press release from Isobel Rodnunsky, a member of the interim board of the new shul, "politics were interfering with our focus on Jewish beliefs."

The congregation has been meeting since March for Shabbat morning services.

According to the press release, Beth Tzedek is an egalitarian participating congregation and conducts a Conservative service.

About 25 members attend the Shabbat services consistently, with as many as 42 people participating "and we look forward to a positive year. We are attempting to be an intimate shul. Everyone is welcome to participate. We are not in any way trying to take members from their own congregations but are looking to welcome those in our community who are unaffiliated," the press release says.

The Medicine Hat, Alta., Sons of Abraham Congregation has loaned a Torah to Beth Tzedek and Beth Israel Synagogue in Edmonton loaned prayer books and a Torah to help the congregation get started. Donations have been made for the purchase of prayer books.

Members of the interim board are: president, Saul Zalik; vice-president, Alan Rutkowski; *gabbai* Sol Estrin; secretary-treasurer, Harold Rodnunsky; directors Joe Benjamin, Pam Estrin, Isabella Easton, Helen Goldberg, Sara Zalik, Isabel Rodnunsky.

Campus news & views

Students gather for 'inspiring' conference

By SIMONE JOSEPH

TORONTO — A dash of leadership training, a pinch of text study and lots of *ruach* were the ingredients that went into the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Hillel International Leaders Assembly.

More than 350 students from North America, Russia and Ukraine, including 25 Canadians, gathered for the assembly, held recently at Camp Moshava in Pennsylvania.

Inbal Erez, a fourth year student at the University of Toronto, said she found the assembly inspiring.

"I wasn't sure how involved I wanted to get [in the Jewish Student Union]. This gave me a boost and now I want to get involved. It got me all charged up and ready to start the year," she said.

The assembly brought together Jews from many different backgrounds. Michal Kaye, a history major from York University, was impressed by this demonstration of pluralism.

"We can learn from the conference that the Egalitarian, Reform, Conservative, Conservative and Orthodox can sit down and get along and respect each other. There was a definite interest to find out more about each other," she said.

Students were able to learn from one another by presenting their successful program ideas in a session called Student Program Shuk.

For example, the University of Pennsylvania presented their Hillel Chaverim — Buddy program, in which Jewish freshmen are paired up with senior level students. The University of North Florida presented their program of a mock Jewish wedding.

The students also attended various sessions to improve their skills, such as Create Your Own Web Page and Grant Writing: If I Were a Rich Student. They also engaged in text study, examining such topics as Judaism's view on abortion, and participated in a discussion of the Talmud as a guide for conflict resolution.

The students were also entertained by a Jewish a cappella group from Columbia University, called Pizmon.

As well, the Canadian students were part of the talent show, called Saturday Night Live. They performed a skit and sang a song called *We are Canadian* to the tune of *We Will Rock You*.

The Canadian students were able to *schmooze* with students from such schools as Princeton University, the University of Judaism and the Moscow Academy.

There were creative Jewish identity workshops, which ranged from painting and dancing to storytelling and meditation.

To Jill Binder, a computer science major from Carleton University, both dance and text study were an important part of the Assembly. "The Israeli dancing and text study strengthened my Judaism. The Israeli dancing was a sense of community and the text studies helped put Judaism into perspective," she said.

Of the Canadian participants, Eric Greenwood, a student from the Ohio State University, said, "Having Canadians here adds to the diversity. It was interesting to find out about Judaism in the Toronto/Montreal area."

Zac Kaye, executive director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, said that when he first came to the assembly three years ago, there was one Canadian student. Last year, there were 14 Canadian students and this year there were 25.

"It's forced Hillel to add issues that relate to campuses beyond the United States," Kaye said.

Canadian students at the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Hillel International Leaders Assembly.

Former IDF Chief of Staff

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Sept. 19, is deadline for Oct. 3 issue, and Thursday, Sept. 26 is deadline for Oct. 10. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Saturday, Sept. 21

SHABBAT SHUVA DRASHA

Rabbi Moshe Stern, Shaarei Tefillah Congregation, delivers the Shabbat Shuva Drasha on the topic How to Strengthen and Save Your Marriage, 5:45 p.m., Entire community is invited.

Tuesday, Sept. 24

MEDICINE & HOLOCAUST

Dr. Henry Friedlander, Brooklyn College, City University of New York, lectures on Problems in the Study of Medicine and the Holocaust, 4-6 p.m., 88 College St., Seminar Room. For information, **Prof. Edward Shorter**, University of Toronto, History of Medicine Program, 978-2124.

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES

A free talk on Women's Health Issues by chiropractor **Dr. Marsha Black**, 7 p.m., 552 Sheppard Ave. W. 635-1818.

Wednesday, Sept. 25

BONDS RECEPTION

Yorkdale Lodge, B'nai Brith, cocktail reception at the home of **Sam and Gita Ganz** for honorees **Jerry and Fila Blitzer**. Guest speaker **Pinchas Dror**.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogy Society of Canada meets 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Aaron Nussbaum** speaks on Chassidic and Non-Chassidic Genealogies-Two Case Studies.

MEMBERSHIP EVENING

Golda Meir chapter, Jewish Women International, mid-40 plus, special membership meeting with a social worker speaking on Stress Management. **Sheila** 222-8602.

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble annual general meeting plus a staged reading of a comedic rendition of *Ladies in Waiting*, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Room 29. 633-2057. No charge.

ARTIST'S TALK

Artist **Freda Guttman**, whose four-part autobiographical exhibit is on view at the Koffler Gallery, gives an Artist's Talk 7:30 p.m. at the Gallery. 636-1880, ext. 269.

Thursday, Sept. 26

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Jewish Single Parents' Group (ages 30-50) of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation monthly lecture series, Teens, Sex and Dating with social worker **Doris Wexler**, 8 p.m. $5. 633-5500.

RADIO OF YESTERYEAR

Artweek '96 and North York Public Library, in affiliation with JAZZ, sponsor Another Sunday on the Harry Harris Jewish Hour, a stroll into the radio days of yesteryear, starring **Gloria Valentine** and **Murray Ellis**, featuring **Allen Frakas** and **Michael Lebovic** with **Nina Shapilsky** at the piano, 8 p.m., Central Library auditorium, 5120 Yonge St. $5. 635-0720 for tickets.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members meeting, 7:30 p.m. Check branch bulletin for changes.

And What Else Is New...

KADIMA CENTRE

Kadima Centre, a social, recreational centre for developmentally handicapped adults 18 and over, meets at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagoge, Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. for Supper Club, and Sundays 2-4 p.m. Open House and registration celebrating its 25th anniversary is Sunday, Oct. 20, 2-4 p.m. **Suzanne Agasee** 636-4426 days or 635-6800 evenings.

LULAV, ETROG LECTURE

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto annual Lulav and Etrog

[Cont'd. on page 29]

Maimonides College 1996-1997 (5757)

Courses for women leading to a Bachelors Degree offered in Toronto at the Eitz Chaim School, 475 Patricia Ave.

Graduate courses also available leading to a Masters or Doctorate degree. Future programme includes courses leading to a Teaching Certificate.

Registration for classes will take place on Tuesday evenings, 17 & 24 September, 1996 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Eitz Chaim School, 475 Patricia Avenue. During registration times academic counseling will be available. Women who want to transfer credits from other instititutions of learning should bring transcripts. Counsellors will also be available for women who are new students as well as women who are considering taking courses after being away from education for some time.

First Semester (7 October, 1996 to 30 December, 1996)
Each course meets for two hours per week (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM) on the day indicated.

Course	Time	Course Title	Instructor	Day
ART101	First Semester	Drawing and Painting I	Simma Goldreich	Tuesday
BIB111	First Semester	Torah and Commentaries I	Rabbi Grysman	Monday
EDU101	First Semester	Principles of Education I	Elaine Rubinoff	Wednesday
HEB102	First Semester	Intermediate Hebrew I	Hilda Weil	Monday
LAW 125	First Semester	Halacha of Shabbos	Rabbi Burak	Tuesday
PHL101	First Semester	Fundamentals of Judaism I	Rabbi Schochet	Monday
PSY213	First Semester	Gerontology I	Dr. Zoberman	Wednesday

Second Semester (20 January, 1997 to 14 April, 1997)
Each course meets for two hours per week (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM) on the day indicated.

Course	Time	Course Title	Instructor	Day
ART102	Second Semester	Drawing and Painting II	Simma Goldreich	Tuesday
BIB112	Second Semester	Torah and Commentaries II	Rabbi Grysman	Monday
EDU101	Second Semester	Principles of Education II	Elaine Rubinoff	Wednesday
HEB202	Second Semester	Intermediate Hebrew II	Hilda Weil	Monday
LAW 126	Second Semester	Halacha of the Family	Rabbi Burak	Tuesday
PHL102	Second Semester	Fundamentals of Judaism II	Rabbi Schochet	Monday
PSY214	Second Semester	Gerontology II	Dr. Zoberman	Wednesday

All fees must be paid before classes begin. Tuition is $390 per course (some financial assistance is available). For more information call Mrs. Stern (416) 785-9919 Toronto Registrar of Maimonides College.

The Board of Directors of
Canadian Friends of the
JERUSALEM COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
extend heartfelt condolences to Phyllis Sugar
on the loss of her beloved mother
Hetty Josephs ז"ל
May the Almighty console you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

TAKE THE PLUNGE!

Become a volunteer with the Jewish Hospice Program

As a Volunteer you will be a member of a caregiving team committed to assisting persons living at home with a terminal illness. Recruitment has begun for new volunteers of all ages and a training program is scheduled for October 1996. If you are interested, please contact **Renée Montpellier, Volunteer Co-ordinator (416) 635-2900, ext. 419.**

DON'T MISS OUT!!!

Canadian Young Judaea

is beginning its

JUNIOR PROGRAM

again for children between the ages 7-11.

OPENING RALLY '96
Sunday, October 13, 1996.
788 Marlee Ave. (Haifa Room)
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
R.S.V.P. (416) 781-5156

LOADS OF FUN, GAMES, CRAFTS & MORE ...
❀ All sessions are free of charge ❀

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 28]

lecture and sale, in Thornhill at 613 Clark Ave. W. Tuesday, Sept. 24, 8:30 p.m., and in Forest Hill at 446 Spadina Rd. Wednesday, Sept. 25, 8:30 p.m. **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz'** lecture is followed by a sale of lulavim and etrogim. Rabbi Breitowitz and **Rabbi Avraham Rothman** will be available to assist in your selection. No entrance fee.

GALA DINNER

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, gourmet dinner, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Guest speaker **Lynne Gordon's** topic is An Outrageous Outlook on Women's Issues. Door prizes and gifts. Members $25, non-members $30. Limited seating. Reserve. 633-5100.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Study with a Buddy anything that interests you — Hebrew language, Bible, Talmud, Jewish philosophy, Jewish anything — Tuesdays 7:30-9 p.m., Latner Jewish Public Library, Lipa Green Building, 4th floor, 4600 Bathurst St. Kick-off program Sept. 24, The Joys of Learning: Self-Actualizing as a Jew with **Chezi Zionce**, spiritual leader of First Narayever Congregation. To volunteer, request a study partner, register or ask questions, **Rabbi Michael Skobac** 512-0814. Sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto.

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association events. **Naomi** 364-7002.

Sunday, Sept. 22, 8 p.m., Yom Kippur Kol Nidre service, North York Community Memorial Hall. Adult event only. Reserve.

Monday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m., Yom Kippur lecture and discussion, The 10 Basic Principles of Secular Humanistic Judaism, North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St. Separate youth discussion, babysitting available. Reserve.

LEST WE FORGET

As part of the 1996 Remembrance Day activities, Sunday, Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m. at Beth Radom Synagogue, 18 Reiner Rd., the Metropolitan Toronto Post of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada has arranged for the reading of the poem *Thoughts on Freedom!* by **Martin H. Kramer** dedicated to the memory of **F/O Julius Kramer** (missing in action 1944). The poem will be presented to a member of his family or a former classmate at Harbord Collegiate. All interested parties invited.

ADOPTION REUNION

A peer-supported Adoption Reunion Discussion Group for adult adoptees and birth relatives to explore adoption issues, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. **Brenda Isen** 638-7800, ext. 274.

OR SHALOM, LONDON

Or Shalom Congregation, London, Ont., affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, invites all Jewish students at University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College to attend High Holy Day services as well as services throughout the year. Students need only show their student identity cards. Synagogue 519-438-3081 or **Rabbi Larry Lander** 519-438-2321.

REUNION SEARCH

Ramah Hebrew School, Winnipeg, is searching for alumni, former teachers, principals and friends to join in the Farwell Celebration to mark the closing of the school. 1-800-463-2495.

THE HEBREW BIBLE

The Hebrew Bible: A Literary Treasure, a course exploring biblical literature, how it took shape and was preserved, transmitted, collected, translated and recognized as scripture, with **Solomon Nigosian**, University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies, Sept. 26-Dec. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. $185, seniors $126. 978-2400.

BARON BYNG REUNION

Baron Byng High School is holding a reunion for its 1947 classes in Montreal, scheduled for May 1997. **Riva Bialik Rosenfeld** 416-223-8988.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., fall courses for adults, teenagers and pre-teens, in conversational Hebrew, all levels, Tuesday mornings, through Dec. 17 (beginners); Wednesday mornings through Dec. 18 (intermediate); Thursday evenings through Dec. 19 (all levels). Instructor for beginners **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

KIDS PEER GROUP

A peer socialization group for kids who are shy, have difficulty making friends and asserting themselves with others offered by Jewish Family & Child Service. Group will improve your child's social skills and enhance his/her self-esteem. Begins Oct. 16. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

STUDENT JOURNALISTS

Dorot (Hebrew for generations), a journal of contemporary Jewish literature, wants submissions from university students — short fiction, poetry, short non-fiction, script excerpts, cartoons, sketches. Deadline Oct. 18. Send submissions to Dorot, 442 Student Centre, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, M3J 1P3. 661-8925.

PARENTING GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Positive Parenting Groups: Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, begins Oct. 2; Parenting Parent Challenge, begins Sept, 25; Living With Teens, begins Sept. 24; Looking Ahead, separation and divorce group. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800.

For Seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors Tel-Tree seminar Thursday, Sept. 26, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, focusing on the most effective method to take action on senior issues such as health care system, drug plans, transportation, plus specific telephone techniques to elected representatives. **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 26 is a comedy program from Israeli TV. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771. Art exhibition Oct. 3. All members welcome to exhibit work.**Ovadia Azori** 631-9794.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: blood pressure check-up, Tuesday, Oct. 1, free to members; Sunday dances Oct. 13, 27, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Oct. 13-15, Frankenmuth, Mich., Flint Crossroads Village, Casino Windsor; Oct. 22, Buffalo shopping tour; Oct. 27-31, Atlantic City plus New York City; Nov. 24-28, Las Vegas $730 per season. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: opening luncheon, Monday, Oct. 7, 12:30 p.m., entertainment; Buffalo shopping trip Oct. 21; vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat all inclusive Nov. 4-25; alternative to Miami trip is Arizona. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Florida trip, Sagamore Hotel, one month $1650, two and three months. **Helen** 635-6343.

Join Forest Hill art class, drawing and painting with experienced instructor, Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Bathurst/Eglinton area, sponsored by Toronto Board of Education. **Sandra** 781-8855.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents How To Keep Your Heart Healthy with **Silvia Gon**, Thursday, Sept. 26, 1:30 p.m.

At Osteoporosis Support Group meeting, Sleep/Wake Disorders of Canada presents How To Get a Good Night's Sleep, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m.

Musical afternoon with **Marshal Reiz**, Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1:30.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Sept. 25 is bingo. **Anna**.

at the JCC/BJC

BJC Senior Adult Services presents Current Events/World Issues with **Doug Haddow**, starting Thursday, Sept. 26, 1 p.m. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club features Healthy Aging with public health nurse **Barb Switzer**, Thursday, Sept. 26, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Bloor JCC is offering full-time students, 18 or older, athletic memberships valid to May 1 for $225 plus GST. 924-6211.

Rabbi Moshe Yeres

ROSH HAYESHIVAH

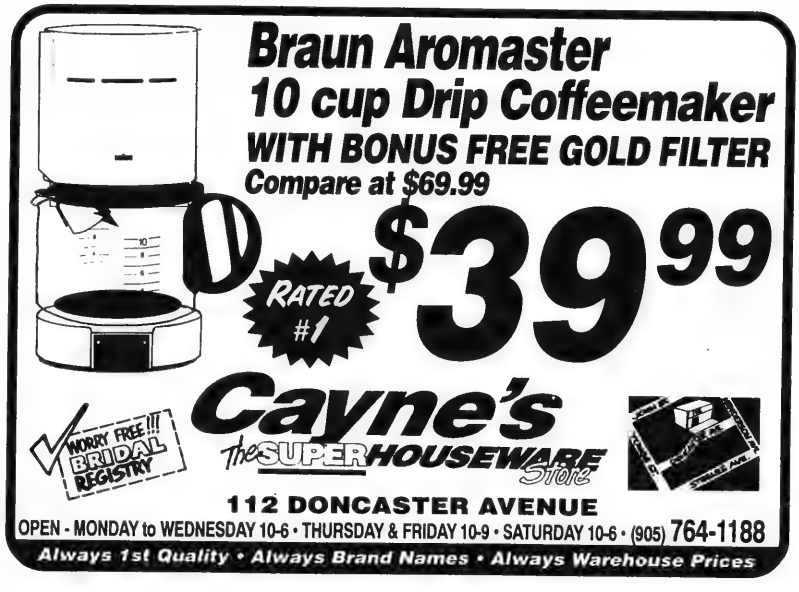
Rabbi Moshe Yeres is the new rosh hayeshivah of Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim-Ulpanat Orot Girls' School, a position he will share with **Rabbi Shlomo Gemara** until Rabbi Gemara returns to Israel. Rabbi Yeres received his rabbinical ordination from Yeshiva University. He also has an MA and PhD in Jewish History and Rabbinics as well as a BA (magna cum laude) in biology from Yeshiva U. Rabbi Yeres most recently served as spiritual leader of an Orthodox synagogue in Pennsylvania and prior to that taught Talmud at the Ida Crown Jewish Academy in Chicago.

A native New Yorker, Rabbi Yeres is married to the former **Esty Frankel**, whose late father **Rabbi Israel Frankel** was executive director of the Toronto Jewish Library for many years.

Arthur Lipton

GREY PANTHERS BOARD

Arthur Lipton, well-known Toronto senior who recently celebrated his 82nd birthday, has joined the board of directors of the Canadian Grey Panthers Advocacy Network. To alert Toronto's Jewish community to the Panthers' initiatives in advocacy for seniors, he will be meeting with synagogue and community groups this fall. A member of Beth Sholom Synagogue board of directors for more than 20 years, Lipton served as its president for three consecutive terms. As president of Ivansker Mutual Benefit Society, he is actively involved in fundraising and financial support of many Jewish charities.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Wishing all my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
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Dorit, Enrique, Simone, David & Emma Najgoldberg and Tola Marchewka
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

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Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy and healthy & peaceful New Year.

The Rubinsteins
Sharon, Melvyn, Renée & Candice
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Norm & Ruth Trachter
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mrs. Helen Zimmerman and her family
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Ancient treasures now on display

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — From the Diaspora to Jerusalem, an exhibition of never before seen treasures excavated from family tombs in the Kidron Valley of Jerusalem will be on view at Hamilton's McMaster University until Nov. 6.

The excavation has been described as one of Israel's most important archeological discoveries of recent times.

The exhibit was prepared by the Israel Antiquities Authority. Its North American tour, the first showing anywhere, including Israel, is being coordinated by the Project Judaica Foundation of Washington, D.C., in conjunction with Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary.

The Hamilton exhibit, the only one in Canada so far, is largely the result of the efforts of Dr. Alan Mendelson, associate professor of Hellenic Judaism in Alexandria in the department of religious studies, who arranged for it to be brought here from its only previous showing in Detroit.

The burial complex was unearthed during a road construction project in 1989. The site mentioned in the Gospel of Matthew as Akeldama (Field of Blood) was originally a plot of land purchased by Jewish high priests about the time of the death of Jesus, as a burial ground for foreigners. It has remained undisturbed for 1,500 years. The archeologist in charge of the project was Gideon Avni.

The exhibit includes ossuaries, gold jewelry, clay lamps and delicate glassware, some of which reportedly still contained perfumes.

While the exhibition is relatively small, explanatory panels provide fascinating information and historical background. There are also large scale photographs and a scale of an actual burial cave.

The exhibit is sponsored by McMaster University, the Herb and CeCe Schreiber Family Foundation, the Jewish Community Centre, the Jewish Federation, Hamilton-Wentworth & Area and the city of Hamilton.

The exhibit in the McMaster University Council Chambers, Gilmour Hall, Room 111, 1280 Main St. W., Hamilton, is open Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Tours for groups of 10 or more can be arranged, by calling Mendelson at 905-525-9140, ext. 23389.

For more information, call Penny Hillier-Ward, at ext. 24607, or Andrea Farquar, public relations office, at ext. 24457.

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Gore pledges solidarity with Netanyahu

By CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – In a message to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, U.S. Vice-President Al Gore pledged unswerving American solidarity with Israel that "transcends party and personality," and expressed confidence that the new government would continue the pursuit of peace.

Gore made his remarks recently during the 40th anniversary celebration of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Netanyahu and U.S. vice-presidential nominee Jack Kemp also addressed the dinner, which drew 1,400 guests, including hosts of dignitaries.

Gore praised Netanyahu for meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and encouraged him to press ahead for peace.

It was clear that Gore was bent on demonstrating that, despite the heavy investment the administration had had in the peace process orchestrated by Netanyahu's predecessors, the United States is committed to honoring Israeli democracy and working with him.

"The balance Israel must strike in its aspirations for peace and its demands for security is a delicate balance," Gore said, "and ultimately it is the Israeli people who must decide how best to keep that balance.

"We are proud to walk by your side, Mr. Prime Minister, in our shared journey to peace and security," said the vice-president, whose speech was warm and familiar, filled with references to the Hebrew Bible, Jewish tradition and the High Holy Day season.

"Of course we have our differences, but friends have differences."

He also acknowledged that "we did not have the same relationship with the Likud leadership" when it was in opposition and that Netanyahu "did not see things just as his predecessors did."

But he reminded the audience that the late Likud prime minister Menachem Begin "seized peace" with Egypt as soon as he had "the opportunity to safely do so," and said he was confident Israel would "seek peace with all its neighbors, cautiously, but energetically."

Gore said President Bill Clinton had moved boldly to respond to recent Iraqi aggression against the Kurds in the northern part of the country, in part because "Iraq's fondest wish would be to harm Israel."

He said the United States acted to show Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that he could not "act with impunity."

For his part, Netanyahu reiterated Israel's commitment to the "quest for a secure peace."

In his remarks, he talked of the approaching 50th anniversary of the State of Israel and the need to declare a worldwide "Jewish renaissance," a "rededication and rebirth."

Israel is "not just a state," he said, but an entity intended to preserve the common destiny of the Jewish people.

Kemp attempted in his address to answer recent criticism over an interview in which he praised the self-help philosophy of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

Kemp said he stands by his long record against anti-Semitism, racism and bigotry and called on Farrakhan to renounce anti-Semitism.

"Racial, religious and ethnic reconciliation is the highest moral cause of this nation on the eve of the 21st century," said Kemp, whose speech received a tepid response.

Mostly, however, he focused on foreign policy and the importance of preserving the alliance between Israel and the United States.

Praising Netanyahu's economic privatization efforts, Kemp said he and presidential candidate Bob Dole would move the U.S. economy in the same direction of "greater growth and freedom."

Russian premier condemns recent attacks on synagogues

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW– Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin has condemned the recent bombings of two synagogues in Russia.

The premier's statement was included in his Rosh Hashanah message to the country's Jewish community.

"I'm using this opportunity to express my indignation about recent terrorist explosions at the synagogues in Moscow and Yaroslavl," Chernomyrdin said.

He called synagogues Russia's "national sacred places" and said that "an end should be put" to their desecration.

Chernomyrdin's statement was the first public comment by a Russian official on the April bombing of the synagogue in Yaroslavl and the attack on the recently reopened Lubavitch synagogue in Moscow.

The attacks caused no injuries, but both buildings were seriously damaged.

No one has claimed responsibility for either bombing.

Jewish leaders hailed the premier's message.

"I'm happy that we received such a response from the prime minister," said Pinchas Goldschmidt, chief rabbi of Moscow.

The Executive, Board and Congregation of
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Rabbi Philip Scheim and family
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The albatross around Israel's neck

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Almost five months have elapsed since Israel called off Operation Grapes of Wrath, yet Lebanon remains an albatross around Israel's neck.

Mideast Analysis

The 16-day military campaign launched by Israel against Lebanon last April, in response to the shelling of the Galilee by Hezbollah, did not change anything on the ground.

The American-sponsored truce ending the fighting enjoined Israel and Hezbollah from firing on each other's civilians and established a monitoring committee to observe compliance of the ceasefire.

But otherwise, the status quo in Israel's self-declared security zone remains basically unaffected by the political manoeuvering. Nineteen Israeli soldiers have been killed in the security zone this year, 10 of them since Operation Grapes of Wrath.

"There is a war going on there with battles every day," the Israeli chief of staff, Gen. Amnon Shahak, declared in no uncertain terms last month.

Hezbollah has adhered to a pledge not to rocket Israeli settlements in the Galilee. Yet, in all other respects, the truce is barely functioning. Both sides have dug in for the long haul, despite Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent demarche to calm the waters in Lebanon.

Israel's defence minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, has said that the Israeli army will remain in the security zone for as long as it is necessary to protect its northern communities. For his part, Hezbollah's spiritual leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, has proclaimed that Hezbollah will not abandon its struggle to oust Israel from Lebanon.

Backed by Syria and Iran, Hezbollah is amassing a vast arsenal of weapons and has come into possession of Katyusha batteries capable of hitting Israeli towns as far away as Karmiel and Acre.

The Israeli army's top brass, notably Shahak and Gen. Amiram Levine, the commander of Israel's northern district, have accused Syria — which maintains a garrison of about 35,000 troops in Lebanon — of deliberately allowing Hezbollah free rein in southern Lebanon.

The facts speak for themselves. Iranian cargo planes, laden with military supplies bound for Hezbollah, regularly land at Damascus airport. And Syria is doing scarcely anything to sever Hezbollah's logistical lines, which pass through Syrian checkpoints in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Netanyahu has called on Syria to curb Hezbollah so that Israel can consider a withdrawal from Lebanon in an orderly fashion.

Last month, Netanyahu formalized the proposal under the rubric of the Lebanon First plan. Israel would pull out of the security zone, and in exchange, Hezbollah would be disarmed, the Lebanese army would be deployed to the border with Israel and Israel's Christian allies in southern Lebanon (namely the leadership of the South Lebanon Army) would be protected.

Netanyahu regards Lebanon First as a starting point for confidence-building measures between itself and Syria. The Syrians, as expected, have rejected Netanyahu's scheme. To Damascus, Lebanon First is little more than a clever ploy by the Israeli government to extricate itself from the Lebanese quagmire painlessly, to block a withdrawal from the Golan Heights, to decouple Lebanon from the Golan Heights and to undermine Syria's leading position in Lebanon.

Netanyahu, having been rebuffed by Syria, now insists that he is prepared to discuss not only Lebanon, but "all outstanding issues," including the Golan. Netanyahu, however, is inflexible on the disposition of the Golan. At the White House last week, Netanyahu informed President Bill Clinton that his government is loath to relinquish it under the United Nations' land-for-peace formula.

The Syrians have no interest in defusing tensions in Lebanon unless Israel theoretically agrees to give up the Golan (in return, of course, for a peace treaty with all the trimmings).

In the meantime, the cauldron in southern Lebanon simmers.

Netanyahu and Mordechai have implied that Israel will hit any target in Lebanon, including Syrian bases, if the security situation worsens. And Levine has let it be known that, in the war against Hezbollah, Israel should respond with greater force than in the recent past.

Is there a solution? Avigdor Kahalani — Israel's minister of internal security — recently suggested that the security zone is of questionable military value, that Israel should find a way to leave it and that an international force should replace Israeli soldiers there. Kahalani, a retired general, said that the current system of border fences could keep out infiltrators.

Kahalani may be right. It is certainly in Israel's national interest to seriously consider a phased withdrawal from Lebanon, which has taken a heavy toll in Israeli lives and resources for the past 25 years. But will Syria cooperate?

Sept. 9

• According to news reports, the police in Kfar Saba received an anonymous call threatening to kill Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu unless Yigal Amir is released from prison.

• Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair has asked the Knesset to lift the immunity of Jerusalem mayor and Likud Knesset member Ehud Olmert so that he can be prosecuted on charges of corruption relating to election activities in 1988.

Sept. 10

• The media reported that Israeli tourism minister Moshe Katsav and his Jordanian counterpart Saleh Irsheidat agreed to jointly market tourist attractions to travel agents in the United States, Europe and Japan. The two ministers also said they were interested in establishing an Israeli-Jordanian tourism park near the Dead Sea.

Sept. 11

• A new book by Orly Azulai-Katz claims that Yitzhak Rabin had signalled to Syria that he was prepared to trade all of the Golan Heights for peace. According to the book, Shimon Peres learned of the pledge after Rabin was killed. Top officials of the Rabin-Peres government would not confirm the account.

Sept. 12

• Israel's Supreme Court ruled 7 to 4 that a woman could try to become a mother using frozen embryos that her estranged husband wanted destroyed. The decision overturns a ruling of last year that the husband could not be forced to become a father.

• The committee looking into the question of closing Bar Ilan Street in Jerusalem on Shabbat was reported by the media to be in disarray.

Sept. 13

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that Israel's population now stands at 5.72 million.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

The Faculty of Medicine at the Hebrew University holds a unique two-day conference From Athens to Jerusalem: Medicine in Hellenized Jewish Lore and in Early Christian Literature.

IDF monitoring unusual Syrian troop movements

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The IDF continues to monitor Syrian troop deployments in Lebanon and Syria, but there were no significant changes over last weekend, sources said.

The IDF has adjusted its intelligence gathering along the Lebanese and Syrian borders, but sources stressed that there were no abrupt movements.

Syrian troops have been redeploying in Lebanon for the past few weeks and have pulled out of landmark positions in and around Beirut.

Syria has about 30,000 troops in Lebanon.

Most of the redeployed troops have taken up positions in the mountain range on the Syrian border where the Syrian army has SAM-7 anti-aircraft missiles and anti-aircraft gun batteries installed, Lebanese security sources, quoted by Reuters, said.

They said that Beirut newspaper reports that 20,000 Syrian soldiers had already moved from Beirut, the central Lebanese mountains and other regions toward the Syrian border were exaggerated.

The Syrian troop movements started last month when the troops evacuated a number of positions in the mountains of central Lebanon in what Lebanese security sources announced was a defensive redeployment after apparent Israeli threats to attack Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Despite the pullouts, armed Syrian troops are still stationed in the Lebanese capital.

These Syrian troops are highly visible in some areas, including Shi'ite Muslim suburbs that are a stronghold of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah. IDF intelligence analysts do not believe the redeployment indicates a dramatic change in Syrian assessment or that it is preparing an attack. Still, Israeli forces in the north have adjusted to the moves and some units may have been reinforced.

There were reports that planes believed to be Israeli flew over south Lebanon, Beirut and Baalbek in eastern Lebanon last week. No air raids were reported.

Reuters reported that half a dozen trucks piled high with Syrian soldiers, bedding and furniture moved north along the seafront Corniche promenade in west Beirut. A large tent encampment, one of the most visible symbols of Syria's military presence in Beirut since 1987, was gone, Reuters said, as well as two other camps.

In the past few days, Syrian troops have abandoned a number of other sites, including their positions near the presidential palace at Baabda. But despite the pullouts, Syrian troops are still stationed in Beirut and its suburbs, and are highly visible in some areas.

Syrian army engineers are also reported to be working "feverishly" to build combat positions in the demilitarized zone of the Golan Heights, in contravention of the 1974 disengagement agreement brokered by former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger following the Yom Kippur War.

This is the first time that Syria has flouted the agreement and UNDOF, which monitors the zone, is preparing a report on the activities of the Syrian engineers for UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and members of the Security Council.

Tensions between Israel and Syria have increased over the past month with reports that Syria had tested long-range Scud missiles, facilitated the delivery of long-range Katyusha rockets to Hezbollah and moved troops in Lebanon closer to Mount Hermon.

Syria rejects Netanyahu's plan

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM – U.S. Middle East peace process coordinator Dennis Ross was due to arrive in Egypt Monday night on the first leg of a regional tour to discuss progress in the peace process.

He will visit Jerusalem, but it is still unclear, according to an official in the Prime Minister's Office, whether Ross will also travel to Damascus.

Syria reiterated its rejection of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's proposal to resume peace talks, saying it did not contain a commitment to trading land for peace.

The official Syrian newspaper *al-Thawra* also criticized the United States for supporting the Israeli proposal and urged a united Arab stand to face the "dangerous alternatives resulting from the failure of Netanyahu's plan.

"To continue misleading the world and America he [Netanyahu] tried in his latest visit to use new ways to propose the idea...saying that there is a draft plan to resume the talks," *al-Thawra* said.

Washington announced earlier in the week that Israel and the United States had new proposals to restart the Syrian-Israeli peace negotiations.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Rabin's murderer, two others guilty of plotting assassination

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – An Israeli court has convicted Yigal Amir, the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin, of conspiring to kill the prime minister and of planning attacks on Palestinians.

Amir, 26, is already serving a life sentence for the murder of the prime minister.

The court also found Amir's brother, Hagai, and a friend, Dror Adani, guilty last week of the charges of plotting to kill the premier and attack Palestinians.

A three-judge panel in the Tel Aviv District Court also found the three guilty on weapons charges and of conspiring to set up an illegal underground organization.

The three will be sentenced Oct. 3. Legal sources said they could each face more than 25 years in prison.

The lengthy verdict, read out by Judge Amnon Strashnov, countered Yigal Amir's contention that he acted alone when carrying out the assassination.

Strashnov accepted prosecution evidence that Hagai Amir and Adani actively proposed methods of killing Rabin.

He termed them "full partners" in the slaying.

Hagai Amir and Adani each denied that they had conspired to kill Rabin.

Hagai Amir, 28, a weapons expert who prosecutors said made the hollow-point bullets used to kill Rabin, said he had heard of his brother's plans, but never thought he would actually carry out the assassination.

Adani, 28, said he had visited the Amir home in hopes of romancing the Amirs' sister and had gotten drawn into conversations about how to assassinate the prime minister.

But the judges did not accept their denials.

CJF/UJA proposal approved

By CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – The executive committee of the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) in the United States has decided unanimously to move forward with a plan to join the CJF with the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) there.

The decision came during the CJF's quarterly meeting Sept. 8 to 10 in Chicago.

The two bodies are slated to begin negotiating the shape of the partnership, which could be a complicated process.

They will look for shared office space, "merge back office operations wherever possible" and "look at redeployment of personnel where duplication appears to exist," said Dr. Conrad Giles, the CJF's president-designate.

A draft document on the partnership has been in circulation for some time, outlining a proposed joint board and executive committee for the two bodies and two separate chief executive officers. But such matters are being left to the two organizations to decide.

The CJF is the umbrella organization for local federations which run an annual joint campaign with the UJA that raises about $720 million (US).

Each federation decides how much of its share to keep at home to meet local needs, and funnels the rest to the UJA for distribution to Israel and elsewhere overseas.

The new partnership idea replaced an earlier plan to merge the two entities along with the United Israel Appeal, which funnels campaign money to the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Search for missing soldier called off

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM – Police have decided not to renew the search for missing soldier Sharon Edri of Moshav Zanoah, who has been missing since Sept. 10.

However, police will continue to collect intelligence information in an attempt to locate him.

Police sources admitted that there is a growing fear for Edri's life.

The searches were stopped last Friday afternoon. During Rosh Hashanah, Beit Shemesh police operated a field unit that attempted to collect information, but no new clues were found.

The police said that since extensive searches were conducted between Zanoah, near Beit Shemesh, and the Tzrifin army base, where he was last seen, it was decided not to renew the searches.

Seattle caps day school costs

By DEBORAH CYMROT
The Washington Jewish Week

SEATTLE – Last week when students at Seattle's Jewish high school headed back to class, their parents were smiling and not just because summer vacation was over. The students are beneficiaries of a pilot program designed to make day school education truly affordable; parents know that until their children graduate, tuition per pupil will never top $3,000 (US).

The program might not have come to fruition had Seattle businessman Sam Israel not made a shrewd investment decision more than a half-century ago. In the late 1930s and '40s, Israel began buying up real estate in downtown Seattle and around the city, a move that made him a very wealthy man.

With no wife and no heirs but an abiding interest in the Jewish community, Israel set up a will deeding almost all of his estate to a private philanthropic foundation. Two years ago Israel died, and the Samis Foundation, named for the benefactor, had to decide how to use the money.

One project Samis undertook was the tuition cap program, sure to get the notice of day school educators around the country. The board looked at a study done by the Wexner Foundation on how best to transmit Jewish heritage and its conclusion that post-bar/bat mitzvah Jewish day school education was a key factor. The question, then, was how to get more students into Jewish high schools.

As the foundation board understood it, the Wexner study had shown that while many Jewish parents expressed a number of reservations about day school education, the resistance was at least in part financial. Asked if they would pay $7,000, $6,000, $5,000 or $4,000 for a year's tuition at day school, the majority of respondents said no. But at $3,000 they were willing to overlook their monetary reservations.

Samis decided to apply the Wexner findings. Seattle has two day schools that go up to eighth grade and one Jewish school for grades nine through 12, Northwest Yeshiva High School.

Last year, tuition at Northwest Yeshiva stood at $7,150. (The total cost for educating a student for one year was $12,000.)

The Samis guaranteed tuition cap provides an immediate savings of $4,150 per student compared with last year.

David Balint, former treasurer and board member of the school and still chair of its building fund, said that without any publicity, just word of mouth, Northwest Yeshiva enrolment jumped from about 40 to 75 students from last year to this year.

Based on the school's graduates over the past 20 years, Balint feels optimistic that increasing the number of Jewish high school students will pay off for the Jewish people. Of the school's crop of 120 graduates, all went on to higher Jewish education, either at yeshivot or universities.

In two decades, only one former student married a non-Jew.

Balint said that the school is open both to those who come from day school backgrounds and those who do not. It has had great success with Russian immigrants who entered with no formal Judaic background, he said.

The Samis program is not without challenges. As currently configured, the tuition cap covers only students now at the school, not those who enrol in the future.

But Balint expects Samis to evaluate the program well before next year's student sign-up. The foundation, he said, has the money to provide permanent funding for the tuition guarantee if the program succeeds.

Maintaining parental support for the continued growth and development of the school cannot be taken for granted. "We're hoping that people don't get lazy," Balint said. Samis replaces tuition money that parents were paying, but it doesn't provide additional money to Northwest Yeshiva.

Fundraising will still play a part in the school's future if it is to flourish.

The school recently completed a $1.1 million campaign to pay off its building. With larger enrolment comes a need for expanded facilities. The school will ask parents to give voluntary donations to equal what they paid as tuition. No one knows yet whether tuition caps can boost enrolment in Jewish high schools without decreasing initiatives for independent fundraising.

And no one really knows whether students whose parents have had to sacrifice a great deal to pay for day-school education represent a more committed group than those who may be attracted by the tuition caps, and whether the benefits of a Jewish high-school education noted in the Wexner study will hold true for the newcomers.

But the opportunity to test the concept of truly affordable day-school tuition with all its challenges is one that Elliot Prager, headmaster of the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in Rockville, Md., would love to have. "If we could just get that foundation in Washington," he said.

But there's the rub. Samis is in Washington. Washington state.

Notice of Special General Meeting
Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel

Take notice that the **Special General Meeting of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel** will be held on **Thursday, October 10th, 1996, 7:30 p.m. at CMDA headquarters, 6900 Decarie Blvd., suite 218, Montreal, Quebec.**

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate for election as the Directors:

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Israel & the Jewish World

A practical step to peace with security

By ZALMAN SHOVAL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Opinion

Whether the timing of Benjamin Netanyahu's recent meeting with Yasser Arafat had anything to do with the prime minister's trip to America is irrelevant. That such a meeting had to occur sooner or later was clear all along – among other reasons because the Oslo agreements, inherited by Israel's new government from its predecessor, left the premier little choice.

In theory, the government had two options. One was to declare that it was not formally committed to the implementation of Oslo (but this, though not ruled out by international law, was hardly feasible taking political and diplomatic realities into account).

The second option for the government was to see itself as bound by the agreements in principle, but to implement them very differently and avoid the headlong rush that characterized the previous government's dealings with the Palestinians.

An important point: If in the future, Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority (PA) were again to commit or even to tolerate large-scale violations of their undertakings under the agreements, as they have clearly done in the past, the Netanyahu government would be fully justified in responding in an appropriate fashion, diplomatically and militarily.

The debate over whether, at the time, the peace process with the Palestinians could have been advanced without resuscitating Arafat is now largely academic; but if, after the meeting at Erez, some Labor and Meretz leaders declared that Netanyahu owed them an apology, well, surely the shoe is on the other foot.

If any apology is called for, those same leaders should be reminded that not so long ago, they were crying that Netanyahu would "kill" the peace process altogether, that he would create a disastrous crisis in our relationship with the United States, that he did not know how to talk to our Arab interlocutors.

In fact, Netanyahu is doing exactly what he set out to do: to continue the peace process, fulfil the previous government's legal obligations, and – if need be – meet with Arafat. After all, most of the electorate wanted the peace train to move forward; they just wanted a safer driver.

Having said all that, the meeting with Arafat – and one may assume there will be others – should not be read as a rehabilitation of Arafat's past. No handshake can erase that. Nor should anyone delude himself that Arafat or any of his colleagues have changed their attitude toward Israel and Zionism.

With some exceptions, all the negative features are unfortunately still very much in evidence: violence and brutality, a lack of democracy, the neglect of basic human rights, a disregard of treaties and agreements and, last but not least, the tendency of some leaders in the region to change positions and policies almost overnight.

Today's really cogent questions do not deal with the past, but with what Israel and the Palestinians can hope to achieve now.

Netanyahu made it plain to Arafat that the Palestinians stand a very good chance of attaining most of their realistic aspirations – "realistic" being the key word – but not everything they thought they would get from the previous government.

Their alternative? To squander everything they've already achieved and risk losing out altogether.

For instance, solving the Hebron conundrum is important, but the issue will have to be settled in a way that addresses Israel's security and historical considerations without diminishing Palestinian self-administration.

But there is a challenge that is much more important. Will the Palestinians be able to govern themselves as part of a de jure peace treaty or as part of an agreed de facto situation, acknowledging Israel's overall prerogative in matters of security?

Some people termed the Netanyahu-Arafat meeting a historic event. It would be much closer to the truth to describe it as a practical step towards achieving peace with security – just as Netanyahu has indicated all along.

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TAB news

Shana Tova

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*, April 1995

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Show examines mixed relationship

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Etti and Farouk are divided by religion, culture and politics.

Does love conquer all? Maybe in some countries, but evidently not in Israel.

A Love Divided, scheduled to be broadcast on Vision TV on Sept. 24 at 9 p.m., examines the doomed relationship of a mixed Israeli couple.

Etti, an Ashkenazi Jew, and Farouk, an Israeli Muslim Arab, love each other but will not tie the knot because civil marriage does not exist in Israel.

They live together in an apartment in Jerusalem, suspended in something of a cultural twilight zone. Neither Etti nor Farouk wish to convert and thus face an insoluble problem in a country which frowns upon mixed marriage. What are they to do?

A Love Divided grapples with their dilemma intelligently and empathetically. At the end of this sensitive film, we're left with the impression that couples like Etti and Farouk are fated to suffer so long as political and religious tensions beset Israel.

The animus against such unions seems strong. Etti is physically assaulted by a neighbor who dislikes Arabs, while Farouk's family makes it abundantly clear that he should break off his ties with Etti and seek out a Muslim woman.

Etti is a social worker and Farouk — a graduate of the Hebrew University who speaks Hebrew fluently — is a teacher and a broadcaster. Etti was taught that Arabs are bad, dirty and untrustworthy. It is unclear where she learned this. Farouk was brought up in a small village, but one assumes that he was also raised on a diet of ethnic stereotypes.

When they met, at a rally protesting Israel's treatment of Israeli Arabs and its occupation of the territories, Etti and Farouk were no longer bound by such narrow thinking.

Etti and Farouk are on the same political wavelength. But in Israel, this isn't enough. Etti's sister, a liberal, professes to be shocked by their liaison. Etti's mother, a Polish Jew, eventually concludes that Farouk is "a very nice person." However, Farouk's parents reject Etti.

Their bond is severely tested when Farouk loses his jobs and decides to return to his village. As Etti won't join him, Farouk decides not to "renew" their relationship.

Etti and Farouk, though, are still in love, and Etti expresses a sincere desire to have children with Farouk. But forces beyond their control have torn them apart.

A Love Divided not only traces the dissolution of a conjugal arrangement, but documents the deep divisions in Israeli society. By any yardstick, this is a documentary well worth watching.

Note: All currencies are in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise stated.

Israel Enters Euro Bond Market

Israel's first entry into the Eurobonds market with $1,030 million was officially launched last week when the Finance Ministry and seven leading underwriters signed the final agreement.

After the Jerusalem ceremony, the primary underwriter, Merrill Lynch, said all the partners were confident that Israel's economy was now well capable of sustaining this type of venture.

"A slowdown [in growth] from six percent to four percent in real terms is hardly a recession," said the company's chair of Global Financial Institutions John Heimann.

The three-year deal is "yet another illustration of the very significant steps in advancing Israel's economy over the last six to seven years," said Finance Minister Dan Meridor. "Israel is now selling its economy and others are buying."

Meridor took the opportunity to criticize media and economic experts, who suggested Israel's world credit rating would be dropped below its A ranking.

The reaffirmation of Israel's A status coupled with the signing ceremony show the strength of the Israeli economy, he said.

Israel's credit rating was reapproved last week in the international markets A and A3 by credit rating companies Moodys Investors Service and Standard and Poors.

The announcement came two days before the government issues on the Eurobonds were underwritten.

The ratings are crucial in Israel's attempt to raise funds abroad. The decisions by Moodys and Standard and Poors were welcomed as "a vote of confidence" by the Finance Ministry, which hopes to sell up to $340 million worth of bonds by the year's end, the first part of a three-year bid to raise over $1 billion.

While the ratings reapproval is likely to be looked on favorably, the report could well focus on the economic slowdown, which some economists and politicians are calling the early signs of a recession.

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Unemployment Down

The number of unemployed in Israel averaged six percent in the second quarter, a 0.3 percent decrease over the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported.

The seasonally adjusted figure averaged 6.4 percent, down 0.2 percent on the previous three months.

The number of unemployed actively seeking work in any given four weeks between April and June stood at 128,500, a slight fall on the same period last year.

The number of jobless women reached 7.2 percent, a 0.4 percent drop on the previous quarter, and one percent lower than in the last three months of 1995.

The number of people working, excluding those in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza and foreign workers, totalled 2,025,000, a 3.4 percent increase (67,000) on the same period last year.

TAB news

Recordings...

Wolf Krakowski, Paul Brodie & Valerie Tryon, Beth Anne Cole

Wolf Krakowski:
Transmigrations

Filmmaker Wolf Krakowski, who spent six months filming the *Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project* and who directed *Vilna*, a Yiddish docu-music video, branches out creatively with *Transmigrations (Gilgul)* a CD of 12 Yiddish songs.

Krakowski, who sings and plays rhythm guitar on this CD, has put together a diverse collection of traditional Yiddish folksongs, show tunes and ghetto *lider* and mixed them with the contem-porary sounds borrowed from rock, blues, reggae and honkey tonk. It's definately not klezmer although a klezmer feel permeates the album.

It's this mix of contemporary music with the tradition of Yiddish sound which makes this CD unique. Older lovers of Yiddish songs might be able to get their teenagers to slip this into their CD player instead of the latest Pearl Jam album. It won't convert them but it will make them listen a second time.

Some of the songs included in this collection are traditional folksongs like the rather upbeat, rocking version of *Tsen Brider (Ten Brothers)*; the bluesy, mournful *Varshe (Warsaw)*, written by Holocaust survivor Benzion Witler and *Shabes, Shabes*, which pulsates to a sizzling, rootsy reggae beat. *Her Nor, Du Sheyn Meydele (Listen, Pretty Girl)* is one of my favorites. Krakowski is joined by Yiddish diva Fraidy Katz in this upbeat male/female dialogue where the woman vows to undergo every hardship to be with her man. (OK it's not politically correct, but should be taken in context like anything else.)

Most of the songs on *Transmigrations*, like *Her Nor, Du Sheyn Meydele*, have a swinging, shaking feel to them and Krakowski's unique, deep voice adds a rich, bluesy touch. It's not quite rock and roll but I like it.

Included in the CD liner notes is an English translation to the songs' lyrics for those of us not exactly *altsveisers* in the ways of Yiddish.

Distributed by Kame'a Media, it is available in Toronto at HMV, Negev, Ma Tov and Israel's. Elsewhere in Canada you can order it from Kame'a Media, P.O. Box 73548 509, St. Clair Ave. W. Toronto, M6C 1C0.

Joseph Serge

Beth Anne Cole
Song Under The Stair

After many years of haunting record stores and music libraries, and hounding old-time arrangers and musicians, Canadian Jewish actor Beth Anne cole finally found a cupboard full of Marta Schlammes' music in a Manhattan apartment in 1995.

That changed Cole's life because the content of the Vienna-born Schlamme's Yiddish folk songs inspired her, in her own words, to reconnect to her own Jewish culture.

One result was a recent highly successful one woman concert of Yiddish songs in Toronto; another was a just-issued cassette, *Song Under The Stair*, with a CD recording to follow soon.

Cole's trademark is her lush dramatic interpretation of such well-known favorites as*Tumba, Tumba; Teire Malke; Freylach; Mit a Nodl;* and *Voshe Vistu?* as well as songs relating to the Holocaust like *Dremlien Feygl oyf di Tsvaygn.*

The difference between this collection of Yiddish songs and many others is that Cole is an actor whose interpretation are grounded in her art, uncovering layers of meaning in the words.

Cole starts rehearsals soon for her roles (she's playing more than one) in the musical *Jane Eyre*, the world premiere of which is at the Royal Alex in Toronto, Nov.20.

Beth Anne Cole

"It will be a relief for me to be in *Jane Eyre,* to have someone else make the decisions and to have the companionship of other actors, unlike the time I spend arranging my own concerts," she said.

Meanwhile she is on the way to Wiarton and the Bruce Peninsula for a brief beach and hiking holiday before plunging into *Jane Eyre.*

Song Under The Stair ($12) is available in Toronto from Lasting Impressions, 243 Wilmington Ave., and The Music Chamber, 217 Danforth Ave.

Ben Rose

Paul Brodie and Valerie Tryon
The Music of Srul Irving Glick

For the sensitive listener, *The Music of Srul Irving Glick*, a new CD recorded by saxophonist Paul Brodie and pianist Valerie Tryon, is as pleasing to the eyes as it is to the ears.

The CD delivers four expressive compositions by Glick, one of Canada's most prolific composers. As rendered by the deeply soulful artistry of musicians Brodie and Tryon, the music evokes a series of rich visual images.

At certain moments, for example, one sees a gazelle bounding through a verdant woods. At others, the lush and sensuous interplay of sax and piano become a beautiful woman dancing in tall windswept grass.

The works have an overridingly Jewish flavor. One doesn't need to read the extensive liner notes to know that Glick, composer-in-residence at Toronto's Beth Tikvah Synagogue and holder of the Order of Canada, has introduced and enlarged upon themes from horahs, cantorial music and other Judaic music.

In the *Sonata for Saxophone and Piano "Adio,"* for example, which the composer wrote in 1992 on the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain, he used (as the liner notes explain) bits of 16th-century Ladino melodies. Likewise, for the *Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano* – originally written for oboe and subtitled the "Oboe Sonata" – he borrowed a melodic fragment from the ancient cantillation of the Lamentations of Jeremiah.

Glick is an energetic and emotional painter with a largely romantic palette. The Lament movement within the *Suite Hebraique #4*, for instance, delivers a bittersweet melancholia that tries to break your heart. Elsewhere, the melancholia is colored by piano riffs that are reminiscent of Rachmaninoff, Chopin and even Satie, all as poignant and temporal as windblown autumn leaves.

Still, the composer's gloom in the *Sonata for Soprano Saxophone & Piano* doesn't seem nearly as tragic as the subject matter. The work was written partly as a memorial prayer for the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av, when both Temples of Jerusalem were destroyed (in 586 BCE and 70CE). Although compelling, Glick's lyrical sadness does not seem nearly deep or portentious enough to describe these epic calamities of the Hebrew people.

It is said that music is the most articulate of the arts, yet this music, even as it beguiles, has a certain air of mystery and may leave you wondering at times what it is saying.

Brodie's sax is always in magnificent voice, but can be unrelenting after more than an hour of listening. This recording is a large chocolate sundae, so rich and concentrated that it may dull your senses if you attempt to enjoy the whole thing in one sitting.

The Music of Srul Irving Glick is Brodie's 47th CD. The Muskoka-area musician and his wife, fabric artist Rima Brodie, are planning a trip to Russia this December. Paul is scheduled to perform as a soloist with the St. Petersburg Orchestra and to lecture on art in Moscow, while Rima plans to exhibit her art in Moscow with the assistance of the Canadian Embassy.

To order the CD, phone 416-762-3907.

Bill Gladstone

CORRECTION

In the article "Consultant Fumes Over Restaurant Smoking Ban" *CJN* Sept. 5, page 48 we incorrectly identified Douglas Fisher's company FHG International Inc. We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused.

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Actress enjoys role of Ruby Rosenholtz

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Debra Kirsherbaum is approaching her title role in *The Slow Eviction of Ruby Rosenholtz* with relish. For one thing, Ruby, though beset with problems, fights back, and in Kirshenbaum's view, this is what the Women's Theatre Festival is all about.

Ruby, a woman in her 30s needing daily medication, who could be Jewish, is being manipulated by the power-hungry manager of the seedy Toronto hotel where she lives. But in *The Slow Eviction of Ruby Rosenholtz*, playing at Tarragon Extra Space Sept. 25 to 29, she holds her own ground with the help of her "family," two friends who have also been rejected by "normal" society.

Despite its subject matter, Kirshenbaum says the play is "extremely funny" and rolls through 90 minutes at a rapid clip.

Debra Kirshenbaum

Eviction is one of 10 plays at the festival under the umbrella title of The Gathering, Sept. 16 to 29, with the first five running at Factory Studio Cafe and the rest at the Tarragon Extra Space. The purpose of The Gathering is to offer a theatrical kaleidoscope of women's lives across Canada. (534-2827)

Kirshenbaum is no stranger to off-the-wall roles like Ruby. "I play the gamut from a prim, British woman of the elite set to a zany character like Ruby," she says.

Toronto audiences will remember her gutsy performances at the Tarragon of Theresa, the mentally handicapped young mother in *The Crackwalker* and as the tough head waitress in Michel Tremblay's play, *Counter Service*.

"All I ask is that a play expresses something of a humanitarian spirit. I've turned down roles in plays that deal only with the dark side of life and contain nothing uplifting."

Though she won't reveal the ending, Kirshenbaum says *Eviction* fits this definition to a T.

Her fellow actors in the play directed by Dean Gilmour are Jackie Burroughs, Greg Kramer and Duncan Ollerenshaw with set and costume design by Minda Johnson.

Ketubah company linked to the Net

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The ketubah or Jewish marriage contract is receiving more attention among newlyweds these days.

Michael Shapiro, who has a masters degree in business administration from the University of Toronto, combined his business acumen with his love of Judaism and created Ketubah Ketubah, a company that specializes in high quality, limited edition prints of original ketubot designed by some of the world's most accomplished artists.

In 1994, Shapiro, a marketing executive, took a year off to study history, politics, Hebrew and Arabic at the Hebrew University. He then went on to study at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem.

He says that while in Israel, he decided he wanted to start an innovative business that would be both economically viable and consistent with his personal values.

At the time, he met Israeli artist Ardyn Halter and the idea for Ketubah Ketubah began to germinate. Soon Shapiro added other artists, including former Torontonians now living in Israel, Howard Fox, Laya Crust and Ted Labow.

The traditional to contemporary ketubot are printed using fine inks and papers and each one is hand signed and numbered by the artist. Many of the artists will create custom pieces. The limited edition prints range from $125 to $395.

Michael Shapiro

Recently, Shapiro was approached for bar and bat mitzvah certificates, baby naming documents, home blessings and special occasion pieces.

Shapiro says the key to Ketubah Ketubah's international service is its Internet gallery. Located at [http://www.ketubah.com/-ketubah], the gallery contains a selection of ketubot by Canadian, American and Israeli artists.

"At the click of a button," says Shapiro, "surfers can view each ketubah in color on their computer screens, complete with a description of the artwork and background on the artist."

Radio to broadcast choral songs

TORONTO – CBC Stereo (94.1 FM) will be broadcasting *A Celebration of Jewish Choral Traditions* on its *Choral Concert* show Sept. 2 at 8:10 a.m.

In addition to a discussion of the music, the program will include recordings of a work form 17th century France, as well as recordings of contemporary cantors and choirs from Holland, France and Sweden.

Also included are more recent choral works by Sid Robinovitch, Srul Glick and Ben Steinberg sung by international choirs including Canada's the Elmer Iseler Singers. The featured piece will be Ernest Bloch's *Avodat Hakodesh* recorded by Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

The program's host, Howard Dyck, will discuss the music with guest composer Steinberg.

TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Pascin's Passion

Born in Bulgaria as Julius Mordecai Pincas, the celebrated painter and draughtsman known as **Jules Pascin** (1885-1930) studied art in Budapest, Vienna and Munich, then went to Paris, where he was swept up with the major artistic movements of the period, ranging from post- impressionism to cubism to surrealism.

Pascin is best known for his images of languid, serene young women lounging in graceful poses. A selection of his works are on view at Gallery One, 121 Scollard St., Toronto, until Oct. 16. 416-929-3103.

* * *

The Little Foxes: It was **Lillian Hellman**'s friend and fellow writer **Dorothy Parker** who suggested that Hellman name her 1934 play *The Little Foxes* after a line from The Song of Solomon: "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes."

At first glance, the play is a pessimistic indictment of capitalist society and all heartless persons who value material gain above human love. But it is also an exacting portrait of a particular American family, the Hubbards, in their quest for enormous wealth.

The excellent production of this play currently at Stratford's Festival Theatre is proof enough that it is more than a propagandistic period piece. Instead, it is a wrenching family drama that shows what happens to ordinary people when motivated by greed.

The play casts light on the ideological mindset of many Americans, particularly Jewish Americans, at a time when they were increasingly turning to socialism and communism as an antidote to the seeming inhumanity of capitalism.

Hellman, the longtime companion of crime-fiction writer **Dashiell Hammett**, was blacklisted in Hollywood in the 1940s for refusing to cooperate with the House Un-American Activities Committee.

The Little Foxes, starring **William Hutt** and **Martha Henry**, is in performance until Oct. 13.

* * *

Back By Popular Demand: *Another Sunday On The Harry Harris Jewish Hour*, an evening of fun and nostalgia in Yiddish and English, is scheduled for performance Sept. 26 at the Central Library Auditorium, 5120 Yonge St. (North York City Centre), 8 p.m.

Presented as part of Artsweek '96, *Another Sunday On The Harry Harris Jewish Hour* is a stroll in the radio days of yesteryear, with skits, songs, commercials and social announcements. It stars **Gloria Valentine** and **Murray Ellis**, with special guests **Allen Farkas** and **Michael Lebovic**.

The show has been revised from last year. Advance tickets are available at Lasting Impressions in Bathurst Manor Plaza. $5. 416-635-0720.

* * *

Ashkenaz News: Last month's fundraising guided tours of the Judaica Gallery of the Royal Ontario Museum raised approximately $10,000 for the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture.

The tour was conduced by noted author and collector **Dr. Fred Weinberg** and was followed by lunch hosted by Weinberg and his wife, **Joy Cherry Weinberg**, in their historic Annex home.

Interested in being a volunteer for Ashkenaz? Phone 416-485-8758.

* * *

New Gallery: The Gallery of Klim Art Publishers, founded by **Raya** and **Daniel Gluzberg**, is opening this month with an exhibition of paintings, etchings, serigraphs and sculptures by four Canadian artists: **Joe Fleming, Louise Houde, May Marx** and **Serge Firer.**

The Gluzbergs first opened an art gallery in Israel in 1977, and soon thereafter started an art publishing company. They emigrated to Canada in 1989 and moved their publishing business and showroom to 1238 Centre St., Thornhill.

Meet the artists at the new gallery, Sept. 21 from noon to 5 p.m. 207 Queen's Quay W., second floor. 416-203-9162.

Pictured here are Ashkenaz '97 organizing committee members (from left) Heather Hoffman, Sari Weinberg-Binder, Joy Cherry, Rosalie Sharp (chair) and David Buchbinder, Ashkenaz artistic director.

* * *

In Brief: Stage Centre Productions presents *Blithe Spirit*, by **Noel Coward**, Sept. 29 to Oct. 5 at Fairview Library Theatre, North York. 416-299-5557.

• Life Dynamics, a showing of recent oil paintings by **Vivian Felsen**, is currently on display at the Azalea Bar and Grill, 1158 Yonge St., Toronto. 416-968-0710.

• **Marci Wilson**, recently wowed an audience at the downtown club Graffitti's, singing three sets of classic jazz tunes to the able accompaniment of guitarist **Harris Mark Lusher**. They are both talents worth watching.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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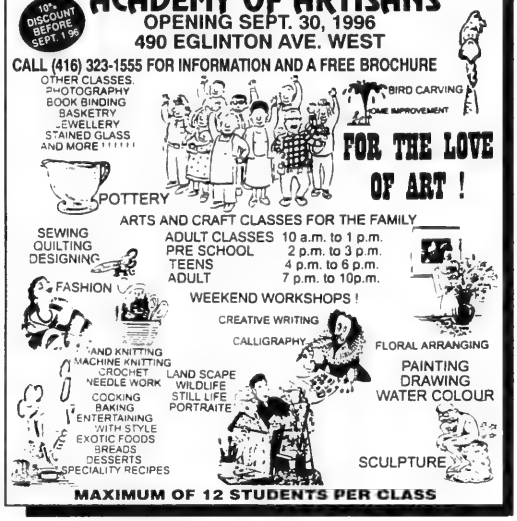

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Proper diet is essential for diabetics

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Diabetics should not look upon diet in a negative way, but as a proper form of eating, a specialist told a packed meeting of the Jewish diabetes chapter of the Canadian Diabetes Association at Shaarei Shomayim Synogue recently.

"Diet is not just weight watching or a reaction to diabetes," said Dr. Marsha Werb, a Sunnybrook Health Science Centre endocrinologist. She advised that patients should eat small meals frequently, stay away from loading up on too much sugar early in the day and check blood sugar levels between meals to find out where the problem is.

"It is true that some diabetics have a craving for food. It is actually a type of hunger from eating badly in the first place," said Werb.

Diabetics should write down their blood sugar and cholesterol levels and give them to their doctors, she advised.

"The more information you bring to us, the more we can do for you. When you have chronic complications such as eyes and kidneys, it is hard to reverse the situation. It's possible to fix something when it's on the way, but hard to fix something that's broken."

Diabetics should stop smoking and cut down on their alcohol intake, especially beer. "I have major concerns about alcohol," she said, relating the story of one of her patients who had four beers after a football game, didn't have supper and hit an overpass on the 401. "Fortunately no one was hurt, but he lost his driving licence for a year."

To a questioner who said her 17-year-old diabetic student son was told by his doctor he could have one beer, Werb replied: "With students, one beer tends to stretch into three or four."

She expressed concern about a cut in health service budgets, declaring: "If this government doesn't screw everything up, you'll still have your diabetes education specialists and eye and kidney specialists."

Every one of her own patients is referred to a nutrition specialist, she said.

Doctors are beginning to look more carefully at the idea that in some patients, diet and exercise may be the answer, rather than increasing the levels of insulin.

"I'm known as a slasher [of insulin intake]," she said. "Sometimes it's possible to cut insulin amounts in half. A small percentage of Type 2 diabetics can come off insulin but you have to be good as gold [about your diet]."

She said blood pressure medications can cause problems for diabetics, and secondary diabetes may result from taking prednisone, but most will return to normal if taken off prednisone.

Alan Marks, chapter president, chaired the meeting.

Arthritis is a real pain

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "It's going to rain tomorrow — my arthritis is killing me." We've all heard that dire warning from elderly relatives. Most of us have said it ourselves on occasion.

Arthritis is Canada's most prevalent chronic disease. According to the Arthritis Society, it affects nearly four million Canadians of all ages and both sexes.

There is no cure and if left untreated, it can lead to intense, recurring pain and even permanent disability.

Arthritis is an umbrella term for more than 100 different conditions affecting the joints and connective tissues. The most common are osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout and ankylosing spondylitis. Other conditions include lupus, scleroderma and juvenile arthritis.

There are also related conditions, such as bursitis and tendinitis, which affect the structures supporting the joint.

While all these problems are lumped under the term "arthritis," they are each unique. Osteoarthritis, for instance, the most common form of arthritis, is caused by the wearing away of cartilage covering the ends of the bones, usually in the major weight-bearing joints of the hip, knee or spine.

Rheumatoid arthritis, which unually appears between the ages of 25 and 50, causes inflammation in the lining of the joints, and sometimes as well in other internal organs.

Dr. Wayne Potashner, a North York rheumatologist, is an honorary co-chair of this year's Arthritis Month, sponsored by the Arthritis Society, along with Dr. Edward Keystone of Wellesley Hospital and Dr. Arthur Bookman of the Toronto Hospital.

Potashner told *The CJN* that there is no known certain cause for arthritis, although it is felt that genetics may be implicated.

"Trauma, infection or previous surgeries may also play a role," he said.

Arthritis now is not necessarily a precurser to deformity and disability, he said. "There are many therapies now that can ease suffering and put you into remission."

That's particularly true, he said, for younger patients, and for rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis, and lupus.

For lupus, for instance, one form of arthritis in which the immune system is affected, it is possible to "alter the immune system so that symptoms can be ameliorated."

Physiothery and occupational therapy, as well as different forms of carefully chosen exercises, can be very helpful, he said. Pills, drugs or injections may help, or, in worse cases, surgical repair or replacement of joints can be successful.

While Potashner says it's very rare to see serious deformities that one used to associate with arthritis, he emphasised that arthritis is "a serious systemic illness, which should be treated or supervised by specialists."

If you believe you're developing arthritis, Potashner said, "don't panic. We never want someone to diagnose oneself on his own."

Ask your family doctor, he said. "A good family doctor is skilled in the diagnosis of such illnesses and is very qualified to treat them." They will also refer a person to a specialist, if they believe that that will help.

All allied health profesionals have a role to play in the treatment of arthritis, Potashner said, including chiropractors, massage therapists, podiatrists, physio- and occupational therapists and orthopedic surgeons and physicians.

The key, he said, is to begin with a family doctor whom you can trust and confide in.

There is serious research being done into arthritis, much of it funded by the Arthritis Society. Studies include immune modulatory treatment, genetics, including DNA research.

"I expect we are only a very short time from seeing great breakthroughs," Potashner said.

Planned book to record Mount Sinai's history

TORONTO — In 1998, Mount Sinai Hospital, with the financial support of W. Bernard Herman and family, plans to launch a book recording the history of the hospital, in celebration of its 75th anniversary year.

Toronto-based freelance writer Lesley Marrus Barsky is currently researching the development of the hospital from its beginnings on Yorkville Avenue in 1923 to the present day.

"The history of Mount Sinai Hospital in many ways parallels the growth of the Jewish community in Toronto," says Gerald Turner, Mount Sinai Hospital's president emeritus and chair of the 75th anniversary publication advisory board.

"We are calling on our friends within the Jewish community for assistance in gathering photographs that could help to trace the growth and development of Mount Sinai Hospital and the Jewish community.

"Specifically, if you have any photographs of the Mount Sinai Hospital site on Yorkville Avenue (1923 to 1953) and/or the New Mount Sinai Hospital at 550 University Ave. taken in the mid-1950s, that you would like to share for possible inclusion in the Mount Sinai Hospital 75th anniversary book, contact Barsky at 416-586-3150. All materials will be returned."

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Brewers catcher balances baseball, Torah studies

By MICHAEL GELBWASSER
The Jewish Advocate

BOSTON — While his teammates sleep late before night games, Milwaukee Brewers catcher Jesse Levis often gets up early — to look for a morning minyan.

Levis is a Conservative Jew, one of five active Jewish major league ballplayers. Before a Brewers/Red Sox game at Fenway Park recently, he told youngsters from the South Area Maccabi Club of Stoughton that balancing baseball and Torah studies is difficult but not impossible.

"It's like any other profession," Levis said. "If you're good enough and you work hard at it, you can be successful."

The 28-year-old Philadelphia native was raised in a Conservative household and attended Hebrew school. Baseball games and practices were scheduled around the practice of religion.

"I got it done," Levis said. "I had a bar mitzvah and I respected all the holidays. I had plenty of time for school, baseball and friends."

After playing little league and American Legion ball as a kid, Levis played three years at the University of North Carolina. He also played in the Cape Cod League during the summer. The Phillies thought Levis good enough to select in the 36th round of the June 1986 amateur draft. Although the Phillies were Levis' favorite team, he didn't sign with them. Instead, he signed with the Cleveland Indians after they chose him in the fourth round of the June '89 draft.

Levis made his major league debut on April 24, 1992. He spent parts of the 1992-95 seasons with the Indians, mostly as a back-up catcher. Levis travelled with the team during the '95 post-season as an alternate, warming up pitchers in the bullpen. Entering this season, he'd hit .240 lifetime with one home run and 10 runs batted in.

During the '95 off-season, Cleveland traded Levis to Milwaukee for minor league pitchers Scott and Jared Camp. Through July 2, Levis had a .240 average with no homers, 18 hits and 10 ribbies in 75 at bats for the Brewers. One of his season highlights came on June 9 at Fenway when he hit a pinch-hit single off Red Sox reliever Heathcliff Slocumb in the ninth inning of the Brewers' 11-8 victory.

"It's a dream come true," Levis said of his career in the majors. "When I was 5 years old, I remember going to a Phillies game and saying 'Wow! I want to be a major leaguer.' "

He also attends a minyan when possible. Although he doesn't keep kosher, Levis asked the youngsters from the Maccabi club if they knew of any local kosher restaurants.

"He's nice," said Jacob Kriegel, 9. "He's not afraid to say he's Jewish."

One youngster asked Levis about anti-Semitism in the majors. He said he'd heard "jokes and stuff about being cheap" but nothing malicious.

"There's not a whole lot of anti-Semitism, but some peopole may talk behind your back," Levis said.

The Maccabi youngsters had mixed feelings about Levis' decisions to play on Jewish holidays. They wondered if his loyalty to Judaism should exceed his loyalty to his team.

"I think he should try to stay home on the holidays," said Janna Fox, 10. "But if the team really needs him ..."

"He's letting down the Jewish tradition if he doesn't observe the holidays," Kriegel said. "But he's letting his team down if he doesn't play."

The other major leaguers who are reportedly Jewish are pitchers Mike Milchin of the Minnesota Twins (2-1 with a 3.60 ERA in 15 innings played over 17 games), Jose Bautista of the San Francisco Giants (1-0 with a 2.63 ERA in 27 innings pitched over 14 games), catcher Brad Ausmus of the San Diege Padres (.141 with one homer and 13 RBIs) and Shawn Green of the Toronto Blue Jays (.288).

Maccabi sports festival proves huge success

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A first-time "Maccabi Summer Sports Festival" earlier this summer in the Laurentians involving about 400 campers from six local Jewish camps proved so successful that plans are to expand the idea to other parts of Canada, one of its organizers said.

"You saw it in their faces. There were lots of kids, lots of talent. Every Maccabi region should be doing do it," said a beaming Harry Hus, who thought of the concept and co-chaired the festival.

In Hus's memory, the all-day sports event marked the first occasion local Jewish camps have gotten together en masse in the Laurentians.

The festival, at Camp B'nai Brith (CBB), was coordinated and co-chaired by Tina Ornstein, of Camp Kinneret-Biluim (who recently returned to Israel) and by CBB officials. It was run under the joint sponsorship of Maccabi Canada (Quebec) and the Jewish Camp Council, a group of Jewish camps under the umbrella of the Jewish Education Council (JEC).

Also involved in the event were the Y, the Israel Youth Program Centre and the Council on Jewish Continuity and Identity.

But for Hus, it was the campers, clad in special color-coded T-shirts with the festival logo, who more than anyone else made the festival a success beyond even the most optimistic expectations.

Not only that, though. The festival — using the theme of the United Colors of Israel — was also highlighted by sports clinics, a balloon launch, Olympics-style opening, closing and torch-lighting ceremonies, as well as by a police-escorted Y Wolf Pack torch relay run from the synagogue in Ste-Agathe to CBB, led by the venerable Wolf Bronet.

Coming from the two above-mentioned camps and four others — Y Country Camp (YCC), Camp Massad and two day camps, the francophone Camp Benyamin and the Y's Friendly Faces Day Camp — the campers, ranging from the ages of 11 to 16 and each assigned a color to designate a region of Israel, spent the day competing in a variety of sports, including softball, basketball, soccer, tennis and newcomball.

Hus, however, said the value of the day was not measured by the medallions handed out, It was gauged instead, he said, by the added sense of Jewish identity, cameraderie and heightened general interest in sports the festival inspired.

"It is out of things like this, that you get athletes," observed Hus. "They got to know something about Judaism, interaction and the Maccabi movement."

Indeed, Hus said plans are for this first festival to be an annual one, part of a recent effort by Maccabi Canada in Quebec to make a key age group aware of and active in the organization and athletic activities in general.

Last year Hus, who is also Maccabi Canada's sports chair for Quebec, conceived of a winter sports festival, which he said will be repeated in February and feature Jewish participation both from Jewish and non-Jewish schools.

Just how important the day was reflected by who else was there.

They included Israeli consul general Daniel Gal, honorary chair Heleena Wiltzer, as well as Maccabi Canada stalwarts like Joey Richman (who lit the festival flame), president Roy Salomon, Bob, Abe and Mary Luxenberg, and Gordie Schwartz.

Even Ste-Agathe House of Israel Rabbi Emanuel Carlebach, who at one point exchanged a *tallit* for a T-shirt, was there.

With the festival taking place exactly a year before the actual Maccabiah Games in Israel, Hus was especially delighted to see some kids who looked like potential prospects for future games.

"Whenever you have these many kids together, there's always talent," he said.

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3 Bdrm, fin bsmt, FAC/CAC! Cathy Goldman* 226-1987

HURRY! WON'T LAST! YONGE/EGLINTON $269K
Totally reno'd semi! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CEDARVALE — $239,000
Updated 2 BR bung, skylights! Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

DON MILLS/LAWRENCE REDUCED!
Lovely 3 bdrm t'house, end unit! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

1ST AD! THE BRIDLE PATH 2+ACRES
5 Bdrm ranch style bung! 4 princ rms! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

1ST AD! THE BRIDLE PATH! $1,385M
Opport'y knocks! Free house! - Land value! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

YORK MILLS/OLD YONGE $1,295,000
Custom home to be built! 3 car gar Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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NORTH PROPERTIES

NEW LISTING! TENNIS COURT & POOL
Bayview/York Mills 4 bdrm 1 year new! A. Pollock/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

EXQUISITE RENO! EXCELLENT VALUE!
Stunning 4+BR in Bridle Path area! Joyce Rosenblatt* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16TH — 5,500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin bsmt! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/STEELES
Immaculate 3 bdrm home, mn flr, fam r. Fin bsmt! F. Sversky** 488-2875

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FINE HOMES

FOREST HILL — JUST LISTED
$599,000. Gorgeous stone front, 5 + bedroom home. Kitchen + brkfst. rm. Fin. l/lvl w/nanny's rm., rec rm., fireplace + bath. Leaded glass. Wainscotting. CAC. Garage. *Leslie Dennis.

UPPER VILLAGE — $489,000
Wonderful family home. 4 bedrooms. Reno'd kitchen. Den. Beautiful backyard & garden. Private drive & garage. Close to West Prep, TTC & shopping. *Herman & *Kathie Wood.

LYTTON PARK — $710,000
Stately 5+ bedroom home. Centre hall. Large principal rooms. Main floor den. 2nd flr. family rm. Finished lower level. CAC., Betz pool *Barbara Kaplan.

LOWER VILLAGE — $798,000
Elegant home on 212-foot deep landscaped lot. 4 Brs., library, reno'd gourmet kitchen + brkfst rm. Fin. l/lvl with office or nanny's quarters. CAC. Dble. gar. **Don Wagman.

CHAPLIN ESTATES — $389,000
Inviting 3+ bedroom home. SOLD main floor family room addition + walk-out to yard. N[illegible]y's room in lower level. Garage. *Barbara Kaplan.

YONGE/EGLINTON — $279,000
Wonderful renovation in g[illegible]on. 4 BRs. Main floor den + w/o to deck. Fin. lower le[illegible]. CAC. Parking. **Don Wagman.

HILLSDALE AVENUE — $469,000
High quality renovation. Exciting blend of old & new. 3+ bedrms. Eat-in kitchen. 3rd floor skylit loft/bedroom. Fin. lower level. Fireplace. CAC. **Don Wagman.

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN — $459,000
Attractive home. Large lot. Entertainment-sized rooms. Heated breakfast/sun room off kitchen. Lots of built-ins. Great location. Walk to synagogues. *Edith Weiss.

FABULOUS GLENGROVE RENO
NOW $498,000. Centre hall plan. 3 BRS. Master w/sitting room/nursery. Main floor den. Fireplaces. CAC. Private drive & garage. Walk to synagogues. *ELAINE PIKE.

RIDLEY BLVD. CONDO — $215,000
Two bedroom corner unit. [illegible]is & her closets + ensuite w/sep. shower. Eat-in kitche[illegible]comb. with solarium. CAC. Balcony. 2 parking spaces. *Edie Winberg.

BAGHAI BUILT — WILSON HEIGHTS
$559,000. Spectacular home features unique architecture, marble foyer, 3+ bedrooms, main floor family rm., skylight, + Fin. l/lvl. CAC. Double garage. *Edie Winberg.

YORK MILLS/LESLIE — $569,000
Wonderful family home. 5+ BRs. Large principal rooms. Reno'd kitchen. California shutters. Skylights. Bleached floors. Fin. l/lvl. CAC. Garage. *Leslie Dennis.

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS — $839,000
Custom built home. Oversized lot on quiet cul-de-sac. 5+ bedrooms. Main floor fam. rm. w/fp + panelled library. Fin. l/lvl. CAC. Triple garage. *Eleanor Stanton.

YORK MILLS RENTAL — $5,850./mo.
Executive home in desirable area. Spacious principal rms. for entertaining. 4 BRs on upper + 2 in l/lvl. Exquisite treed lot + pool + lovely garden. Double garage & circular drive. *Betty Cohen.

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3 Bdrm bungalow, 200 ft. frontage, trees+ *Larry Wronzberg

BATHURST & CENTRE $279,900
4 Bdrms, about 2,200', $$ in extra, huge lot ++ *Al Sidofsky

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4 Bdrms, dble garage, fin. bsmt with nanny's 1/4's, air, vac, alarm, 5 appliances, quiet street +++ *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-WILSON "COLLINSON BLVD"
3 Bdrm bungalow near all amenities! In-law suite, central air, hardwood floors, appliances *Ted Waxman

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Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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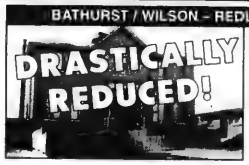

3,400 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 50' frontage, 5 + 2 bedrooms, library, family room, 6 baths, 2 kitchens, dream kitchen, upgrades galore. Won't last at this price! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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A Senior, young in spirit, is looking for a sincere, warm hearted, fun loving female (age over 40). We will meet over coffee or tea. I live in Toronto. My name is Gordon.CJN Box 6820.

Prof. male, 50, with varied interests incl. sports, theatre, travel, wishes to meet Jewish lady for friendship & possible romance. CJN Box 6821.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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The Inside Back

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Mahogany dining room table & 6 chairs, George III style, exc. cond., $1,700. 489-7265.

330 OBITUARIES

Fay Zippin on August 23, 1996, late of 15 Canyon Ave. #603
Fay Spring on August 23, 1996, late of 78 Glen Rush Blvd.
Susan Burton on August 26, 1996, late of 10 Avoca Avenue #1004
Lillian Ross on August 25, 1996, late of 330 Spadina Road #403
Wilfred Malkin on August 26, 1996, late of 56 Northover Street
Irwin Soren on August 27, 1996, late of 400 Walmer Road #2125
Rose Cole on August 27, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue #209
Polina Mirkin on August 29, 1996, late of 5 Tangreen Court #210
Paul Penna on August 29, 1996, late of 50 Godfreys Lane
Selma Lightman on August 30, 1996, late of 400 Walmer Road #1509 W. Tower
Freda Sautman on August 31, 1996, late of 3311 Bathurst St. #106
Herbert Rose on August 31, 1996, late of 92 Gorman Park Road
Irvin Shulman on September 1, 1996, late of 65 Spring Garden Ave. #1204
Edward Bongard on September 2, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Avenue
Miriam Shechtman on September 2, 1996, late of 115 Arnold Avenue
Fred Shurman on September 2, 1996, late of 360 Ridelle Avenue #710
Abe Fichtenbaum on September 4, 1996, late of 9 Watford Avenue
Benjamin Granatstein on September 3, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Lillian Morris on September 3, 1996, late of 55 Carscadden Drive #103
Martin Cooper on September 4, 1996, late of 3900 Yonge St. #811

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Chesney, David on September 7, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
Chousky, Rose on September 7, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Averboukh, Lioubov on September 8, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
Manne, Luisa on September 9, 1996
Kahansky, Arthur on September 8, 1996, late of 29 Collinson Blvd.
Fox, Mathew Max on September 9, 1996
Hurwitz, Zoe on September 10, 1996, late of 17 Braeburn Dr.
Segal, Abram on September 10, 1996, late of 642 Sheppard Ave. E.
Leneck, William on August 28, 1996, late of 10 Ruddington Dr.
Cooper, Ruth on August 29, 1996, late of 245 Betty Ann Dr.
Serbier (Sperber), Norbert on August 31, 1996, late of 3636 Bathurst St.
Fogel, Ernest on September 1, 1996, late of 11 Barclay Rd.
Charney, William on September 1, 1996, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
Cohen, Ruth on September 2, 1996, late of 4003 Bayview Ave.
Benitah, Mair (Max) on September 1, 1996, late of 10 Vanwood Rd.
Abesdris, Alain on September 1, 1996, late of 258 Cummer Ave.
Greenwald, John on September 2, 1996, late of 100 Canyon Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

Last spring, I graduated from university and I still haven't found a job! I'm ready to work hard at any job I get, but I don't know what type of job I want. What should I do?

Dear Reader,

What type of degree did you get? If your degree is a bachelor of science in biology, can you work as a biologist or do you need more education? How about if you have a degree in English, can you work as an English teacher? For technical questions like this, check with the career centre at your college or university.

When you think about work, think about the kind of assignments you did in school. Which ones did you enjoy and why? What types of jobs would require you to do those types of assignments? If you are not sure, check with your former professors or go to your local library and look for books in the career section. Many professions have associations with career advice and job assistance for new graduates. Look for the names of these groups in the phone book and on the Internet.

If you are still unsure about what you would like to do, consider viewing video tapes about different work opportunities. These tapes offer realistic views of many different types of jobs and are available at libraries, school guidance centres and local career centres.

Once you think you know what you want to do, consider interviewing people who work in those types of jobs. Call up people who are suggested to you by your family, your school, your friends, or just cold-call someone who sounds like they do interesting work. Ask for 10 minutes to ask about their job. When you get in the door, find out about a typical day, what type of stress is associated with the job. Question how to go about finding a job in that field and ask about the current job market. This person may be able to suggest who is hiring at your level or other opportunities for work similar to his.

Once you have narrowed your area of interest, start scouring newspapers, Internet addresses and federal employment centres for job opportunities. Check out the student employment centre at your college or university. Look through your class notes for names of companies who are working on projects that interest you and call them as well.

Finally, develop a resume that stresses skills, not a history of part-time jobs. Show it to someone you respect who works in your area of interest. Speak to the people who are going to get your resume to increase the chance it will be noticed. If you can send it out to 10 interested people each day, you should be on the job before Chanukah.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

You can now send your letters through

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APRICOT OR CHERRY NOODLE PUDDING (Pareve)

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4 oz. unsalted margarine, melted
16 oz wide noodles, cooked
4 eggs, beaten
1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 20-oz. can pineapple, crushed and drained
1 10-oz. jar apricot jam or 1 20-oz. can cherry pie filling

Topping:
1 cup corn flakes
1 tblsp sugar
1 tsp cinnamon

Melt margarine; pour into noodles. Add eggs, sugar, vanilla and pineapple; mix together. Pour 1/2 noodle mixture into greased 3-quart pan. Spread with filling, then cover with rest of noodle mixture.

Mix together corn flakes, sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over top. Dot with margarine. Bake at 350° for 40 minutes. Serves 10-12.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Observing the Sabbath in the land of the Midnight Sun

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

HELSINKI — On summer evenings in Finland, the orange-red globe of the sun seems to linger for hours above the horizon, not setting until the wee hours.

In this Land of Midnight Sun, the sky is still a bit light, even at midnight, and the sun reappears by 3 a.m. and is soon shining strongly.

"In the north, a religious Jew would have a problem (observing Shabbat) because there the sun doesn't set at all," said Dan Kantor, executive secretary of the Finnish Jewish community.

Starting in June and lasting throughout the summer, evening services in Helsinki's Adath Israel Synagogue are conducted at a fixed time. However, the havdalah ceremony which ends the Sabbath is sometimes conducted much later – "at the latest, one-thirty in the morning," Kantor said.

"The important thing is to celebrate Sabbath, not to watch the clock. If you keep the Sabbath for 26 or 27 hours, I think it's enough."

The ancestors of Finland's present 1,500-strong community probably dealt with the religious ramifications of keeping the Sabbath in northern latitudes in their former homeland. The first Jews to reach Finland arrived from Russia about 1809, the year Finland became part of the Russian empire after 700 years of Swedish domination.

To protect their new territory, the Russians sent army troops "and among those soldiers were so-called cantonists," Kantor said. "They were young Jewish boys, no more than 12 or 13 years, taken by force into the army and forced to serve up to 25 years."

After their service, many of the cantonists had lost all contact with Russia and opted to stay in Finland, Kantor said. Around 1830, some went back to Russia to find Jewish wives and returned to settle in Finland.

Finland's first rabbi, Naftali Amsterdam, was appointed in 1856.

Foreign visitors regularly drop by Helsinki's only synagogue, which dates from 1906, and many inspect the glass display case that holds a historic wreath. Then-Finnish president Marshall C.G. Mannerheim gave the wreath to the Jewish community in 1944, in commemoration of the many Jewish soldiers killed in the Finnish army in the war.

"This is how Mannerheim showed the outside world the attitude of the Finnish government towards the Jewish question," Kantor said. "By coming to the synagogue and giving this wreath, he really declared that the Jews were equal citizens. In a way it was a bold thing to do."

In the early part of World War II, Finland joined Nazi Germany in fighting Russia and many Jewish soldiers found themselves in the unenviable position of fighting side by side with the Germans.

"The Germans wanted the Finns to hand over the Jews, but the Finns wouldn't," Kantor said. "The only Jews deported from Finland to the camps were eight Austrian refugees, and even that was without the permission of the government."

The Adath Israel synagogue is located at Malminkatu 26, Helsinki. For information about travelling to Finland, contact the Finnish Tourist Board, Suite 604, 1200 Bay St. Toronto, Ont. M5R 2A5. Phone 416-964-9159

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The Last Word . . . RRIF DEADLINE

As autumn approaches, people age seventy-one, become more aware of the December 31st deadline for the conversion of their RRSP to a RRIF or annuity.

Sadly, the days of scanning the marketplace and finding high interest rates have passed. Today, more than ever, you must carefully plan for the orderly change from RRSP to retirement income. Planning the proper income, selecting the most appropriate investments, and making sure that all of the documentation is completed correctly and on time are all part of the RRSP conversion process.

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1 L Bottle 1.49 EA

SWEET RED SHEPPARD PEPPERS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
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CARROTS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
5 lb Poly Bag 99 EA

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796 ml Tin 79 EA

PRIMO PASTA SAUCE
Assorted Varieties
680 ml Tin 99 EA

RUFFLES POTATO CHIPS
Assorted Varieties
170 g Bag 1.29 EA

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400 g Package 1.99 EA

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto rabbi facing crippling legal bill defending libel lawsuit. *Page 5*

Jewish Life

It doesn't take Einstein to figure Israeli economics out: i=(CX2) +10% *Page 14*

Coast to Coast

The Galganov Affair the latest blunder by the separatists. *Page 22*

Sheila Finestone announced she will seek fourth term. *Page 29*

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel's settlement policy a delicate balancing act. *Analysis.* *Page 34*

TAB news

IMF blames former Labor government for economic deterioration. *Page 38*

London synagogue, Bevis Marks, the highlight of the two-hour walking tour of London's Old Jewish Quarter. *Page 39*

Sports news

Montreal soccer player Adam Braz, 15, dreams of holding the World Cup in France in 1998. *Page 42*

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Shabbat: Sukkot
Candlelighting 6:49
Tishrei 14, 5757
Havdalah: 7:54

Anxiety levels rise on Golan

By MARK A. HELLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

When military movements produce tension and anxiety levels rise – as they do almost every year around Yom Kippur – people are in no mood to think about theories of international relations. Nevertheless, the uncertainty surrounding Israel's relations with Syria underscores the danger of acting on instinct and neglecting more systematic thought.

Analysis

For the last half-century the conceptual legacy of World War II has dominated thinking about war and peace.

Three occurrences embody that legacy: the publication of *Mein Kampf*, Munich and Pearl Harbor. They have become metaphors for the disastrous consequences of failing to recognize, resist and prepare to fight the intentions of aggressive autocrats.

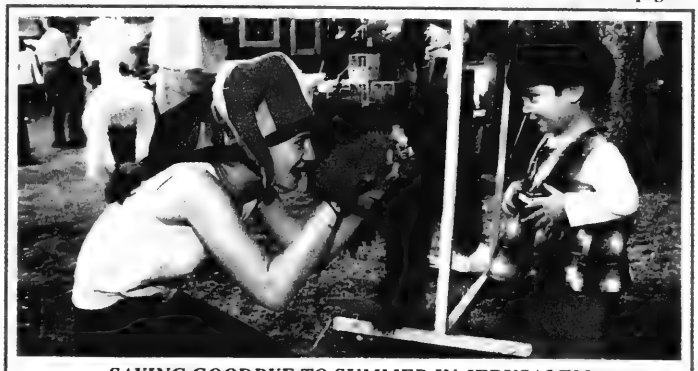
Having learned the lessons of this failure, policymakers and analysts have resolved never to repeat the mistakes of complacency and appeasement that led to war.

Instead, they have fashioned strategies of deterrence calculated to warn potential aggressors that their intentions are known, are taken seriously and will be resisted, and that the capacity to defeat and punish them is available and will be used.

And to eliminate any possible doubt about their credibility, these warnings are often accompanied by actions, including weapons tests, troop movements and other shows of force.

The impact of World War II was so vivid and overwhelming that its lessons provided an almost unchallenged framework for fashioning Western security policy during the Cold War. As for Israel, the trauma of the Holocaust and the seeming parallel between its security

Continued on page 33



SAYING GOODBYE TO SUMMER IN JERUSALEM
A young artisan entertains an even younger visitor to the annual summertime Hutzot Hayotzer Arts and Crafts Fair in Jerusalem. *[Isranet photo]*

'We're fighting for national unity'

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Don't call Howard Galganov an "English rights activist."

"That rankles me. Rights are rights. We're fighting for rights and national unity and they're inextricably connected," he said, during a two-hour interview at his home in St. Lazare.

Unbowed by the apparent lack of American interest in his trip to Wall Street, Galganov is busily planning his next major event that he is confident will attract the media, not only in the United States, but worldwide.

Exclusive

On Nov. 22, he will open a store called Presque Pure Laine in "central Montreal" and attempt to provoke a showdown with the government over the language laws, on the eve of the Parti Quebecois (PQ) national convention. ("I don't want to reveal the location and get firebombed.") He will post two signs of equal size and content in English and French.

He will then wait to be charged and go to jail for refusing to pay the fine or he will sue to have the language law quashed.

In mid-October, he also hopes to lead a demonstration against the drug insurance plan, which he sees as yet another cost of the separatist threat.

Galganov founded the Quebec Political Action Committee (QPAC) , not to "lead [anglophone] public opinion, but to reflect it."

When he speaks of "we" – as he usually does – he means himself. The group has no members as such and till now has been financed by him. Galganov says he's personal-

Continued on page 22

SPECIAL STAMPS BY A SPECIAL ARTIST

To commemorate the New Year 5757, the government of Israel issued a series of three stamps drawn by Sahar Pick, a 23-year-old artist born with Down's syndrome. Seen here are the stamps celebrating Sukkot and Simchat Torah. For full story please see page 27.

INSIDE

The compatibility of science and Torah: Science and Judaism coexist with little, if any, discord, says Prof. Paul Brumer of the University of Toronto. Please see Perspectives on page 35.

have
door

Peace talks with Syria unlikely to resume soon — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Creative Writing Contest

TORONTO – More than 350 students from Toronto's day schools participated in the annual creative writing contest sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education.

Three students from Associated Hebrew Schools were chosen as grade winners: Dara Koplowitz, Grade 1, Lisa Charow, Grade 2, and Leora Jackson, Grade 3.

The winning essays have been posted on the UJA Federation Web site at [www.fed.uja.org].

Baron Byng Reunion

MONTREAL – Baron Byng is holding a reunion in Montreal of its 1947 classes, scheduled for May 1997.

For further information call Riva Bialik Rosenfeld at 416-223-8988.

ISRAEL

PM Urges Restraint

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to act with restraint when dealing with demolitions in east Jerusalem because of the sensitivity to the subject shown by the Palestinians and the international community, government sources said.

The request was largely aimed at avoiding a showdown over the alleged illegal construction recently discovered next to Al-Aksa Mosque.

A New Year's Surprise

JERUSALEM – Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called Leah Rabin to wish her well on Rosh Hashanah, the Hebrew daily *Ma'ariv* reported.

"He wished me a happy New Year," Rabin told the newspaper. "And he said it in Hebrew."

Rabin said Arafat called her husband, Yitzhak Rabin,"a hero of peace," and said he missed him.

Palestinian Workers

JERUSALEM – The number of Palestinians allowed to work in Israel is being increased from 32,000 to 50,000, Finance Minister Dan Meridor said last week.

The decision was announced following the first meeting of the Joint Economic Council since the May elections, with the Palestinian team being led by PA Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Maher Masri.

WORLD

Street Dedicated

NEW YORK – The first street in the United States to be named after beloved Yiddish author Shalom Aleichem was recently dedicated.

The naming of Shalom Aleichem Place in New York coincided with the 80th anniversary of his death in 1916.

New Year's Rite

KIEV, Ukraine – Following a tradition that dates back to the beginning of the last century, some 8,000 chassidic pilgrims made their way from the United States and Israel to the small Ukrainian town of Uman, a city of about 50,000 halfway between Kiev and Odessato, to visit the grave of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav at Rosh Hashanah.

Jews Seeking Restitution

KIEV, Ukraine – The Ukrainian Jewish community is quietly laying the groundwork for the restitution of communal properties that were confiscated by the state during the Communist era.

During the past three years, Ukraine's Committee for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage, or KSEN, has been gathering archival documentation to prove communal ownership of the properties.

Anti-Semite Convicted

GENEVA – The leader of a group known as the Universal Church has been found guilty of publishing an anti-Semitic brochure claiming that Jewish greed caused World War II.

Reimers Peters was fined $4,000 by a Swiss court and ordered to pay $6,800 in legal costs after being found guilty of breaching a law that makes it a crime to discriminate against ethnic groups or incite racial hatred.

WORLD WIDE WEB

CAJE Goes On-Line

NEW YORK – The Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education has joined the World Wide Web with a Web site that both offers vital information in the field of Jewish education and provides a place for educators with similar interests to "chat" or exchange ideas.

The address of the new Web site is [http://www.caje.org].

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Sept. 24, 1971

BARLEV RESPONDS TO EGYPT'S THREATS

Israel's Chief of Staff Lieut.-Gen. Haim Barlev, responding to Egyptian threats to renew the war of attrition, has warned that Israel could, if it were "the correct solution," carry the battle across the ceasefire lines into Egyptian territory.

Israel would not be compelled to do this, as in the first moments of the Six Day War in 1967, Barlev said, but "we can do it and there may be situations in which it is right to do it."

******

RESTRAINT URGED DURING KOSYGIN'S VISIT

Canada's External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp has suggested that restraint be used during Russian Premier Kosygin's visit to Canada in October by community groups demonstrating on behalf of the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate.

"Such sensitive issues can be broached only in an atmosphere of mutual confidence and trust if we are to avoid the risk of provoking a hostile reaction on the part of the Soviet authorities," Sharp said. Outdoor demonstrations, silent marches, a legal seminar and mass rallies are among the events planned by Jewish organizations.

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Jewish groups welcome U.S. voice on Quebec

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jewish organizations say they were pleased to see a U.S. congressional committee monitoring international compliance with the Helsinki Final Act voice concerns over the rights of Jews and other minorities in Quebec seen as being violated.

"If anything can get the [Quebec] government to fall in line, it's pressure from the States," said Robert Libman, B'nai Brith's Quebec director.

"The American committee has raised legitimate questions," said Max Bernard, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec regions (CJC-Q) community relations committee.

"The Quebec government needs to concern itself very much with the concerns of the the international community with respect to such possible violations."

Their comments came after a report that the U.S. Congress' Helsinki committee sent letters of concern over possible violations of Jewish and other minority rights in Quebec to Canadian Ambassador Raymond Chretien last April and July.

The first letter worried about rights being compromised in the wake of the matzahgate affair and asked that the Canadian government inform Quebec about its obligations under the accord.

The second letter wondered how the Quebec government's proposed resurrection of the "language police" under Bill 40 could affect the kosher for Passover issue.

The April letter said last Passover's crackdown on kosher products "had the effect of violating Canada's international Helsinki obligations by denying religious Jews living in Quebec the ability to abide by Jewish dietary laws during the holy days."

While Libman was not sure whether the Helsinki agreement, signed in 1975 by 52 countries, including Canada, was actually broken since no Jews were ultimately kept from celebrating Passover, the concerns expressed are valuable because "it's important to head these things off at the pass," he said.

"If the situation were taken to an extreme and Jews could not obtain matzah, then I think you could make the case that there had been a violation [of Helsinki]."

Moreover, expressions of concern from across the border — which Quebec has historically been sensitive to — could serve to make the Quebec government think twice about hardening its language policies and encourage it to bring more minorities into the public sector, Libman said.

Bernard said the U.S. committee probably chose to use the phrase, "had the effect of violating" the Helsinki agreement because it could not conclude whether the Office de la Langue Francaise "set out" to violate rights when it cracked down on Passover products.

"The question is whether it is systemic or not," Bernard said.

Like Libman, Bernard suggested that U.S. concerns should give pause to the Quebec government "to re-evaluate what it is doing" in regards to any changes it is considering to language or language policing policy.

In a response to the committee, chaired by New York Senator Alfonse D'Amato and New Jersey Congressman Christoper Young, Chretien said their concerns were conveyed to Quebec and referred to the recent accord between CJC and the Office de la Langue Francaise.

A spokesperson for the U.S. committee, Michael Hathaway, was reported as saying that the issue of Quebec minority rights could be raised in November at a Vienna meeting of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which oversees the Helsinki agreement.

YACHDAV RETURNS

Participants from Yachdav '95 greet a planeload of new olim at Israel's Ben Gurion Airport last year. For information on this year's program, see page 7.

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From the editor's desk

Charting Netanyahu's political road map

Across my desk last week I received from the Canada-Israel Committee a transcript of the interview on Sept. 11 of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu conducted by Bill Cameron of CBC Newsworld *Morning News*.

It was the first interview offered to the Canadian media by the prime minister of Israel. Due to the early hour of its original telecast however, it was missed by many. That was unfortunate, because the interview was particularly interesting.

In addition to eliciting the "usual" substantive policy responses from the elected leader of the Israeli people, Cameron also attempted to open a channel into the "inner man," to gain some insight into the character and personality of his subject.

I reproduce excerpts from the interview.

Cameron: *Mr. Netanyahu, I think in most lives, there comes a moment in which your world view comes into focus, when it becomes quite clear to you suddenly what's right and what's wrong, what must be defended, what must be opposed. Was there a moment like that* for you?

Netanyahu: Very early on, I think. I must have been 17 or 18...Probably the coming of age when you recognize that you're going to devote a good part of your life to the defence of your people, the defence of the Jewish state. It's a passage that young people make choosing the focus of their idealism. And that was the passage that I passed.

Cameron: *Was there an incident particularly that crystallized the view of the world that you have now?*

Netanyahu: It's hard to say. I mean, I try to think about my views and write them down over the years and I've had the advantage before coming to office of actually writing what I think, what I want to do. And that is a good place, if not to crystallize, at least to put together the basic thinking that guides my policies. Now obviously, you come in, you find a different reality. You find the jagged edges of rocks, of facts, of things that you didn't necessarily anticipate and you have to say: How does that fit the road map that you created? Do you have to adjust your route, do you have to change the map altogether or merely move slightly to the left or slightly to the right? And that is more or less the way I operate...Obviously there may be changes in the application of things, but not in the general course.

Seizing the opportunity, Cameron then asked the prime minister about his change of heart regarding an earlier vow not to meet with Yasser Arafat. Netanyahu acknowledged the change, but added that it was no longer appropriate to refuse to meet with Arafat.

It was clear, however, from the manner in which he continued his probing, that Cameron was not trying to catch the prime minister out in a contradiction. Rather, he was looking for something more in the prime minister's thinking, something that would reach beyond the stock answers on which he had been briefed by his advisors, something which might shed a public light on a private thought.

Netanyahu: Arafat was one of the things that I inherited from the previous [government]. He is there. He represents the Palestinians. I have to deal with him. I chose to deal with him.

Cameron: *When you looked into his eyes... Well I've watched the moment of that meeting several times, that image. You looked directly at him, he looks around the room for some reason. When you finally catch his eye, what do you see there?*

Finding real acceptance

Netanyahu: I've yet to determine that. I would like to see somebody whose word counts, who's made a commitment to coexist with Israel, not as a tactical steppingstone for future conflict, but a real acceptance of the fact that a Jewish state exists in the Middle East and will continue to exist forever; somebody who keeps his commitments on security and fighting terrorism. For me, it's a question mark. I don't fail to give him credence, to give him leeway; I just don't shut my eyes to the possibility that I'll be disappointed.

One has the feeling that the prime minister was slightly taken aback by the unconventionality of the question. At the outset, he appears to be repeating a "position," restating, more or less, a stock answer, rather than respond to the question actually posed.

But in mid-answer, he does what he had merely moments ago told Cameron was one of his chief hallmarks. He adjusts. Sensing a less hard-edged political focus by his interviewer, he softens somewhat the emphasis of his response: *"I don't fail to give him credence, to give him leeway."*

The prime minister continues in this vein. He delivers an unambiguous message but uses softer, non-ideological images, thus even more effectively making his point.

Cameron: *He's a man who has used terrorism in the past to advance political ends. Terrorism continues in the Middle East now. Do you believe that he is still involved in using terrorism for political ends?*

Netanyahu: No. He is not and he underwent two phases. First, when he signed the Oslo accords, he himself stopped ordering his own Fatah organization to perpetrate terrorism and they, indeed, stopped. He, however, did not stop other terrorist organizations operating from the domains that he controlled from perpetrating terrorism against us. That is Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Basically, he turned a blind eye and let them attack us to exert pressure on us. In the past few months, he stopped that too. And the point that I made to him was that this is not a choice. This is not something you decide to do, to fight terrorism one day and then not fight it the next day. It's not a variable. It has to be a constant. And I said, if it's not a constant, if you revert to the old pattern of allowing these other terrorist groups to operate from your territory, then we will operate differently and the peace process would collapse. And he said to me: "We're not going back." I will see that he lives up to his commitment.

Netanyahu's response to Cameron's question about Arafat was expert.

He achieved at least three positive results. He explained the nuances of Israel's policy to his Canadian audience in a manner readily understandable and acceptable. He conveyed a progressive attitude to the Palestinian leader, thus demonstrating his reasoned and reasonable approach to finding peace with the Palestinians: *"He [Arafat] is not [involved in terrorism]."* He also showed himself to be a firm, demanding leader: *"I will see that he [Arafat] lives up to his commitment."*

The interview cast light on both the interviewer and his subject. Both views were illuminating.

MBD

CORRECTION

The correct phone number to register or for information on Yiddish classes is 635-2883, ext. 155. An incorrect number was given in *The CJN* story Sept. 19. There is still time to register.

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Greater Toronto Area

Libel lawsuit costs mount for rabbi

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A respected local rabbi says he's facing a crippling legal bill defending a $4.5-million libel lawsuit brought against him by the head of the worldwide Kabbalah Centre.

Rabbi J. Immanuel Schochet says he's already out of pocket about $10,000 and looking at legal fees many times that.

Over the High Holy Days, flyers and posters at several Toronto synagogues outlined the three-year-old dispute and called for a "Rabbi's Legal Defense Fund."

The material was the brainchild of several local Orthodox synagogue members who feel Rabbi Schochet's battle has been ignored by the community for too long.

"Can we afford the luxury of not getting involved?" the poster asks.

The case goes back to 1993, when Rabbi Philip Berg, the spiritual leader and director of the global Kabbalah Learning Centre, launched a $2.5-million lawsuit against Rabbi Schochet. As well, the centre is seeking $2 million in damages.

Rabbi Berg and the centre accuse Rabbi Schochet of having libeled and slandered them in a speech Rabbi Schochet delivered in Johannesburg, South Africa, in May, 1993.

According to court documents, Rabbi Berg alleges the speech damaged his reputation by falsely suggesting he instructs the centre's teachers to engage in "deceptive and fraudulent" practices.

As well, Rabbi Berg says the speech questioned his credentials and falsely suggested he has led a "scandalous" personal life.

Rabbi J. Immanuel Schochet

Even though the speech was made in South Africa, Rabbi Berg says tapes of it have been bought and sold around the world.

The case is winding its way through the courts. Rabbi Berg's lawyer, John B. Laskin, told *The CJN* there has been a motion filed to refer the matter to a *beit din* (rabbinical court).

He said any further questions can be put to Rabbi Berg.

The CJN's requests for an interview with Rabbi Berg were referred to The Lee Solters Company, a public relations firm in Beverly Hills, Calif..

Through the firm, Rabbi Berg turned down an interview, saying he may discuss the matter when it's resolved.

For his part, Rabbi Schochet says he's spent over $10,000 hunting down documents and on other research. He told *The CJN* he's spent thousands of dollars on long-distance telephone calls alone.

A respected kabbalist, teacher and spiritual leader of Beth Joseph Lubavitch, a 50-family congregation in the Bathurst-Wilson area, Rabbi Schochet said he wants the case heard by a *beit din*.

There's a branch of the Kabbalah Centre on Sheppard Avenue near Bathurst. It continues to draw members for services and lectures, and sells books, tapes and videos of Rabbi Berg's sermons.

The booming New York-based centre has dozens of other branches in the United States, Mexico, France, Israel and elsewhere, teaching that kabbalah — Jewish mysticism — is the key to happiness and spiritual fulfilment.

The centre has drawn ire from rabbinic groups in North America and Israel, warning that the study of kabbalah must be preceded by expertise in Talmud and Torah.

Rabbi Schochet has "the full support and backing" of Toronto's Vaad Harabanim, the umbrella group for Orthodox rabbis, Vaad chair Rabbi Moshe Stern told *The CJN*.

In cases like this, "even if you win, you lose," Rabbi Schochet said, pointing to his ballooning costs and the effort being spent on the file. "That's the whole principle of libel chill."

Canadians explore science at Weizmann

Students at Weizmann Institute's Summer Science program visited the Gravitram, an exhibit that demonstrates the different trajectories travelled by rolling balls under the effect of gravity. Seen (clockwise) are Samantha J. Fienberg, Toronto; Katherin Slimak, Springfield; Edward Suarez, Montevideo; LuQing Xu, California; and Mien Ho, Singapore.

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Samantha Fienberg, 18, launched her post-secondary studies in molecular biology working in the lab of a top cancer research scientist at one of the world's most prestigious science institutes.

Fienberg was one of 71 students from 18 countries who took part in this year's Dr. Bessie F. Lawrence International Summer Science Institute, a five-week program at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot. Most of the participants — there were six Canadians — were recent high school graduates with a keen interest in science.

Being with "like-minded science nerds" from all over the world was the best part of the trip, Fienberg, a first year science major at McGill University, said in a recent interview. "Everyone got along. We had a shared interest in science."

Fienberg had to prove her interest in science before being accepted into the program. But that was easy for her. As part of a special co-op program in her last year of high school, she spent three afternoons a week working in the lab of Dr. Mark Minden, head of leukemia research at Princess Margaret Hospital.

At the Weizmann Institute, she worked under Dr. Yossi Yarden, a leader in lymphoma research.

Fienberg and her fellow participants all did presentations of their work in the seminar that concluded the program.

"It was a challenging program. A real hands on learning experience," she said.

Fienberg said she would like to do graduate work at Weizmann.

The student program also included trips to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Eilat, the Galilee and a five-day excursion to the Ein Gedi Field School, where participants carried out research on the wildlife, ecology and climate of the area.

"It was such a great idea to integrate science with travelling," she said, adding that she and members of the group are trying to keep in touch by e-mail.

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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli parties not far apart: prof.

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – The victory of Benjamin Netanyahu and the Likud in the Israeli election of three months ago should not be taken as a rejection of the peace process, an Israeli professor and political commentator recently told a large gathering at the Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

"Netanyahu after the [Rabin] assassination was behind in the polls and only began to catch up when he abandoned the strategy of rejection of the Oslo process and adopted the strategy of 'peace with security,'" said Gabriel Ben-Dor, a faculty member at the University of Haifa, who spoke on the topic, Israel Three Months After Netanyahu's Election.

The two main sides in the election were really not far apart and the change in Israel's political climate has not been nearly as great as foreign observers might suppose, Ben-Dor said.

"The Israeli body politic has been split almost down the middle for 25 years, and a small shift can make a big difference," he said.

"Netanyahu spoke of 'peace with security,' whereas Peres spoke of "security with peace.' Netanyahu was very clever in not conceding the peace issue to Peres. He said, 'We are for peace, a good peace with security, and you have not delivered.'"

Besides the Hamas terrorist bombings, another factor that helped defeat the government of Shimon Peres was a widespread feeling among Israeli Jews that it was not Jewish enough, Ben-Dor said.

"They did not stand up for the rights of the Jews, they did not project a feeling of pride in Jewish tradition and history and they became almost alienated from Judaism," he said. "People resented the fact that they showed all kinds of sensitivity to the rights of others but not to the Jews."

After his victory, Netanyahu attempted to appear like a U.S.-style president, Ben-Dor said, and quickly alienated David Levy, Ariel Sharon, Benny Begin and other potential cabinet members.

"Netanyahu had to swallow a bitter pill to shake Arafat's hand, but it was much harder for him to shake Levy's hand.

"Had he been generous in victory, that would have been accepted. Instead, he tried to push everyone out and made an enemy of everyone, then brought them inside. Now the Trojan horse is inside and he doesn't trust them."

Ben-Dor praised Netanyahu for initiating economic reforms like privatization and deregulation to give Israel more of an American-style free-market economy. But he noted that he lacks support even within his own party for such measures. And he said that the prime minister had been wrongly blamed for suspending negotiations with the Palestinians and the troop redeployment in Hebron, since it was actually Peres who broke off the peace process after the Hamas bombings.

"The real difference between Netanyahu and Peres is culture," he said. "Peres has a very lofty and sublime vision of peace and a new Middle East... He had so much invested in the process he was willing to make concessions that should not have been made.

"Netanyahu, on the other hand, speaks the language of skepticism and doubt. He...is a correction device to the course taken by the previous government. He does not have a clear vision of peace. What he's saying is that Peres had a vision of peace that was full of holes and confused reality with wishful thinking. And many Israelis agree."

Like U.S. President Bill Clinton, Netanyahu is "a teflon person whose personal life is beyond belief," said Ben-Dor, noting that Netanyahu still enjoys the support of Orthodox rabbis.

"He's a man who learns quickly and corrects himself quickly... Most important, he has a lucky hand. Peres had the bad luck of the massive Hamas incidents, which totally lost him the election. Bibi has been lucky in the sense of being able to control events and not being controlled by them."

Noting that the new government hasn't lost touch with the wishes of the people, Ben-Dor said it is still too early to judge Netanyahu's performance on the peace process.

Ben-Dor's lecture was made possible by the family of the late Harry Posen, in whose memory it was dedicated.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish Agency rep helps teens in FSU

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last year a total of 2,800 teenagers from the former Soviet Union who wanted to go to high school in Israel were not as lucky as the 1,200 who did go for one, two or three years.

"We had to leave them behind because of budget restrictions," said Alla Levy, head of the Jewish Agency for the former Soviet Union (FSU) and Eastern Europe.

During a three-day visit to Toronto under the auspices of the United Jewish Appeal, Levy said 95 per cent of the FSU teenagers who go to high school in Israel make alilyah and that most of their parents immigrate there as well.

"We feel badly that we couldn't accept the 2,800, or the 4,500 the year before," said Levy, herself a former refusenik who discovered her Jewish roots under the hard Soviet conditions.

The Jewish Agency's Hebrew education program in the FSU trained 2,000 teachers, but 30 percent of them made aliyah. Today there are 500 Hebrew teachers in local communities.

This year, Israel expects to receive 60,000 immigrants from the FSU. Because of the reduced Jewish population, this is far fewer than the 330,000 a year who came at the beginning, but the 60,000 figure represents five percent of the Jewish population compared to three per cent who emigrated three years ago. The total Jewish population remaining in the FSU is 1.3 million.

Because of distressed conditions in the Caucasus, Levy said that in three to five years, there will be no Jews left in the ancient communities of Georgia (present Jewish population 10,000) or Azerbaijan (35,000). About 15 percent of the Jews in Georgia and Azerbaijan are emigrating to Israel every year.

To debate whether there is an increase or decrease in anti-Semitism in the FSU is a waste of time, Levy said. "It is there. It expresses itself intensively through the press. If there was state anti-Semitism formerly, there is no state anti-Semitism now. After perestroika there was street anti-Semitism with attacks on Jews in the streets. It is most visible in the press, which can be dangerous."

With 85 emissaries to the FSU, 30 offices from the Baltic to the Far East and sponsoring direct flights to Israel from 20 exit points, the Jewish Agency is busy.

There are no restrictions on emigration to Israel, Levy said. "The government authorities are well aware that the Jewish problem is not an internal one; it is international, owing to the support and interest of Israel and the Diaspora."

Levy said her message to Toronto is this: "If we don't care, who will care? We should remember our responsibility, probably our debt, to the generations of our grandmothers and grandfathers and their parents who came from the FSU They were isolated for decades, not by choice. They need our help."

Yachdav expected to draw about 500

TORONTO — This winter, young adults from across Canada will travel to Basel, Switzerland, and on to Israel as part of Yachdav, an international young leadership mission sponsored by Canadian Jewish federations and United Israel Appeal of Canada.

Yachdav '96 is expected to attract 500 participants, ages 25 to 40, from 30 different countries. Scheduled to run from Dec. 29 to Jan. 6, the mission will afford participants the opportunity to network with young Jewish adults from all over the world.

In Basel, participants will be addressed by Avraham Burg, chair of the Jewish Agency, at an opening banquet in Casino Hall — the same hall used by Theodor Herzl, 100 years ago to convene the first ever Zionist Conference.

In Israel, participants will meet with government politicians, defence experts and business leaders. Participants will also visit absorption centres and Youth Aliyah villages and greet a planeload of new *olim* as they arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Visits to the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv and Yad Vashem in Jerusalem are also on the itinerary. A tour of Israel's Negev region features a meeting with the Egyptian ambassador to Israel and a look at how Partnership 2000 programs are transforming the Negev.

The cost for the mission is $1,580 for participants from Toronto and Montreal; $1,480 for participants from western Canada. The fee is based on departure from Toronto and is subject to a minimum gift set by local federations. For more information, call 1-800-657-4772, or your local Jewish federation. In Toronto call Ronit Climan at 416-631-5738; in Montreal call Glenn Nashen at 514-345-2656.

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A special project will be initiated on the occasion of Toronto's 1996 Negev Dinner Tribute saluting Colonel The Honourable Henry N.R. Jackman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. To be known as JACKMAN GARDENS and consisting of two areas, THE TRILLIUM TERRACES and THE ONTARIO GROVES, this project will form a major portion of the larger entity known as JNF PARK JERUSALEM 3000, a gift to the city and people of Jerusalem marking the historic 3000th Anniversary of King David's proclamation of Israel's political and spiritual capital.

JACKMAN GARDENS will contain picnic sites, hiking trails, scenic routes and lookout points, an urban promenade, playgrounds and other amenities - developed to enhance the quality of life for the people of Jerusalem and visitors to the city. JACKMAN GARDENS will be located in the southwestern part of the city, a rapidly-growing urban area. A major project of which Torontonians can be justly proud and which will demonstrate our affection and respect for Ontario's distinguished Lieutenant Governor - businessman, philanthropist, community leader!

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Armies poised

As these words are being written, the borders separating Israel from Lebanon and Syria are a potential tinderbox, where intentionally or unintentionally, the slightest military spark could ignite a fire storm.

Syria's president, ruler, strongman and dictator Hafez al-Assad recently ordered a third of his 35,000 troops in Lebanon to be redeployed from the hills surrounding Beirut, much closer to Israel, to the central valley of the Bekaa region. According to Reuters News Agency, most of the redeployed soldiers have taken up positions near Syrian anti-aircraft batteries between the Bekaa and the Syrian border in the shadow of Mount Hermon.

Naturally, the Syrian moves have caused great concern in Jerusalem, in Washington, in some European capitals and even in some Middle Eastern capitals. They are obviously designed to rattle and confuse, to engender speculation and anxiety, and possibly to provoke. But the massive movement of troops on the ground is not a game played on a board. Syrian military manoeuvres have invited Israeli counter-manoeuvres. The two armies are now facing each other. When armies are poised against each other, the powder is never dry. And nerves that are taut can always snap.

The American administration reacted by seeking clarification of Syrian intentions. Diplomatic notes were exchanged, but apparently no Syrian assurances were forthcoming. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is scheduled to visit Damascus this week.

Adding to the tension was the renewed fighting last week between the Iranian/Syrian surrogate forces, the Hezbollah, and Israel.

Armed with the comfortless knowledge that the strongman is calculating but not eccentric, the Israeli public is rightly worried. Noted military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff, speculated on those Syrian designs last week in the daily newspaper *Ha'aretz:* "Is this a signal that Syria is not deterred by Israeli warning of broad action should Hezbollah act and that she may in response be ready to expand such fighting to the Golan Heights?"

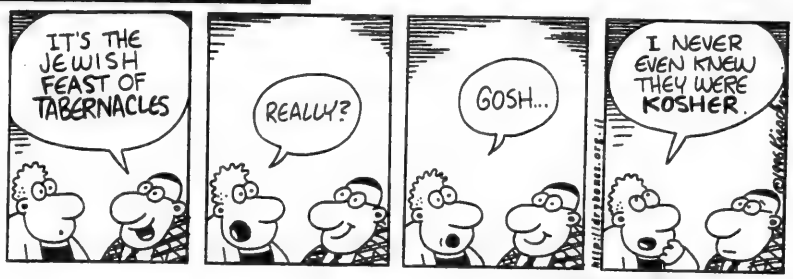
It was at this time, approaching the eve of Yom Kippur, 23 years ago, when war was let loose upon Israel. As the Jewish people around the world again prepares for the arrival, in a matter of hours, of Yom Kippur, we pray that these feelings of foreboding are only for our Atonement and not for the fires of war.

The real truth

Tony Martin is a professor of Africana Studies at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. He is the author of the book *The Jewish Onslaught.*

The first two sentences of the Introduction of the book are: "In January 1993, I was minding my own business and teaching my Wellesley College survey course on African American History when a funny thing happened. The long arm of Jewish intolerance reached into my classroom." The very last line of the Introduction is the following: "The press release against me [issued by the Anti-Defamation League], I now realize, is a classic textbook case study of organized Jewish intimidation." In between the first lines and the last lines of the Introduction, and indeed throughout the entire book, is an uninhibited torrent of anti-Jewish writing of the most odious kind. Martin's malicious screed along with the notorious *The Jews and Their Lies* by Martin Luther were both on sale at the appearance of Louis Farrakhan last week in Toronto. Farrakhan professed to wanting "to speak truth out of a spirit of love." But as we have seen time and time again, the spirit of his love is enmeshed in a message of hate for others.

We know him for what he does and for what he says. This is the real truth about Louis Farrakhan. Unlike timid federal immigration officials, most other people know him by that truth too.



Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Sept. 1920 the Edmonton chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women was organized. Mrs. H.A. Friedman was elected its first president. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

PNC's true intentions toward Israel

It is surprising that there are well-meaning people who, in the face of all the evidence, still believe that the Palestine National Council has removed from its charter the clauses calling for Israel's destruction.

The following news report on Israeli Radio channel 7, Sept. 10, may, however, raise some doubts in their minds about the true intentions of the Palestinian leadership.

"In an appearance on Syrian television on the English-language interview program *Focus* at 9:30 p.m. on Sept. 9, Faisal Husseini, who holds the Jerusalem portfolio for the Palestinian Authority, was asked what the boundaries of Palestine are. In response, Husseini replied that all Palestinians agree that the just boundaries of Palestine are the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. He explained that, realistically, whatever can be obtained now should be accepted and that subsequent events, perhaps in the next 15 or 20 years, would present an opportunity to realize the just boundaries of Palestine."

Husseini was interviewed in Damascus during his visit there.

What is most amazing is that Palestinian leaders make such clear statements about their true intentions regarding Israel, in full confidence that the U.S. government and the "peace camp" — with the connivance of the world media — will either ignore them (as evidenced by the lack of attention paid to this latest example), or try to disguise their true intent by putting a positive "spin" on them.

Joseph Winter
Chair, Hasbara
Toronto Zionist Council

Bring witnesses on Nazi crimes to Canada

If I was a member of the aging Jewish community, I would be mad and upset about the proposal by the Somalia Inquiry to bring witnesses to Canada to testify at hearings.

Not to belittle the significance of the Somali situation, but where has Canada been since 1945, when I am sure many survivors of Nazi attrocities unable to afford the cost but subsidized by Canadian funds would have gladly testified in this country?

How come an inquiry board can now provide the funds necessary to being witnesses from Africa and Somalia but continues to allow known accused Nazi exterminators to live out their lives as welcome citizens of Canada? Why?

I am disgusted with our politicians who can set up an inquiry to discredit the Canadian army, but refuse to do anything about the Nazis living out their lives in our country.

Bob Verner
Mississauga

Any Uszerowicz descendants in Toronto?

I am looking for members of my father's family, Gerszon Uszerowicz, son of Abram, born 1917 or 1918 in Poland, who lived in Bialystok until World War II, on Florianska Street.

During the war, he served as a soldier with the Second Division of the Polish army in Russia.

The last letter, dated Sept. 28, 1945, came from Jelenia Gora in Poland. A number of years ago, I was told that family members under the name of Ash may possibly reside in Toronto.

Maria Biernacka
2414 N. Laclaire
Chicago, Ill. 60639
U.S.A.

Borges did not win Nobel Prize

In the Sept. 5 issue, in an otherwise interesting and informative article, Bernard Baskin refers to Jorge Luis Borges as a "Spanish Nobel Prize winner." Borges was Argentinian, not Spanish, and while he won a number of prestigious prizes in his lifetime, he was never awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.

Sorel Friedman
Montreal

WISDOM OF THE AGES
Money buys everything but good sense. ***(Yiddish proverb)***

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The compatibility of science and Torah

Two structures stand on different cornerstones

By PAUL BRUMER

With the cycle of Torah reading beginning once again with parshat Bereishit comes the usual flood of questions regarding the relationship between the Torah's description of the creation of the universe and the view currently held by the scientific community.

Related questions arise about evolution, apparent discrepancies in the age of the universe, the clockwork universe versus free will. Such questions reflect an underlying concern that there are fundamental and deep discrepancies between scientific understanding and religious belief and, more disturbingly, that these differences somehow cast doubt on the validity of the religious Jewish perspective. It is my view, however, that science and Judaism coexist with little if any discord and that much of the apparent religion-science conflict stems from misapplication of the principles upon which science and religion rest.

In this article I briefly summarize a perspective on Science and religion (more properly Science and Torah) which I have evolved over a 30-year period as a professional Orthodox Jewish scientist. The reader should note, however, that I am not an expert in the area of "Science and religion."

Nonetheless, it seems to me that the perspective I advocate provides a simple understanding of the non-confrontational relationship between scientific thought and religious Jewish belief.

Consider first some of the essential principles upon which science actually rests. Traditional science is concerned with facts about nature: their experimental observation, explanation, categorization and eventual synthesis under the umbrella of a general theory.

A scientific theory without experimental observation is mere hypothesis. Similarly, facts without a unifying theory are just tabulated observations.

Thus, a complete scientific understanding of a topic consists of observations explained by an adequate (and usually simple) theory which has predictive power, i.e. has the ability to anticipate the outcome of experiments not yet performed.

In analyzing data and in formulating theories, the scientist ultimately relies on an essential tool – human reason in general and logic in particular. It is the supreme judge of whether a viewpoint, theory or explanation is acceptable. This is as it should be, since science is a human endeavor and needs a human system for evaluating scientific truth. Appreciating this role of logic in science is the first item essential to an understanding of the issue of science and religion.

By contrast, religion is based upon an entirely different cornerstone – faith. Human reason plays no role in the fundamental beliefs which underly religious faith, nor does it need to.

This too is as it should be, since the deepest issues in religious faith transcend human comprehension. Thus, for example, it is of little consequence that there is no scientific evidence that there is a G-d; nor does Judaism either need or expect such a proof. (Indeed, there would be no Avodah, and hence no reward, associated with believing in G-d if there were incontrovertible evidence of G-d's existence).

The prophet Jeremiah, as painted by Giovanni F.B. Guercino, appears to look heavenward for answers. From *The Law and the Prophets*, Harry N. Abrams Inc.

Thus, science has reason as its cornerstone and religion has faith. The standard "problem" of science versus religion stems from a blurring of these lines, in particular in the attempt to logically judge the basic principles of religious belief.

However, one can no more apply reason to the fundamental belief principles of religion than one can argue for the validity of a scientific principle on the basis of faith.

Consider the following analogy. A student of mathematics takes an examination which asks 24 times 3 = ?, 18 divided by 3 =, etc. The tools required to address these questions were taught in math class, but the student, confused, utilizes those taught in his history class. He begins to answer: "Historically, the technique of multiplication developed long after that of addition. Further, the general idea of the equal sign was thought of only in the year..." Clearly his response may make sense within one discipline, but totally misses the point in mathematics.

Similarly, a response in a history examination which asks the student to analyze the War of 1812 receives no credit if he states that 1812 can be written as 3 times 604 or 6 times 302. These responses are wrong because the student has used the tools of a different discipline to address the question. In the same way, it is my contention that a major problem arising in attempts to understand the interrelationship of science and religion is that of the misapplication of the tools of one discipline within the other.

Reliance on logic versus faith is the fundamental difference between science and religion. This difference is far more relevant than discrepancies in views about particular aspects of nature, such as evolution, cosmology or cosmogony. The religious reliance on faith is unpalatable to the scientist, whereas the scientists' requirement for proof is far too restrictive for the religious. But the recognition and proper application of these different modes of approach is the key to their harmonious coexistence.

Typically, a careful application of the principles of faith to religious matters and of logic to scientific matters generally suffices to clarify many of the problems which appear to arise at the interface of science and religion. In doing this, it is often quite simple to resolve what appear to be fundamental problems in the harmony of science and religion.

Consider as an example the issue of the age of the universe. Scientific studies suggest that the universe is far older than is suggested by the Torah. However, one can propose numerous simple theories which agree both with scientific measurement and with religious belief. For example, a perfectly acceptable explanation is that G-d created the world "old," i.e. with a lengthy geological historical record. This is an acceptable religious statement because we understand G-d to be omnipotent and capable of having created the world, even yesterday, as we see it today. It is also an acceptable scientific explanation, since it is experimentally impossible to distinguish a world which was created old from a world which has evolved over some extended time period.

The key point here is that by working with the tools of each "discipline" in its own discipline, we obtain a solution consistent both with science and with religion. Problems arise, however, in attempting to cross over the reason/faith barrier saying, for example, that it is not logical for G-d to have created an "old" world.

Why is my view so straightforward (and hence this article comparatively short), whereas courses are taught on the problem of science and religion and several recent Jewish-based books have been written on the subject? I don't know, but I will hazard a guess based on the nature of some of these recent publications.

Specifically , it appears that many of these books assume that Judaism needs science to justify its validity. Thus we find an ongoing effort to use discoveries in science, such as special relativity or chaos theory to validate the Torah. Since science is an honest effort to understand the nature of the created universe, we expect it to continue to reveal truths which are consistent with the Torah perspective. However, this is quite different than requiring science as justification for the validity of religion. Doing this incorrectly adopts the view that reason is the ultimate judge, even as it applies to faith.

Reason is a tool which man uses in order to understand the world, evaluate information and guide his behavior. It is the proper tool to establish scientific truths. However, it is not the only guide that we use in our lives, nor is it the only arbiter of knowledge. For example, we all act, often correctly, on the basis of emotions such as love, anger or fear. Similarly, although it is not as well known, even modern scientific approaches recognize the importance of intrinsic features of theories such as "beauty," which are more esthetic than they are logical. Analogously, we all recognize that many areas of knowledge, such as art and music have non-reason-based ways of approaching issues and making valid contributions. Thus, we should not be uneasy about relying upon the historically transmitted faith of our people as one appropriate mode of operation.

One clarification is necessary to avoid misunderstanding. I am in no sense arguing that reason plays no role in religious practice. There are many issues within religion which are understandable by expertly applied human logic and indeed require its application.

Nonetheless, as one approaches the fundamentals of religious belief, this kind of scrutiny is no longer appropriate and we reach fundamentals about which "*Ani ma'amim b'emunah shleimah*" (I believe with perfect faith) must be said.

Finally, if the reader plans to consider apparent science-Torah controversies I urge a careful analysis of traditional religious texts, including a clear understanding of what is actually said and what is not; a careful analysis of the scientific result, including a clear understanding of the underlying hypotheses; and adherence to the requirement that belief is a valid mode of operation on issues which are beyond human understanding. All too often, misunderstandings arise from insufficient adherence to these principles.

Paul Brumer received his PhD in chemical physics at Harvard University and is currently university professor at the University of Toronto and project leader, Ontario Laser and Lightwave Research Centre.

Opinions

Reciprocity needed from Arab side

Now Benjamin Netanyahu, too, has shaken Arafat's hand, and they say it is the same thing. But it isn't at all. The previous one meant "Land for Peace," whereas now we have a new word in the political dictionary — reciprocity. Previously it was give-and-take, with — as a cynic might put it — Israel doing all the giving and the Arabs all the taking. Now, if "reciprocity" is taken seriously, this is ruled out.

By Emil Fackenheim

Sooner or later this should find ideological expression. "Peace for Land" can mean we'll give back land belonging to them, that the whole land is really Arab, that Tel Aviv too belongs to them and that they reserve the right to do something about it if and when it is convenient. That view lurks behind Arafat's twists and turns about the PLO Covenant.

But this is the Arab view of the conflict and, despite 100 years of Zionism, it is widely shared by the media. The true view of the conflict is that there are *two* claims to *the whole* land — theirs because they have lived on it, ours because we have come back to it, our land, the claim to which we have never surrendered.

Netanyahu's party represents this latter view openly, but now he has shaken Arafat's hand. This does not mean that he has abandoned the Zionist claim, but that it is voluntarily given up in part, for the sake not only of peace but also of justice.

But reciprocity requires a corresponding step from the other side. Arafat's twists and turns about the PLO Covenant warrant our suspicion that his peace is only temporary. Needed are not a few words changed in the Covenant, but a declaration that since there are two claims to the land, and since Israel gives up its claim in part, they can do no less than the same.

This might also restore the prestige of Zionism, as a cause second to none in justice, in a century which has seen little justice.

Dry Bones

I WILL ENTER JERUSALEM!
EVEN IF IT TAKES 10,000 ISRAELI COPS AND THE LORD ALMIGHTY TO PROTECT ME FROM HARM!
UH... WE CAN PROMISE THE 10,000 ISRAELI COPS...
... BUT THAT'S ALL!
Kirchen

An ideal worth striving for

Jews in America and around the world must understand the meaning of our dream to return to Israel and Jerusalem. The themes of Jerusalem and *kibbutz galuyot*, the ingathering of the exiles, are central themes of our liturgy.

By David Hartman

Why did the tradition make our return to the land, to Jerusalem, an essential feature of Jewish identity? Why did land and nation become constitutive elements of Jewish self-understanding?

To be a Jew is to be claimed by 3,000 years of history. The individual is the carrier of a legacy, of a covenantal promise to become a holy nation (*goy kadosh*). The Jewish family, therefore, was always imbued with a national purpose: to mediate the founding memories of the Jewish people for the next generation. A parent's central concern was to nurture a sense of being claimed (mitzvah).

In contrast to the traditional family, the modern Jewish family is understood in psychological terms, with individual happiness and adjustment the central values of parental concern. The family is essentially future-oriented. History and memory are peripheral if not totally irrelevant to the overriding concern with the child's psychic and economic well-being.

The language of aliyah, however, is predicated on the premise that the "I," the individual, can shape and be shaped by the "we," the nation. For aliyah to become a serious option, the notion of the self must become more relational and community oriented. Individual self-realization must be informed by notions of shared history and memory. Unless we overcome the ethos of self-sufficiency, aliyah language will have little chance of being heard.

The message of aliyah should convey the idea of privilege – the privilege of bringing up children with a sense of history – of something being asked of them. This must become the central thrust of aliyah as a language of aspiration.

As a Jew who lives in Jerusalem, who loves Jerusalem, who feels privileged to have brought his family here, I can testify to the excitement and authenticity of living in a nation shaping its future identity.

In contrast to my life in the Diaspora, my celebration of the festivals is not an existential protest against my environment. On Yom Kippur, the streets of Jerusalem mirror the inner sanctity of the day. Here my public self talks to my private self, my outer world shapes – and is shaped by – my inner world.

Even though I feel anger and frustration when I read the morning papers and realize that my efforts at changing things through education are being undermined by short-sighted Knesset members bent on legislating Judaism, yet I feel alive. I am angry, I am pained, but I am energized by the excitement of fighting to shape a nation that doesn't yet know what it wants to be.

Israel is the public face of the Jewish people and aliyah is a call to shape that public face. *Time* magazine follows us wherever we go. Whatever happens in Jerusalem is immediately broadcast on CNN worldwide. We cannot hide; we cannot become Marranos.

Anyone who cares about the legacy of Jewish history must realize one thing: the future of Jews in America and everywhere else will be defined by the type of Jewishness we build in Israel. If we fail, Diaspora Jewry will be ashamed to show its public face. If fundamentalism and delegitimization of others grow here, we won't be able to talk about the ethical legacy of the Jewish people. We won't be able to repair the public shame of Yigal Amir's fanaticism.

The issue of aliyah, then, is: Who are we going to be? Jews who value pluralism and tolerance, who understand the meaning of freedom of conscience; or Jews who returned to their own country only to act as if they never heard about democracy or fought to preserve the rights of minorities?

Israel is not only a call to normalcy, to be like the nations. Israel is a call to fulfil the dream of Moses in a new way. And aliyah is a call to the individual to arise, to assume a dramatic role in history, to participate in nation-building.

If we can overcome the loss of memory and history and the embarrassment of the biblical and prophetic understanding of the role of Israel in history, and if the Jewish spiritual legacy can become personal conviction, then aliyah can regain the compelling power of an ideal worth striving for.

Jewish literacy

While a recent article in the Toronto *Globe and Mail* did not mention Jewish education, its contents have a lot to do with it. Harry Giles, founder of the Toronto French School, published a fascinating piece on school methods that failed and succeeded.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

To start with, he tells us that 47.2 percent of adults in Canada are illiterate, and that every Ontario university complains that too many of its entering students cannot read properly. Compare this with a survey taken 100 years ago, when it was claimed that Ontario had the highest education standards in the world. In 1911, every child in Grade 4 was able to read George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss* — while today (so Giles says) most Grade 13 students are unable to master it. In the 1930s, Grade 1 students were expected to know 850 words; today the number is down to 300.

Many critics of today's system of teaching the art of reading point to the abandoning of phonics as one reason for this decline, and Giles claims that a combination of intense phonics plus expectation performs an old-fashioned miracle: In his school, Grade 1 children can read about 2,000 words, which is about seven times what other Ontario school children can do. And, mind you, this is done while the children learn to read both English and French at the same time — all this without neglecting math, music, art or even typing on the computer.

This column is not the place to discuss the merit of phonics, but it is the place where we can recall how Jews approached the problems and challenges of literacy. Number one, the *cheder* did not practise babysitting or coloring. The community expected children to study Torah right from the beginning, and it was the custom in many parts of Europe to start them with the Book of Leviticus, the most difficult in the Torah.

Number two, in addition to communal expectation, there was an age when it was deemed that children were fit to start reading. It was not age six, as nowadays in our public schools, but age four, and somehow the vast majority of Jewish students were able to accomplish the communal goal.

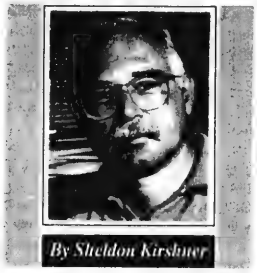
It is no surprise, therefore, that children who go to Jewish day schools are, on the whole, doing better than those who go to public schools. To be sure, there is some self-selection in that most of these children come from families where reading is prized. But expectation, too, plays a great role, so that these children cover the civic curriculum and study Hebrew subjects at the same time — with no sacrifice in either field.

I have heard some critics say that pressing children to read at an earlier age than is customary nowadays robs them of playtime. But what it really robs them of is the ability to expand the mind and, therefore, to enjoy a richer life right from the beginning. I am worried that in lowering standards and postponing our expectations until later, we deprive our youngsters of a vital opportunity to become truly literate. They can always learn to become "couch-potatoes" at a later time.

The Kirshner File

Film aficionados were not disappointed

Viewers looking for movies of Jewish interest at this year's Toronto International Film Festival were not disappointed. There were quite a few:



By Sheldon Kirshner

A Tickle in the Heart, Stefan Schwietert's sympathetic portrait of three geriatric klezmer musicians, Max, Willie and Julie Epstein, is simply delightful.

The Epstein brothers, born and bred in Brooklyn, live in a manicured retirement community in Florida, facetiously described as "God's waiting room." And although they are officially retired, they are busier than ever, their fans consisting of seniors who grew up with the sinuous sounds of klezmer and of younger people who've just discovered the wonders of its joyous/maudlin melodies.

The black-and-white 84-minute documentary, a cinematic ode to East European Jewish culture and to the indefatigable Epsteins, shifts zestfully from one locale to another.

The centrepiece of the film, which is frenetic, reflective and humorous, is the brothers' concert in Berlin. Now in their 80s, the Epsteins enchant a largely non-Jewish audience with a truly infectious performance. It belies their age and explains the residual popularity of this once-forgotten genre. The Epsteins are amazed that klezmer is back in vogue once more.

A Tickle in the Heart follows them to their late father's birthplace in Pinsk — where they search for his home and speak to oldtimers who recall Jewish neighbors — and to the Lower East Side, where they performed at chassidic weddings in the 1960s.

At the end of it all, the Epsteins express gratitude for having been *klezmorim.* And we, the viewers, thank Schwietert for having enthralled and amused us for the better part of one hour.

Andrzej Wajda, Poland's greatest living director, exhibits his immense talents in *Holy Week,* a stark, sensitive film which probes the minefield of Polish-Jewish relations during the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Wajda has been there before with *Korczak* (1990), a biopic of the renowned Jewish author, educator and communal leader, Janos Korczak.

But in *Holy Week,* based on a novel written by Jerzy Andrzejewski in 1943, Wajda courageously plunges into the subject, as no other Polish film-maker has done before.

The 97-minute long movie opens with a sombre procession of Polish Jews being marched into a forest. An elderly man and his daughter watch from the safety of a clump of bushes. The furtive figures are, in fact, Jews. In an act of self-destruction, the man joins the marchers. His sullen daughter, Irena (Beata Fudalej), chooses to flee.

In Warsaw, by chance, she meets an old flame. Jan (Wojciech Malajkat), a Catholic engineer, offers her a hiding place in his flat in the suburbs. She gratefully accepts the offer. Jan, who seems to have been a member of an anti-Semitic student movement when he was younger, is clearly ambivalent about his act of kindness. "Did I do the right thing?" he asks his pregnant wife, Anna (Magdalena Warzecha). It's a pertinent question: Poles caught by the Germans helping Jews are subject to execution.

Anna, a blonde beauty cast in the mould of a Righteous Gentile, encourages her husband. All decent Poles, she suggests, should show solidarity with Jews in their hour of duress. So the die is cast: Irena, portrayed as a prickly woman, will remain with Jan and Anna. Their momentous decision constitutes but one layer of *Holy Week,* which unfolds over several days as the burning ghetto, an orange glow across a wall, is stormed by the Nazis.

Wajda is not merely interested in documenting the reaction of one Polish couple to the plight of a vulnerable Jewish woman. In an effort to draw a full-bodied portrait of Polish attitudes to Jews during the Holocaust, he introduces several stock characters to round off the narrative: Jan's archly anti-Semitic boss, who feels no pity whatsoever for Jews and is glad they are being persecuted; the boss' associate, who professes to be indifferent; Marta, an employee who's offended by his anti-Semitism and resigns in anger; Julek, Jan's brother, a member of a pro-Jewish Polish underground group; Jan's cultivated landlord, who fears that Irena's presence endangers them all; and the crass janitor of the building and his wife, who want Irena to leave but who will not betray her to the Germans.

In this powerful, doom-laden film, Wajda struggles valiantly with the moral ambiguities Poles faced during the German occupation. Some may find his approach a tad formulaic, but I believe he acquits himself honorably and well.

Judit Elek's paean, *To Speak the Unspeakable: The Message of Elie Wiesel,* portrays him as a tormented novelist who cannot be at peace with himself.

In this sombre documentary, which mixes current footage with archival films, Wiesel revisits the sleepy Transylvanian town of Sziget and the concentration camp synonymous with the Holocaust, Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Andrzej Wajda

Sziget, Hungarian prior to the war and Romanian since, attracts and repels Wiesel. He was born and raised in Sziget, which he regards with a measure of nostalgia. But Sziget was also the point from which the Wiesels, including his beloved sister, were unceremoniously shipped to Poland.

Wiesel and his friends are greeted by local dignitaries in Sziget, but the highlight of his trip — his fourth — is a brief encounter with a 91-year-old Jew whose brother, a physician, attended to the Wiesels when Elie Wiesel was a boy.

In Auschwitz, Wiesel and a companion silently walk among the ruins, shocked and dazed. William Hurt, the narrator, reads excerpts from *All Rivers Run to the Sea,* Wiesel's recently-published memoirs.

The film is framed by scenes from the 1993 inauguration of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and Wiesel's acceptance of the 1986 Nobel Prize for peace. These are poignant clips of a survivor and a teller of words who still grapples with the enormity and inexplicableness of the Holocaust.

Richard Feynman was a brilliant scientist, the winner of the 1965 Nobel Prize in physics. Matthew Broderick's biopic, *Infinity,* scratches the surface but not the texture or depth of his life.

Although *Infinity* tries to flesh out his childhood, his years as a PhD student at Princeton and his work on the Manhattan Project, it is basically a one-dimensional and deracinated treatment of Feynman (Broderick). And because *Infinity* is obviously a commercial film, it lingers far too long on Feynman's relationship, however poignant, with his first wife, Arline Greenbaum (portrayed by a radiant, somewhat breathless Patricia Arquette). Structurally episodic and jumpy, *Infinity* peters out in the final 30 minutes.

Next week, I'll write about the remainder of the films I saw at the festival.

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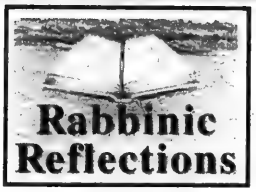
Jewish Life



Listening with heart and soul

By RABBI MARK FRIEDMAN

I would like to tell you about a certain town in Poland and the rabbi of the town. Whenever the Jews of this town would purchase a lulav and etrog for the festival of Sukkot, they would bring them to the rabbi to check on their fitness and solicit his approval. If the lulav and etrog did not meet with his approval, they would be returned to the dealer.

One year the entire stock of imported lulavim and etrogim happened to be of inferior quality.

The ritualistic requirements for these objects clearly state that they must be of attractive color, delicate texture and, in general, esthetically appealing. The lulavim and etrogim in this particular shipment, however, were almost entirely of inelegant color, lumpish texture and graceless stature. Whenever residents brought their intended purchases to the rabbi, he had no alternative but to withhold his approval. Some purchasers made the rounds from the store to the rabbi and back again several times, only to meet with the rabbi's rejection on each occasion. As time went on, the etrog dealer's reputation was affected and his business dropped off.

Once, when the rabbi visited the dealer and asked him how he was doing, the shopkeeper responded shortly and curtly, with single syllable answers. The man was hurt by the rabbi's disapproval of his merchandise, but he refused to confront him for fear of showing the rabbi dishonor. So he simply held his feelings inside.

The rabbi returned home is a disturbed state. What was wrong with the dealer? Then, suddenly, it became clear to him what was taking place. The dealer's entire business was suffering due to the rabbi's rejection of the lulavim and etrogim. All year long, he waited for the holiday of Sukkot. Now, his major source of income was quickly drying up. The rabbi remembered that the man was married and had eight children. Very soon, he reasoned, they would face starvation. The next day the rabbi returned to the dealer.

He told him, "The procedure for approving etrogim and lulavim must be changed. From now on, whenever your customers come to me with the merchandise for approval, I want them to bring along two sets of etrogim and lulavim, not just one. I will not accept one set and I will not pass judgment over it. You understand, I must have in front of me two sets.

The shopkeeper did not understand, but he would not dare argue with the rabbi. Soon, almost miraculously, the dealer's business began to pick up. His shelves quickly began to empty and his customers were pleased once again.

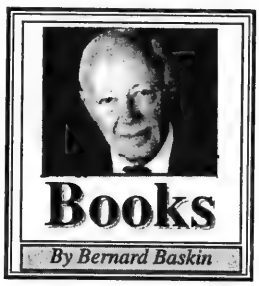
The next time the rabbi visited the shop, the dealer could not restrain himself. He asked the rabbi what had happened, why his fortunes had suddenly changed.

The rabbi answered: "When I visited you the last time I had realized the difficult straits you and your family must be in. So I devised a little plan. When a single etrog shown to me is not attractive, I cannot say that it is. That would be an inexcusable misrepresentation. But when two pairs are shown to me, I will be able to say, honestly and sincerely, that this one is more attractive and appropriate than that one, that this one is better than the other, and recommend its purchase."

There are those who compare the etrog, due to its shape, to the human heart. On this festival of Sukkot, as we take hold of the etrog, let us recall the actions of this Polish rabbi. For he achieved something very special and very precious. He understood how, in the words of Theodore Reich, not only to listen with both ears, but to listen with the third ear, that ear found within the human soul and the human heart.

Rabbi Friedman is the spiritual leader of Shaare Zedek Congregation in Montreal.

Mendele's stories still treasured gems years later



Tales of Mendele The Book Peddler, by S.Y. Abramovitsh (Random House, $35).

It is a delight to review this volume by the earliest of the three giants of Yiddish literature. The other two are I.L. Peretz and Shalom Aleichem.

While his real name was Solomon Jacob Abramovitsh, he wrote under the pen name of Mendele Mocher Seforim (Mendele the Book Seller). But to the thousands who loved and admired him, he was known simply as Mendele. Born in Lithuania in 1836, his stories and novels are to this day among the most treasured gems of Yiddish and Hebrew writing.

The two long stories in this book, *Fishke the Lame* and *Benjamin the Third*, recount the hardships encountered by residents of the Russian *shtetl* of a former era and are filled with colorful characters and narrated with unflagging vitality.

Fishke the Lame is a sardonic portayal of a brawling Russian-Jewish community unsettled by a pair of comically star-crossed lovers. The bookseller in his covered wagon makes a pilgrimage to the towns and villages of the old Pale of Settlement. He sleeps in its synagogues, cemeteries and cowshed, and meets and converses with almost everybody.

The Travels of Benjamin the Third, written with poetic artistry and typical Mendelian humor, is about the adventures of a dreamer who makes up his mind to go to Palestine and gets no further than Berdichev. The author was dubbed the "Jewish Cervantes" for this picaresque tale.

What made Mendele the favorite of the masses was that they found in him a friend and master they could understand.

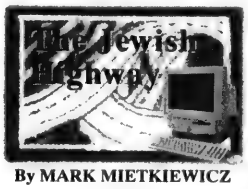
In the very real sense, he was the spokesperson for Russian Jewry, its mirror, its photographer, its poet. Its men, women and children, its cities, towns and villages, its bigotry, fanaticism and superstitions are all part of the panorama he knew so well and described so masterfuly. His canvas is crowded with good and honest folk, but also with shams, scoundrels and vagabonds.

Mendele's world is destroyed — not a shred of it is left — the world of the covered wagon, the beggars, the vagabonds, the bath house, the lame, half-starved mare. Flames and ashes have buried his world. It belongs to the past. It was the world of the grandfathers; the grandchildren no longer know it.

The two stories are admirably translated and the volume is enhanced by a long and helpful introduction.

Jewish Life

Internet site solves riddle of the seasonal 'lulav shake'



By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Question: "How do you make a lulav shake?" The answer may *seem* obvious, but on the Jewish Highway anything is possible.

Answer: "To make a lulav shake, take two scoops of mint-chocolate-chip ice cream or lime sherbet. Add celery stalk for Lulav. Top with lemon drops for Etrog." **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/tishri/lulav_sh/shake00.htm]**

With the High Holy Days behind us, it is time to celebrate one of the most joyful festivals in the calendar, Sukkot/Shemini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah. The "lulav shake" riddle is taken from the Jewish Communication Network's site, where they have some novel ideas for teaching kids about Sukkot. But there is far more out there about the holiday.

For a comprehensive summary of traditions, see **[http://members.aol.com/jewfaq/holiday5.htm]** and **[http://www.chabad.org/Holiday_Guides/Tishrei/main.htm#12]**

From waving the lulav and etrog to sitting in the sukkah, the traditions of Sukkot are well known but what about the reasons behind them?

For a detailed description about the blessings over the lulav and etrog, and for some of the laws of the building of the sukkah, try **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/sukkot.htm]**.

There is much discussion about the "four species" (lulav, etrog, myrtle branch and willow branch), which are all bound together in order to say the blessing. Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg of CLAL, The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership says that the species can teach us the difference between tolerance and pluralism among the Jewish people **[http://www.jewish.com/bk951006/comm2.htm]**.

According to Rabbi Greenberg, we can disagree sharply with other Jews while admitting that they bring strength to Clal Yisrael. "And the great reward of this binding is that when disparate elements come together, their fragrance and flavor rub off on one another." For more on the relationship between the four species and the Jewish people, see Ohr Somayach's The Succah and the Four Species: Two Ways to Unity **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/sukkos/succ95.htm]** and Fore...Or the Origins of the Species" **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/succot.htm]**.

For all the botanists and historians out there, the Department of Biology at Tel Aviv University **[http://www.tau.ac.il:80/botany/lulav.html]** supplies you with the Latin names for the Etrog, Lulav, Hadas and Arava. And to show how the tradition has endured, there is also a photograph **[http://www.tau.ac.il:80/botany/syn-flor.html]** of the ancient mosaic on the synagogue floor of Hamat Tveria in Israel.

One of the other names for Sukkot is Zman Simchataynu, the Time of our Happiness. But in the essay Happiness is...A Cozy Succah **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/succah.htm]**, Robin Treistman uses unusual language to ask an important question: "Sukkot: what a bizarre holiday. Based on the commandments from the Torah, we do our major life activities in a hut decorated with hanging fruit (real or plastic depending on where you live)...but most bizarre of all, *we are commanded to be happy*. How can the Torah tell me to be happy?" The tone may be cheeky but question is profound.

It is a tradition to read King Solomon's Megillat Kohelet or the Book of Ecclesiastes during Sukkot. If your browser can handle Hebrew, you can read Kohelet in Hebrew at **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/bible/mkuhl.html]**. Otherwise, the King James version is found at **[http://www.jubilee.org:80/bible/21.ecclesiastes.html]**. And for a thought-provoking essay on this book, see Futility and Cockroaches **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/kohelet.htm]**.

Granted, Kohelet is not quite as well known as Megillat Esther or the Song of Songs. However, a selection from Kohelet did attain popular fame a few years ago thanks to folk singer Pete Seeger. Seeger adapted the beginning of the book's third chapter for his song *Turn, Turn, Turn* **[http://www.danmansmusic.com/songs/pete_seeger/turn_turn_turn.pro]**, which the rock group The Byrds recorded and made into a number one song.To hear an excerpt from that song, go to **[http://www.music.sony.com/Music/Legacy/Byrds/turnturnturn.wav]**. If your browser cannot already handle WAV audio files, then you'll need to download a program like WPLANY WAV Player for Windows **[http://www.sirinet.net/~mikem/wavutil.htm]** or SoundApp for Macintosh **[http://www-cs-students.stanford.edu/~franke/SoundApp/]**. Both programs are free.

For something more traditional but perhaps less familiar, you can listen to some Sefardi Pizmonim or tunes sung by Syrian Jews at Simchat Torah at **[http://www.613.org/roshyomkippursuccot.html#s]**. You'll need RealAudio available at **[http://www.realaudio.com/products/player/index.html]**.

Although all Jewish holidays invariably have some connection to food, one of the strongest ties to food belongs to Sukkot whose other name is Chag Ha'assif, the harvest holiday. Louise Fiszer has prepared a Sukkot menu **[http://www.bpe.com/food/recipes/fiszer/succoth.html]** which includes Butternut Squash Vichyssoise, Carrot and Zucchini Salad and Ginger Almond Shortbread.

Sometimes overlooked on the trek from Sukkot to Shemini Atzeret is Hoshana Rabbah, the final day of Sukkot. Eliezer Siegel provides an interesting look at the day **http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/951005_HoshanaMoon.html]** on which "the verdicts that were decreed on Yom Kippur are officially distributed to all mortals."

We have now reached the holiday of Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah during which we complete and with joy restart the cycle of reading the Torah **[http://members.aol.com/jewfaq/holiday6.htm]**. The British artist Emmanuel Levy has captured the spirit of this festival in his painting "Two Rabbis with the Scrolls of the Law" **[http://www.ort.org/links/benuri/tour_4.htm]**. (You can click on the picture to get a larger image.)

Before I end, there are a couple of examples of personal initiative on the Internet which deserve recognition. There are places on the Jewish Highway where you can order a sukkah (such as the National Sukkah Outlet **[http://www.koshermall.com/nso/]**.) But take a look at the effort put in by Austin, Texas' Steven Weintraub with his detailed (and illustrated) Directions on building a Sukkah. **[http://www.pswtech.com/~stevenw/jewish/sukkah.html]**.

And Avi Vorchheimer of Melbourne, Australia, has had a inspired idea with his Worldwide Succah Directory **[http://www.succah.aust.org/]**. His goal is to "compile a list of sukkahs throughout the world, so that Jews who are travelling during Sukkot can easily find a sukkah which is nearby that they can use." His database is not that full yet (unless you are looking for a sukkah in Melbourne), but this is the kind of creative use of the Internet that could make the World Wide Web indispensable.

So why not consider adding your sukkah into Mr. Vorchheimer's directory **[http://www.succah.aust.org/AddSuccah.htm]**? Who knows, maybe one day your act of hospitality will help guide a traveller on the Jewish Highway right to your own sukkah's doorway.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Jewish Life

Israel economy runs on i = (C x 2) + 10 percent

By JACK SILVERSTONE

I am no economist, nor am I any sort of statistician or mathematician. But after three weeks living in Israel with my family, not in a hotel, but in our own flat rented from a professor on a teaching exchange in the United States, I have devised a formula or equation for analyzing and describing the price of consumerism in the Jewish State.

Guest Voices

The formula is deceptively simple, yet seems, in the vast majority of cases, to be accurate. It is i = (C x 2) + 10 percent. That is, "i" stands for the cost of the item to be purchased. It doesn't really matter whether it is a soft drink, a box of facial tissues or lunch at one of the many fast-food restaurants proliferating throughout Israel. My formula seems to work with a fill-up at a gas station, payment to the electric company or a tube of toothpaste. If the item being purchased is packaged, refined, manufactured or imported, the formula holds.

If "i" stands for the item's cost, then "C" stands for the value of the Canadian dollar against the Israeli shekel, multiplied by 2. You then add 10 percent for good measure to determine the cost of your purchase.

In other words, just about everything in this extraordinary country costs a little more than double what it takes to purchase it in, say, Toronto or Montreal.

Now certainly there are exceptions in both directions to my neat little formula. You might find locally produced goods, such as wine, vegetables and bread, where instead of adding 10 percent after doubling the cost of the product, you might subtract it. I am willing to concede that sometimes the actual price might even be lower than in Canada. But this is more than offset by such exotic luxury goods as nail polish remover, name-brand sport shoes or deodorant.

Yet in this society, where consumerism is something of a secular religion, the restaurants are crowded, the traffic at almost all hours overwhelming and the specialty shops selling all manner of goods at a brisk pace. For the first time in my life, I collided with not one, but two individual and blissfully unconcerned shoppers carrying on animated conversation on their cellular phones while cruising the aisles of the supermarkets. Only in Israel, you say?

All this and more, despite salaries that are generally half those paid for comparable work in Canada and all manner of taxes that have to be paid, which are at least as high as our own and very often higher.

I will not even broach the subject of the astronomical housing prices in a country where 92 percent of the land is owned, in one way or another, by the state. Israel's new minister of trade, Natan Sharansky, at a briefing following the Toronto signing of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement this August, noted that Tel Aviv now has the same per-square-foot cost as housing in Manhattan, but then added deadpan that his friends in New York usually have millions in their bank accounts, while those in Israel have similar balances — but in overdrafts!

Years ago, long before I had devised my formula, I raised the issue with an Israeli diplomat stationed in Canada of rampant consumerism without apparent sources of large amounts of cash. He was trained in business economics, and I therefore sought his wisdom. Over a pleasant lunch, he regaled me with explanations involving American loan guarantees, the balance of payments, war reparations, government and banking policies and the role of state enterprises.

Fascinating, of course. But after lunch, I was just as bewildered as I am now as to how this money reaches the hands of the average free-spending Israeli consumer. But then again, I'm no economist.

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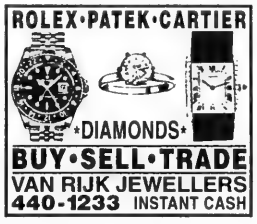

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Canadians among Otzma participants

TORONTO – Four Canadians are among the 62 college students and recent college graduates representing 23 Jewish federations throughout North America who have been selected to spend a year in Israel as participants in Project Otzma.

Project Otzma is an early leadership identification program supported by the Council of Jewish Federations and participating federations. In Israel, Otzma is supported by the Israeli Forum, the Jewish Agency and the Youth and Hechalutz department of the World Zionist Organization.

Now in its 11th year, Project Otzma is designed to heighten Jewish identity and commitment and strengthen the bonds between North American communities and Israel through volunteer service.

The four Canadian Otzma participants, all from Toronto, are Adam Tizel, Eytan Szmuilowicz, Aviva Waxman and Brian Zeidenberg.

For additional information about the Otzma Program for the coming year, contact your local federation.

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UJA FEDERATION

Greater Toronto Area

Pomson heading York U Jewish education program

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Alex Pomson

TORONTO — For someone who more or less stumbled into a career in Jewish education, Alex Pomson has landed firmly on his feet. The 32-year-old native of London, England, arrived in Toronto in August to spearhead York University's Jewish Teacher Education program. He is the first professor of Jewish Education at a Canadian university.

The combined BA/B.Ed. program, established 15 years ago, is unique in Canada and probably in the Diaspora in that graduating students are qualified to teach both Jewish and general studies in Jewish or public schools.

"To me the major advantage is that they understand both sides of the students' educational experience. That makes them better teachers," says Stan Shapson, dean of York's Faculty of Education, under whose auspices the program is run.

Since its inception, the program has been run by Michael Brown, director of York's Centre for Jewish Studies, and Martin Lockshin, associate professor of Humanities and Hebrew. There are now 29 students in the program, of whom 10 were accepted this year. Graduates have a placement rate of about 90 percent, said Brown.

The search for a professor of education began a few years ago and was made possible by the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation, which has established an endowment of $600,000 at York in Jewish Education.

"It's a tiny [academic] field," says Brown. "There are fewer than 20 professors of Jewish education in all of North America, and none in Canada other than Alex."

With a background in academic research and teaching as well as in the day school classroom, Pomson has both a theoretical and practical understanding of the issues facing Jewish educators.

Most recently he spent three years as deputy head of school (equivalent to vice-principal) and head of Jewish studies at King Solomon High School, which opened in 1993. Concurrently, he was a research tutor at the University of London's Institute of Education.

Ten years ago it looked like Pomson was headed for a career in Marketing. Although he had become a national *mazkir* (director) for youth organization Bnei Akiva following his graduation in History from Cambridge University, "the theory was, I would get it out of my system and return to the real world."

He applied to "sensible institutions" and was offered a position by a major company, but decided he much preferred to stay in Jewish education.

Over the following decade he qualified as a teacher, spent two years teaching in London and a further two years in Israel on a Jerusalem Fellowship (a program to develop leadership for Jewish education in the Diaspora), then completed his PhD in Religious Education at the University of London.

The program Pomson now heads has "blazed a trail in the context of North American Jewish education," he says. He is looking at ways of developing the program further, such as instituting a post-graduate degree program in Jewish education and promoting research within Jewish schools.

Over the last 20 years there has been a resurgence in Jewish education, with a proliferation in the number of Jewish schools in the English-speaking world, Pomson notes.

His own research has included work on the influence of Jewish schooling on students from diverse Jewish backgrounds.

The relationship between Jewish education and Jewish continuity is a hot topic for Jewish educators today, but Pomson doesn't see it as a distinctly Jewish concern. "In the context where less money is available, I wouldn't see the Jewish world unusually hung up on the question of effectiveness. There's more accountability across the board."

He cautions, however, that it could take 20 years before an answer is reached. What is probably of more immediate interest, he suggests, is to help teachers develop the short-term tools to gauge the effectiveness of their teaching.

"There's more than enough to do," he says.

HARRY HARRIS JEWISH HOUR

Gloria Valentine stars in *The Harry Harris Jewish Hour* on Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. in the Central Library, 5120 Yonge St. Featured guests include Michael Lebovic and Allen Farkas (left).

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Greater Toronto Area

Funeral business a 'mitzvah' for young Toronto rabbi

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Working in the funeral services industry may seem an uncomfortable choice, especially for a young man.

But Rabbi Chaskel Zionce, 28, sees it as a tremendous mitzvah.

"*Hazal* (the sages) call it *chesed shel emet*, a mitzvah for which there can be no real payment. The person can't return the favor, or even smile or say thank you."

Of course, he added during an interview with *The CJN*, all mitzvot should be done that way.

Zionce is a Torontonian, now a Thornhill resident, who went to Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

"Our home was always modern Orthodox and shomer Shabbat," he said. But it was at CHAT he discovered the world of the Bobover Chassidim, a world he has embraced, along with, he says with a twinkle, that of the Bostoner rebbe. "It's half and half," he explained.

He studied at the Bobover yeshivah in New York, also becoming part of the *chevra kadisha* of the Vaad Harabonim of Queens, which is run by Rabbi Elchonon Zohn.

Rabbi Zohn's *chevra kadisha* is a paid body since its members are too busy to assume another position and is a going concern, Rabbi Zionce said, performing an average of three funeral preparations a day for men alone, and often more.

"There can be 11 or 12 after Shabbes," he said, and the *chevra kadisha* can be busy all night.

Rabbi Zohn, Rabbi Zionce said, is a leading authority in the field. "He mastered a system of preparing bodies for burial where there is no needless waste of time. The staff are trained to do things quickly and efficiently."

But speed and efficiency are not substitutes for caring about what is being done. "[Preparations for] each *niftar* (deceased person) are done perfectly."

When Rabbi Zionce decided to return to Toronto with his wife, Sara Rachel, and two young sons, he took Rabbi Zohn's teachings to his new position as the religious staff person of Hebrew Basic Burial.

If there are several funerals at once, he makes sure he supervises everything to ensure it's all done properly.

Rabbi Zionce takes his job seriously, as, he says, his clients do.

"When people are preparing a funeral, they often want things done the traditional way, even if they aren't traditional themselves. Maybe it's because the mother or father who died would have wanted it that way, or maybe because people at that time find it comforting."

Alpha Omega dentists hold reunion

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Some 400 dentists joined together at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue recently to discuss social issues, swap business cards and kibbitz at the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity's annual gala.

Founded in 1907, Alpha Omega was created to provide a brotherhood for Jewish dental students who were not permitted to join other fraternities and whose numbers were limited by university program enrolment quotas.

"Alpha Omega Fraternity played a major part in opening up more doors for Jewish students," recalls Dr. Morton Silverberg, a member since the 1960s.

Today, the fraternity represents over 15,000 Jewish dentists and dental students and consists of more than 125 alumni and student chapters throughout North America, Europe, Israel, South Africa, Russia, Australia and South America.

Over the years, Alpha Omega has expanded its original purpose of combating systemic anti-Semitism and begun to address social issues.

The fraternity's philanthropic branch, the Alpha Omega Foundation, has granted over $12 million in aid to dental schools, clinics and international projects geared towards dental health, scholarships and research grants.

Internationally, the foundation has advocated excellence in dental education by generating funds for the Hadassah School of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem and the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine in Tel Aviv. In Toronto, the fraternity helped raise funds to create a dental clinic in the Baycrest Centre.

Just as Alpha Omega's mission has been modified over time, so has its definition of the word fraternity. Fifteen percent of the organization's members are now women, as was evident in this year's gala attendance.

"Maybe I was a little intimidated at first, but as I keep attending, there are more women every year," said Dr. Effrat Habsha, a female fraternity member.

Seemingly unaffected by the contradiction, international president of Alpha Omega, Dr. Max Cutler, said, "We have a situation where even though we use the word fraternity, our more accurate term is Alpha Omega International."

But although objectives and nomenclature vary, Alpha Omega's annual gala remains committed to certain fundamental principles. The president of the Toronto Alumni Chapter, Dr. Steven Corber, staunchly regards these as the preservation of Judaism, high professional standards and community networking.

However, those who were present at this year's event have a grander vision of Alpha Omega's role.

The fraternity "keeps our friendships going, helps us keep our technology education going and our Judaism going; and the dinners are good too," said member Dr. Edward Reiter.

***

INDIANAPOLIS – Zeta Beta Tau, the largest historically Jewish fraternity, recently held its 97th annual convention and leadership school.

Nearly 200 undergraduates and alumni gathered in Miami Beach as national president Irving Chase, a California real estate developer was re-elected to another two year term.

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CITY OF TORONTO

Civic Awards Nominations

Do you know someone who deserves a civic award?

Each year, on Civic Honours Day in March, Toronto City Council honours people who have attained distinction in varous fields of endeavour.

All nominees must be residents of the City of Toronto.

Civic Award of Merit

The City will present the award to persons who have helped improve Toronto's quality of life. The nominees may have participated in one or more of these suggested areas, or in other areas:

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- business
- community
- education
- labour
- government/politics
- the media
- religion
- science
- sports

Constance E. Hamilton Award

This award is given to a person or persons who have made a significant contribution toward equitable treatment for women in the City of Toronto.

William P. Hubbard Race Relations Award

The City presents this award for outstanding achievement and commitment to race relations in the City of Toronto.

Access Award

The City gives this award to a person or persons who have made a significant contribution towards improving access for people with disabilities in the City of Toronto.

For nomination forms, please call the City's Equal Opportunity Office, (416) 392-7955.

TTY users, please call 392-0063.

Deadline for Nominations is November 1, 1996.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Sept. 26, is deadline for Oct. 10 issue and Thursday, Oct. 3, is deadline for Oct. 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2332, fax 424-1886.

Friday, Sept. 27

HASHOMER HATZAIR

Hashomer Hatzair youth movement begins its fun-filled and educational year with a Sukkot celebration. Ages 8-16 are welcome to join and participate in Israel-related and Jewish activities and holidays. 8 p.m., 1111 Finch Ave. W., Suite 156. 736-1339.

Saturday, Sept. 28

TZAVTA SUKKOT

Tzavta Sukkot celebration with entertainment by **Mickey Lewin**, reflections and readings, dancing, $7.50, 8:30 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. **Yehuda Marle** 736-1339 or **Randi Sokolsky**, 651-7347.

Sunday, Sept. 29

HALF-MARATHON, WALK

GMC Toronto Half-Marathon and 5-km Jimmy Jog/Walk through downtown Toronto, including post-event party and entertainment, 9 a.m. marathon, 9:15 a.m. jog/walk, Commerce Court (Yonge and Wellington). Presented by Runners' Choice and Mount Sinai Hospital. Net proceeds benefit Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre. Entry forms at Mount Sinai PR Department, Room 341. 586-5065. For volunteer information, **Barb Torrence** 586-8662.

BEIS HASHOEIVAH

Simchas Beis Hashoeivah with the Zemer Orchestra, 8:30 p.m., Lubavitch, 44 Edinburgh Dr. Admission free.

SJA SUKKOT FESTIVAL

Secular Jewish Association Sukkot Festival for the whole family, SJA Children's School auditorium, 131 Fenn Ave. Please bring dessert or donation of women's/children's clothing. 384-7002.

Monday, Sept. 30

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League — North Bathurst presents Why Breastfeed Your Baby?, 7:30 p.m. Heatherton Way, Thornhill. **Nancy** 905-889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

A TOUCH OF KLEZ

Celebrate Sukkot and Arts Week with A Touch of Klez, an evening of klezmer and Yiddish frailich music with the Hu Tsa Tsa Klezmer Band directed by **Jonno Lightstone**, and vocalists **Faye Kellerstein** and **Alan Merovitz**; two shows 7:30 and 9 p.m., North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St. $5 at door. **Faye** 633-6558.

MUSIC & KABBALAH

Join Anshe Minsk and author/composer **Rabbi Matityahu Glazerson** for an evening of music and mysticism. Rabbi Glazerson speaks on Armageddon and its connection to sukkah and lulov. 8 p.m., 10 St. Andrews St,. Kensington Market. Suggested donation $15. 595-5723.

Tuesday, Oct. 1

SUKKAH-BY-THE-WATER

New Israel Fund (NIF) of Canada Sukkah-by-the-Water with **Adrienne Cooper**, vocalist with the klezmer band Kapelye, and **Batsheva, Phyllis Greenberg** and the **Chai Singers**, 7 p.m., Tent in the Square, Harbourfront. Funds raised support NIF women's projects in Israel. $25 and a special $25 donation can be made to honor a woman in the sukkah booklet. 781-4322.

NATURE & MIRACLES

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto Sukkot lecture by **Rabbi Dovid Gottlieb**, senior lecturer for Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem and former professor at Johns Hopkins University, 8:30 p.m., 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-886-5730.

Wednesday, Oct. 2

CANCER RESEARCH

A cooperative cancer research project between Canadian and Israeli medical personnel is the topic of a presentation by **Dr. Arnold**

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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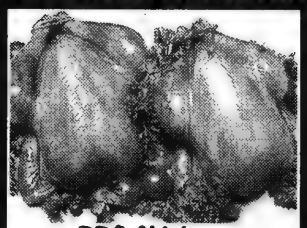
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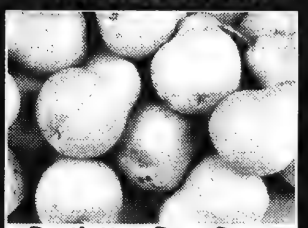
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Croydon House
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Perl's Pastrami
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Atlantic Salmon Steaks
Fresh
19.21 kg
599 lb.

Sparkling Grape Juice
Concord, Muscat, Catawba, Kadem or Tangrea, 750 ml. btl.
299

Buffalo Buns
From the Deli
pkg. of 4
239

Bilkas Challah
From the Deli, Baked fresh, 625 g
599

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Noyek of Mount Sinai Hospital, executive director of CISEPO (Silverman Canada International Scientific Exchange Program), and **Dr. Raffi Feinmesser** of Tel Aviv University and Rabin Medical Centre, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre, Jerusalem Room. Co-sponsored by Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and CISEPO. All welcome.

Thursday, Oct. 3

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am continuing education committee's Women in the Bible series with **Rachael Turkienicz** presents Creation of Eve: A Midrashic Alternative, 8 p.m. All welcome.

BONDS PARLOR MEETING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Israel Bonds parlor meeting at the synagogue. Honorees are **Luba** and **David Smuschkowitz**. Guest speaker is **Linda Shearzer**.

LUNCH AND LEARN

At Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, **Rabbi Dow Marmur** speaks on The Ten Tribes of Modern Israel, noon. Bring lunch and $1. Coffee, tea, cookies served. Kiddush in sukkah 11:45 a.m.

And What Else Is New...

NCSY HAPPENINGS

National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) programs. 782-4426.

Free Torah High School, grades 6-8 and 9-13, supplementary afternoon Hebrew school program — classes, multimedia presentations, special events, trips and more, four locations.

The Centrestage, Topics You Talk About, the Issues That Bother You, grades 9-13, Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto (BAYT), 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Sept. 25 topic was Why Jews Don't Believe in Jesus. Oct. 9 is interactive video discussion.

Holocaust Course, grades 9-13 only, with Holocaust survivor/author **Irving Eisner**, Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at BAYT.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Club Tamar, Na'amat, beginner Israeli folkdancing Wednesday, Oct. 9, 8:30 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Everyone welcome. **Ruth** 493-0355.

MEMBERSHIP EVENING

Chaverot branch, National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, invites women 30-45 to a new members evening, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 8 p.m., Thornhill/Richmond Hill area. Chaverot meets every third Wednesday evening. **Brenda** 905-764-6766.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Jewish Single Parents Group invites single dads and single moms, 30-something and 40-something, with and without children, to join in the new planned activities. 905-881-0376.

WHEN YOU SEPARATE

Jewish Family & Child Service offers When You're About to Separate: What to Tell the Kids. Learn about children's typical reactions and questions, how to deal with "moving out day," how best to meet your children's needs in the early stages of separation, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m., Promenade office, Promenade Mall, 3rd floor. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

STAGE WEST OUTING

D. Lou Harris chapter of Akim in support of mentally handicapped youth of Israel presents *Funny Money*, Wednesday, Oct. 16, Stage West Theatre. Buffet luncheon $45. **Hilda Green** 782-0923.

Harry Henig

HARRY HENIG'S NEW BOOK

Author **Harry Henig**'s latest book, *Shattered Lives* will be available at the book booth at the Hadassah Bazaar, Wednesday, Oct. 23, Automotive Building, Canadian National Exhibition.

JEWISH CAMPUS SERVICES

Jewish Campus Services sponsors informal learning at University of Toronto Wednesdays with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** — 1 p.m. Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Judaism But Had No One to Ask, UC Room 69; 4 p.m. Introduction to Jewish Belief and Practice, UC Room 69; 5 p.m. Jewish Meditation and Spirituality Circle, UC Room 63. 512-0814.

JEWISH HUMOR IN FILM

Toronto Jewish Film Festival presents Jewish Humor in Film starting Wednesday, Oct. 2, (six sessions). 6:30-9:30 p.m., Bloor JCC, Chapel Room, $65. 324-8600.

HEBREW COURSES

Learning Hebrew is fun and easy with **Yael Lev**. Conversational Hebrew, all levels, prayer book reading, daytime or evening, various locations. Special classes for parents of children in Jewish schools. Classes start week of Sept. 30. 225-6151.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: free blood pressure clinic Tuesday, Oct. 1; Sunday dance Oct. 13; trips — Thursday, Oct. 10, Hillroy Factory; Oct. 13-15, Frankenmuth, Mich., Flint, Crossroads Village, Casino Windsor; Tuesday, Oct. 22, shuffle off to Buffalo; Oct. 27-31, Atlantic City and New York City; Thursday Nov. 31, Casino Rama, Orillia, members $25, non-members $30; Nov. 24-28, Las Vegas, Nev. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: opening luncheon Monday, Oct. 7, 12:30 p.m., entertainment; trip to Buffalo, Sunday, Oct. 20, shopping and theatre, the musical *Cabaret*; vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat all inclusive, Nov. 4-25; alternative to Miami trip is Arizona. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aaron Dahari 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771. Thursday, Oct. 3, art exhibition. All members welcome to exhibit work. **Ovadia Azori** 631-9794.

North York Public Health free six-week series, Good Food and Fun, Mondays, Oct. 7-Nov. 18, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Flemingdon Health Centre, 10 Gateway Blvd. Pre-register 429-5153.

Sunrise Group trips: Nov. 7-14 Las Vegas; Dec. 7-21, $600, Porto Plata, Dominican Republic, one or two weeks. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents The Flu Season is Coming, a flu vaccine clinic, **Dr. Al Green**, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 9-11 a.m. Wellness Desk for appointment.

Healthy Pleasures, **Brenda Zalken**, Mondays, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, 28.

North York Board of Education courses:

Lifeskills/Making Relationships Work for You, with **Harriet Sharkey**, Tuesdays, Oct. 1-Dec. 17, 1-3 p.m.

Twentieth Century Jewish Literature and Film, **Michael Laitman**, Wednesdays Oct. 2-Dec. 18, 1-3 p.m.

Soapstone Sculpture, **Irene Blogg** Tuesdays, Oct. 1-Dec. 17, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Painting with Watercolors, **Bilha Motgan** Tuesdays, Oct. 1-Dec. 17, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Oct. 2 program is a movie. **Anna**.

Musical show, **Helen Knight**, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

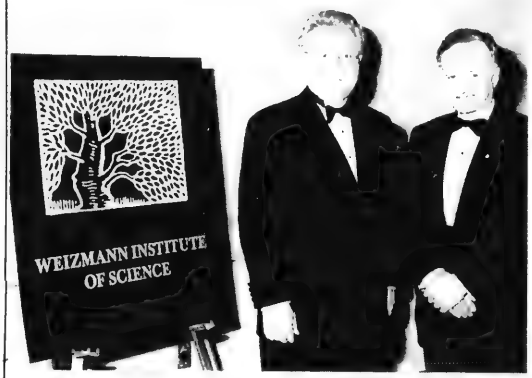
BJC Senior Adult Services courses co-sponsored by North York Board of Education, starting the week of Sept. 30; Ballroom, Needle Crafts, Bridge, Tai Chi, Yoga, Line Dancing. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259

Oct. 8 luncheon, entertainment by **Adam Timoon**, 12:30 p.m., Senior Adult Services, BJC. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Limited junior kindergarten spaces, BJC. 636-1880, ext. 351.

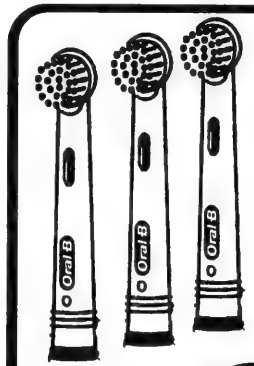
Youth floor hockey, ages 8-15, begins Oct. 13, 2 p.m., BJC. **Grant** 636-1880, ext. 374.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club Yiddish film (subtitles) Thursday, Oct. 3, 2 p.m. Free. **Judy**, 924-6211, Tuesday or Thursday.



WEIZMANN QUIZ

Sharing the stage at the recent Weizmann Gala are Wolfe Blitzer (left), CNN senior White House correspondent, and Prof. John C. Polanyi, Nobel laureate. In support of The Canadian Fund for Biomedical Research, the first ever Weizmann Quiz, Are You Weiz? was held. Winning table received tickets to Cirque du Soleil, sponsored by Weizmann.



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Greater Toronto Area

Meals on Wheels rolling on the right path

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Thirty years ago when Kosher Meals on Wheels started, only 40 meals a week were delivered. Today, with 200 volunteers taking part, the figure has risen to 1,100.

These eagerly awaited meals are delivered all over the Greater Toronto Area, from the lakeshore north to Richmond Hill, from Scarborough on the east to Etobicoke on the west. This past year 10 to 15 requests from York Region have been granted.

The six groups who pioneered Kosher Meals on Wheels are being honored at the Wagman Centre by Senior Care Sept. 26, along with other volunteers.

There have been many changes in the well-known service over 30 years. In 1966, clients paid from 40 to 70 cents a meal on a sliding scale; today they pay from $3.50 to $5.75. Now there is a dairy meal delivered every Tuesday and a non-meat meal (though prepared in a meat kitchen) available on Thursdays to accommodate changing tastes.

"We are attempting to add variety and make the meals more interesting," said Arnold Foss, volunteer programs and development supervisor. "For awhile the number of meals delivered was decreasing but now that the Ontario government has cut back on the homemaker program they are going up again."

Kosher Meals on Wheels has an attraction to senior volunteers because from a Jewish perspective the delivery of meals gives a special satisfaction, Foss said. Though most meals are taken to seniors, requests from younger people with physical or emotional problems are also granted. Most recipients live alone, though many couples are also on the list. Until recently, a Kosher Meal on Wheels was being delivered to a resident in her late 90s.

The groups being honored and those accepting the plaques are: Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Martin Storm, treasurer; Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, Fern Orzech, chair, volunteer development; Jewish Family and Child Service, Joan Stevens, volunteer coordinator on behalf of Michael Bowman, president; Jewish Women's International, Barbara Swimmer, president; National Council of Jewish Women, Gita Arnold, chair; Hebrew Weston Charitable Service.

The Marie and Jack Freedman Memorial Award goes to Alan Dessau, a founding member of Senior Care and president of Senior Care Foundation, while the Sam Rotman Humanitarian Award is being presented to Norda and Abe Berlin, longtime volunteers. In addition, awards are being given to volunteers with 10 and 20 years service, and to volunteers representing each of the agency's programs, Kosher Meals on Wheels, Volunteer Visiting, Intergenerational, Escort-Transportation and Hospice.

Wolfe Fellowship recipient delves into Agnon's writings

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Sharon Green

TORONTO — Even after writing a 330-page PhD thesis on the topic, Sharon Green finds the work of Hebrew writer S.Y. Agnon "endlessly fascinating."

As the recipient of this year's Ray D. Wolfe Fellowship in Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, Green is teaching a third-year undergraduate course, Contemporary Israeli Literature in Translation, in the department of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations. The fellowship will also allow her to prepare for publication her doctoral thesis on the problem of love in Agnon's work.

Green is currently on leave from her other U of T teaching responsibilities. A lecturer in the department of Germanic languages and literature, she has taught Introduction to Yiddish Literature as well as University College's Writing Workshop and she coordinated the Yiddish Studies program from 1994 to 1996.

Because she wanted to feature a representative spectrum of Israeli literature in her new course, Green has included only one story by Agnon: *Agunot*, the one that made him famous and inspired his Hebrew surname. (Born Samuel Josef Czaczkes in 1888 in Galicia, Agnon immigrated to Palestine in 1907: his early writings were in Yiddish as well as Hebrew.)

Unfortunately, Agnon "isn't always that good in translation," said Green in a recent interview. Much of his writing style lends itself better to Hebrew, she believes.

Regardless of the importance of the literature in the original Hebrew, Green didn't include any works in the course unless they came across well in English. "I want the students to be excited about what they're reading."

Green, who was tutored in Hebrew as a young child and didn't study it again until university, finds the language rich in nuance. "It has so many layers to it that each word has many allusions. There are all kinds of echoes of past centuries in the language."

Green honed her Hebrew language skills in Israel in 1978, when she took a summer graduate program run by the Jewish Theological Seminary. A native of Toronto, she began her studies at U of T but received her three degrees from Brandeis, which awarded her the fellowship to travel to Israel at that time to interview Israeli authors Aharon Megged, David Shahar and A.B. Yehoshua.

Green and her husband of 17 years, Kenneth Green, who also teaches in U of T's Jewish Studies program, returned here in 1985. Having completed her PhD coursework, Green worked on her thesis "slowly but surely" as her family grew. Now a mother of three boys, she graduated in May.

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From coast to coast

School enrolment increases

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – The Jewish school system here is more than holding its own for the 1996-97 school year.

As has been the case in recent years, Ramah Hebrew School, the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's (WBJE) elementary school in south Winnipeg has, with just under 400 students registered, about three times as many students as the Talmud Torah-I.L. Peretz School (TTILP), its north end counterpart.

Nonetheless, TTILP's enrolment is up slightly, with over 130 in its junior kindergarten to Grade 6 program.

The big difference in the WBJE's school population this year is at Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate. Whereas most classes at Joseph Wolinsky lose students from year to year, this year's Grade 10 class actually has more students – 60 as compared to 49 – than last year. Overall, student numbers are up about 25. Registration has closed at 293 students.

This is the last year the three schools will continue in their present form. Next September, Joseph Wolinsky and Ramah will be moving into the new Jewish Community Campus which is being built in south Winnipeg.

The building which currently houses Joseph Wolinsky, Talmud Torah and the Beth Jacob Synagogue is up for sale and will be closed on June 30, 1997, whether or not a buyer has been found.

The current plan for the north end elementary students is that the JK to Grade 4 students will move to a renovated area at the north Winnipeg Rosh Pina Synagogue – if enough parents register their children. Next year's north end Grade 5 and 6 students would attend a Middle Years program (grades 5 to 8) on campus.

Parents have to register their children for the Rosh Pina and Campus schools by the end of October. The north end parents have been told that they must have at least 70 children registered for the Rosh Pina school by that date if the school is to open.

The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council is prepared to invest $60,000, supplemented by government grants, in building classrooms at the Rosh Pina. If there are not enough children for a JK-4 at the synagogue, the BJE is also willing to consider a JK to Grade 1 program.

In the Hebrew bilingual programs in the public school systems in Winnipeg, enrolment is much the same as last year but with a somewhat different south-north ratio.

Regina gets new spiritual leader

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

REGINA – The small Jewish community in Regina, Sask., has been able to replace its spiritual leader, Rabbi Solomon Truzman, who left in early August to take a rabbinical posting in Little Rock, Ark.

The new religious leader for the 140-member Beth Jacob Synagogue is Samuel Linkovsky, most recently of the Agudat Israel Synagogue in Ottawa.

Although Linkovsky at this point is only a cantor, Leo Morgan, the president of the Beth Jacob Synagogue, says that he aspires to the rabbinate and plans to receive his smichah.

"We feel fortunate to have him," Morgan says.

Born in Russia and raised in Israel, Linkovsky is a fourth generation chazzan who served in several congregations in the United States before going to the 800-member Conservative Agudat Israel in Ottawa in 1994.

He has signed a two-year contract with the Beth Jacob Synagogue here.

Cantor aims to boost awareness of Hebrew U in Ottawa

OTTAWA — Marcia Cantor is a woman with a new objective — to bring an awareness of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem to the Ottawa community.

Cantor is the new president of the Ottawa chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (CFHU), succeeding Dorothy Nadolny who served as chapter president for several years.

People are unaware of what the Hebrew University has to offer, Cantor says, "not only to ourselves, but to our children. For example, the programs offered at the university's Rothberg School for Overseas Students and the Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora play a major role in ensuring Jewish continuity.

Cantor's connection with the Hebrew University began a few years ago. As a board member of Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (CAADD Canada Inc.), she started to correspond with Tom Gumpel, a lecturer at the university's School of Education who specializes in Attention Deficit Disorder. In July 1995, following their eldest son Jeremy's bar mitzvah, the Cantor family visited Israel and the Hebrew University.

"In honor of his bar mitzvah, Jeremy chose to make a donation to the School of Special Education at the university," Cantor says.

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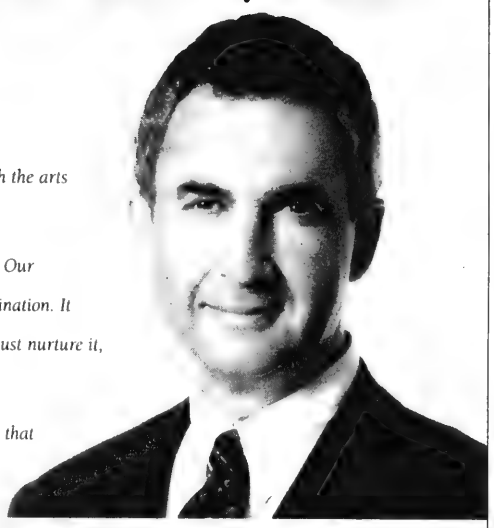

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Gerald Schwartz

Through its support of community institutions and programs, UJA Federation ensures that our Jewish heritage is expressed in our everyday life. At summer camps and in youth groups. In festivals for Jewish film and Jewish book fairs. In exhibitions of Jewish art and lectures by Jewish thinkers.

But for all we have in place, the community hungers for more. Resources can come from only one place: Our community. Each and every one of us.

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UJA FEDERATION

From coast to coast

Separatists continue to mess things up

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — When it comes to trying to get along with the Jewish community, no matter how hard they try, the separatists mess it up every time.

Parti Québécois (PQ) Cultural Affairs Minister Camille Laurin used to go around Montreal saying he was looking for "a chief rabbi" he could talk to about the French language issue.

Earlier this year, overzealous *fonctionnaires* ordered Passover food off the store shelves, even though religious food is exempt under the Quebec language law. The PQ later apologized, but not before the harm had been done.

The Galganov Affair is the latest incident.

Bloc Québécois leader Michel Gauthier was meeting with the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) the other day. It's normal for federal party leaders to meet with special interest groups before the start of each session. Nothing unusual there.

So what does Gauthier do? He asks the CJC if it would mind publicly disassociating itself from Howard Galganov and his remarks describing Quebec separatists as "bastards."

It appears the request was made in all innocence — or ignorance. Gauthier even announced on his own to reporters what he'd requested, as he emerged from his meeting with the CJC.

Gauthier would have been able to report to Premier Lucien Bouchard that even Galganov's own people had turned against him. Bouchard would be pleased.

Gauthier knew the CJC didn't approve of Galganov's in-your-face approach to language issues. And the CJC hardly goes around calling anyone "bastards," least of all half the Quebec population.

And didn't the CJC publicly denounce Mordecai Richler when he wrote in an American magazine five years ago that Quebecers were anti-Semitic?

Gauthier likely never realized that what he did smacked of the worst sort of ethnic stereotyping.

He was in fact saying: "Galganov is Jewish. You guys are Jewish. You crack down on him for us."

Gauthier was saying, in effect, that the CJC is responsible for every Jew in Quebec.

The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith accused Gauthier of the kind of "ethnocentrism and chauvinism that poisons the separatist vision" and demanded his immediate resignation.

"Gauthier exposes the pretense of many separatists, who on one day claim that we are all Quebecers and on the next day call on an ethno-religious group to denounce the political activities of an individual who just happens to share that religious background," said B'nai Brith Quebec chair Allan Adel.

Alliance Quebec president Michel Hamelin called it "a scurrilous attack" on Galganov's religious background.

The CJC explained that when it went after Richler, it was not because he was Jewish, but because he had spoken out about anti-Semitism in Quebec, an issue which it knows something about.

Presumably the CJC felt no similar expertise on the paternity of separatists.

Trying to link Galganov to the CJC or making a point of his Jewishness was not only offensive, but it was irrelevant to the debate, because unlike Richler, Galganov, even at the height of his anger, has always kept religion out of it, and never even suggested, as Richler did, that anti-Semitism was a motive for anything to do with language.

Gauthier could have cooled everything down, but instead he stood his ground, saying his request was reasonable, because Galganov was talking about "human rights" and the CJC is involved in human rights. So are a lot of other Quebec organizations involved in human rights and Gauthier never asked them to get involved.

Gauthier compounded his error by suggesting that the CJC "perhaps has an interest ... to clearly explain that they never mandated Mr. Galganov to speak in their name."

He did not elaborate.

It is difficult to imagine what that "interest" could be based upon, to what it might refer. It showed ignorance or at best insensitivity.

The only possible explanation could be that Gauthier was referring obliquely to a newspaper article a few days earlier in *La Presse*.

Gilles Paquin, a tough investigative reporter, wrote an article pointing out Galganov's past as a member of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Jewish Defence League (JDL) almost two decades ago.

Paquin noted that Galganov was accusing Quebecers of "ethnic nationalism," when he himself had once belonged to an ethnic nationalistic movement so extreme that it is "banned in Israel."

Paquin even found a university professor, John Siegler, at Carleton University, who said that in his opinion, Galganov was using JDL-style tactics against the Quebec government.

Perhaps Gauthier meant the CJC should say something before things got more out of hand.

Once again, a separatist leader had set out to try to achieve a closer understanding between separatists and the Quebec Jewish community, and ended up making things worse than ever.

We can almost imagine Bouchard's opening line when Gauthier reported back to his boss: "Say Michel, how did your meeting with the Jews go the other day?"

Galganov planning political showdown

[Cont'd. from page 1]

ly out of pocket over $100,000, not to mention the money he has lost in his advertising business because he has spent so much time fighting separatists.

Galganov, 46, sees this as a campaign, that will only end when the PQ is "defeated." He refers to separatists as "the enemy ... If Canada had such an enemy from the outside, we'd be assembling the troops." As far as he's concerned, there's nothing to debate with people out to "destroy my country."

Galganov admits he is obsessed. "When I wake up in the morning thinking about separation and cultural exclusion, and go to bed thinking the same, I know it's not healthy."

He revels in the advance media attention his New York trip got in the rest of Canada. "It's the most successful public relations coup I ever had, because it's the first time in 20 years or more the Quebec debate became a national issue."

The last few weeks have only made him more truculent. He terms *La Presse's* harping on his having been involved with the Jewish Defence League (JDL) as "anti-Semitic" and " a form of intimidation," but instructive.

"People like [journalist Gilles] Paquin think because of our ethnicity and culture, we are lesser Quebecers or citizens. This is a warning bell all should listen to."

Galganov insists there is "no French culture in Quebec; there is a Quebec culture and we're all part of it, whether they like it or not."

Howard Galganov

His maverick style has its roots in his background. His family was poor, he said, and he grew up in the Fairmount/Hutchison area, before moving to Laval West. His late father Eddy was decorated for his army service in World War II.

Although the family was not religious, Galganov attended the Lubavitch yeshivah for a few years and thought about becoming a rabbi. Galganov dropped out of high school and has been working since age 12. He later finished high school at night.

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UJA FEDERATION

in T.O.

YOUNG LEADERSHIP CABINET of UJA FEDERATION • VOL. 4 ISSUE 1, AUTUMN '96

Surfing the net

By Jay Brodbar

Everyone knows about the Internet. It's sexy and cool. Communicate with your friends in Tel Aviv or London, for next to nothing. Download the latest track from your favorite pop star and listen to it, thanks to "the Net." From TV spots to business cards, a Web address (typically starting with the ubiquitous *www*) identifies its owner as being cutting edge.

*Jonathan Grossman, Bob Cherniak and Jennifer Cohen are three of the volunteers who helped create **Jewish Toronto**.*

Glitz and hype aside, we at UJA Federation, see the Internet as a powerful and growing tool for local community building, information dissemination and communication. Starting last summer, we set our sights on building a Web site for the Jewish community which would be a central starting point for finding anything and everything that is Jewish in cyberspace. A virtual Jewish community centre where people could hang out and chat.

If you have access to the Internet, check us out at **http://www.feduja.org**. We'll be growing and changing as the months progress.

If you'd like to get involved, drop us a line at the site. We are building for the future. Visit, and, as we get more interactive, join us. Make *Jewish Toronto* yours! •

UJA FEDERATION
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL • JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

A Message To Toronto's Young Leadership

This year, as always, our goal at UJA Federation is to conduct a stronger campaign to meet the rising needs of our Jewish communities, here in Toronto, in Israel and around the world. Funding everywhere has been cut and our agencies require greater support in order to maintain services so greatly in demand.

This year, our approach to improving the campaign has changed somewhat. We are focusing on those who have never been involved before, because involvement leads to commitment. Once someone is aware of UJA Federation's centrality to the Jewish community; once someone receives essential information, he or she understands the importance of supporting the campaign.

That's one of the goals of *in T.O.* - to help you, the young adult members of Toronto's Jewish population, connect with the community. We hope *in T.O.* will help make you aware of community issues.

We encourage you to explore all that it offers you. Ask questions, get involved and get *in T.O.* UJA Federation.

David Goldstein
1997 Campaign Chairman

From ordinary printer to innovative marketer

By Russell Goldstein

When you ask David Engel, Vice-Chairman of the 1997 UJA Federation Campaign, what he does, he will tell you that he is a printer. It sounds reasonable enough. Ontario has the third largest concentration of printers in North America and the industry is one of the largest employers in the province. Given that, it might surprise you to know that Engel has only three employees and doesn't even own a printing press.

Engel is probably better described as a print consultant who relies on an extensive background in printing, combined with a unique understanding of the latest printing technology for his livelihood.

Like the high-quality pieces that he produces, his expertise comes at a premium, although that doesn't appear to deter his clients. His company, Innovative Graphics Inc., generated $15 million in revenue last year, producing printed material for brand-name companies like Procter & Gamble and Bell Canada. "Companies call me when they want to do something unconventional," says an enthusiastic Engel, who is usually hired to help with new product launches. "I source the latest printing technology and apply innovative approaches to printing projects."

Chances are some of David Engel's work has been mailed to your home. In addition to being the communicator of Bell's Real Plus long distance plan, he was instrumental in developing several Tide laundry detergent print campaigns. He is particularly proud of a direct mail piece that compared strips of cloth washed with the latest version of Tide to the same material washed by ordinary detergent.

In order to get the job done, he relies on a web of strategic alliances with printers and advertising agencies to create his version of the "virtual corporation." Because no two projects are the same, it's a constant challenge to assemble the right team for a job.

How did he learn all of this? Engel cites his father as the primary influence in the way he does business. Originally from Montreal, Engel, 40, worked in his father's printing company (Metro Graphics) for 17 years. To this day, David feels the lessons learned from his father contributed to the success he has enjoyed to date.

Three years ago, Engel decided it was time to spread his own wings, so he created Innovative Graphics and his own market niche.

David Engel has been a part of UJA Federation since his arrival in Toronto with his wife, Judy, and their 3 children, almost 13 years ago. It has, he claims, been one of the most important factors shaping his social life in the city. "While I spend much time with UJA Federation," he explains, "I have gotten far more out of it than what I have put in."•

in T.O., a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Israel...Never Can Say Goodbye...

By Julie Morton

Israel is a land which never fails to fascinate me, and fill my ears with lovely siren songs urging me to go back. I have spent over a year and a half of my life in this cauldron of emotion and have just recently returned to the relative sanity of Canada. The realities of the two very different countries collide within my being like schizophrenic personalities, each vying for the dominance of my heart and my mind.

SHOPPING

Let's start with the shopping. (I figure that as a young yuppie princess, shopping is a fitting place to start my discussion about Israel).

The average store is quite small. Nevertheless, it is what fills the store that is so delightful. I passed one the other day which is a perfect case in point. It was probably 300 square feet, and in this space, it offered the savvy consumer used tools, stationery, and some bruised fruits and vegetables. You know, one stop shopping for everything you just might need. There was no rhyme or reason to what was carried. There was no order to its display. And most of all, customer service is a completely foreign concept.

PARKING

To continue. Parking. There are no parking meters in the country. Rather a convoluted system of street parking has evolved. Painted on the side of the road are a series of colored markings dictating when and where you can park. Red and blue striped lines mean no parking is allowed at any time; white stripes indicate you can park for free after 7; and white and blue stripes allow you to park until 5 with a series of one hour cards. You scratch off the time, date and hour for which the cards will be valid. Are you still following me? If you are going to park for more than an hour, you simply line up more of these cards in the front window of your car. Now, if you can't find a parking place, and invariably you can't, you simply ignore all the rules and pull up onto the nearest curb.

SQUISHING

What else?...no one smiles in the street. I miss that. Part of the problem is so many people squished into such a little country that the bubble of private space surrounding each person is microscopically small.

WAITING

The concept of an orderly line is simply beyond them. I, on the other hand, want to line up, in orderly fashion, for absolutely everything. Bennie, my banker, finally told me it didn't matter if the woman cutting in front of me was 104, bent over, arthritic, and shuffling along with a walker. I should just elbow her out of my way or I'd never accomplish anything in Israel. It was then that I knew that I'd be forever doomed here.

LIVING

Life cycles abide in Israel as they do anywhere else, except for one thing - everyone knows he or she could die at a moment's notice. Life is short and Israelis know how to live it well. Thus, few individuals work terribly long or hard hours. Banks give monthly credit for up to four times an individual's earned monthly salary. Consequently, everybody lives off the earning power of next month's paycheck. Dinners start late and last for hours. The midnight shows are booked solid throughout the week, even though most individuals have to be at work at 8 or 8:30 the next morning.

Julie Morton and her husband Ron O'Brien in Israel.

HOSTING

Despite their rough and tumble exterior, the Israelis I met were never less than absolutely hospitable. Each and everyone, from the man who owns the kiosk where I would buy my daily papers, to friends of friends of friends who heard that I was living there, called to ask me home for dinner. Never have I been to a place where the welcome wagon was driven out so often and with such warmth.

On the whole, Israel is like a complex, grainy and unpolished, although somehow luminescent, semi-precious stone. It has value and great worth; however, one must look beneath the scabrous exterior to fully appreciate it. And, once seen, the beauty inherent in the country and the people will be forever imprinted on your heart and mind. ♦

Dragon *What?*

By Elisa Morton Palter

Guess what the world's fastest growing watersport is! The world's fastest growing watersport, gaining participants at an astounding rate of 30-40% a year, with over 2 million loyal followers to date, is Dragon Boat Racing.

Never heard of it? Read on...

Dragon boats owe their origin to the historic suicide of Qu Yuan, a Chinese poet and Minister of State from the 4th century B.C.E. Qu Yuan's crusade against political corruption got him ousted from his post, and forced him into exile. In despair, he drowned himself, and tradition says that local fishermen raced out in their boats to find him, slapping the water to keep the fish away from his body. A tradition was created when the search for Qu Yuan was ritually re-enacted annually. Today the Dragon Boat festival, (held this year, June 15th) is the second most important public holiday in China.

Brought to Canada in 1986 by a group of Hong Kong business people, Dragon Boating became an immediate hit on our side of the world too. The visually spectacular sport involves a team of 22 participants: 20 paddlers, a steerperson and a drummer (for pacing), who sit two by two down the length of a 12 metre boat decorated at the front with a large carved dragon head. The races are heated and often very close, making for exciting photo finishes.

...No stars and bench warmers. The team is everything...

Dragon Boating is a sport that can be learned by men or women of any age, and any fitness level. The teams are usually mixed (at least 8 women) and can actually become competitive in only 3-4 practices. It's even possible for someone to pick up Dragon Boating late in life and not be at a competitive disadvantage compared with someone who started younger.

Best of all, it's a sport in which there are no stars and no bench warmers. The team is everything, and the team is actually compromised when one person tries to be better, faster, stronger than the rest. Individual expertise plays a distant second to the importance of team cohesiveness in determining the outcome of a race. In fact, a perfectly synchronized women's team is not only exciting to watch, but almost always beats a physically stronger, less coordinated men's team.

In 1988, the Toronto Chinese Business Association brought the sport to T.O., and until fairly recently, those involved were mostly Asian. Mike Kerkmann and Barbara Goldberg aim to change all that.

Mike has been involved in Dragon Boating for nearly ten years both as a paddler (he is in the elite category) and, more recently, as a boat builder who saw the sport's potential. Barbara, an excellent athlete, has built a successful event management business. A mutual friend put Barbara and Mike in touch and together they have made it their goal to bring Dragon Boating to the masses.

Last year, Goldberg and Kerkmann launched a major event series in Toronto called The Great White North Dragon Boat Challenge. It was a great success, repeated this year on September 21 & 22. Dragon Boating is also expected to be approved as an Olympic demonstration sport for the year 2000.

Remember I told you that it doesn't take long to become competitive? Well, if you start now, you should be ready just in time!♦

Dragon Boating depends on precision teamwork.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that UJA Federation helps to fund the Kosher Hot Meals Program at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living? The program, which serves hundreds of people each week provided over 11,000 hot meals last year. UJA Federation also supports two other Bernard Betel projects that serve as a lifeline for many elderly members of our community.

Get *inT.O.* UJA Federation

Young Business Network

YBN is one of four "young" networks in UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet. YBN is comprised of 1,500 young men and women in various business sectors (Arts and Entertainment, Fashion, Financial Services, High Tech, Goods and Services, Marketing and Food and Hospitality).

The YBN practices outreach through fundraising, education and programming to unaffiliated young Jewish men and women in our community.

Programs, focusing on current business issues, feature prominent business men and women.

For more information on upcoming programming, please contact Elana Carr at (416) 631-5736.

Young Construction Network

The Young Construction Network is an umbrella group for young people in the real estate, development and construction industries. The network provides social, educational and fundraising opportunities to 25-40 year old Jewish Torontonians.

This year, Les Aaron and Stewart Lesser co-chair the network. Together with a team of volunteers, they'll be planning several social events and fundraising opportunities to support the work of UJA Federation.

For more information on upcoming programming, please call Elliot Halperin at (416) 631-5734.

Young Professionals Network

YPN is a dynamic collection of young people whose strength is through diversity. Network professionals include, among others, social workers, doctors and accountants.

Focused on *tzedakah*, Young Professionals see the need for outreach to ensure a strong commitment to maintaining the services that sustain our community.

For more information, please call Rick Levine at (416) 631-5699.

Young Adults Network

The Young Adults Network of UJA Federation promotes awareness of community needs and the way in which UJA Federation funding addresses those needs.

YAN combines promotion with practice through hands-on involvement in community service projects. YAN is committed to the Jewish tradition of *tikun olam* - repairing the world - in a friendly, informal social setting. It offers young adults a positive, personal and community experience.

For more information, please call Chaia Berkowitz at (416) 631-5690.

The Young Leadership Link

If you are interested in meeting new people, hoping to connect with the Jewish community and looking to get involved where you can really make a difference, the Young Leadership Cabinet of UJA Federation wants you.

The Young Leadership Cabinet is committed to the principle of *tzedakah*, to ensure the ongoing growth and health of our Jewish communities - in T.O., in Israel and around the world. UJA Federation is the central organization that allows us to express who we are and what we believe in.

There are many ways to become a part of the Young Leadership Cabinet. A wealth of programs offers the opportunity to become involved, get educated and have a great time in the process. They include missions to Israel and local agencies, a Canadian young leadership conference and one in Washington, too; parlour meetings and leadership retreats; mitzvah programs and lecture series...the list goes on.

Tammy Anklewicz, Co-Chair.

Gordon Wiseman, Co-Chair.

We depend on you, though, to take the first step. Read *inT.O.* to find out what opportunities are available. Surf the net and visit our web site at http://www.feduja.org or E- mail us at inT.O (into@feduja.org) and tell us about yourself. Drop by the Lipa Green Building at 4600 Bathurst Street to chat with one of our dedicated staff.

So tune in, turn on or drop in. Your community depends on you.♦

DID YOU KNOW?

1. **Did you know that UJA Federation finances the Chaplaincy Program administered by Jewish Family & Child Service? Volunteer chaplains visit Jews in over 100 institutions - hospitals, nursing homes and prisons, providing moral support and comfort.**

2. ***Shalom Toronto*, a project of Jewish Women's Federation, offers new arrivals to the community a warm welcome, a helping hand and lots of helpful information. If you're new to Toronto, (or know someone who is) call *Shalom Toronto* at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.**

3. **Did you know that hundreds of Jewish children are provided with summer camp scholarships funded by UJA Federation? Subsidies and scholarships are allocated to the Bathurst Jewish Centre, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Jewish Family & Child Service and Jewish Camp Council.**

4. **Did you know that through the Jewish Agency in Israel UJA Federation helps to fund the rescue of Jews in danger around the world? Since 1989, over 650,000 Jews, mostly from the Former Soviet Union have immigrated to Israel.**

UJA's WonderFun Day October 13

Paramount Canada's Wonderland is the place to be on Sunday, October 13. It's Jewish Community WonderFun Day, sponsored by UJA Federation.

Come to the park for Jewish food, musical fun from Mandell Entertainment and over 160 attractions.
All for only $18.00 a person, compared to the regular price of $35.80.
Children under three are free and kids from 3-6 get in for $17.60.
Discounted prices are not available at the gate.

To order tickets, call the UJA Federation WonderFun Hotline at (416) 631-5700.
Tickets are also available from Negev Book & Gift Store, 3509 Bathurst Street, Matana Judaica, 248 Steeles West or Beit Halochem, 2145 Avenue Rd.

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Upcoming Events Worth Getting *inT.O.*

Here's a listing of upcoming UJA Federation events of interest to *inT.O.* readers.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1996
"THE BUSINESS OF ENTERTAINMENT"
Design Exchange, 234 Bay St.

Featuring Moses Znaimer, President and CEO of City TV, Paul Godfrey, Publisher and CEO of the *Toronto Sun* and Allen Karp, CEO of Cineplex.

Sponsored by the Young Business Network and the Arts & Entertainment and Investment Divisions of UJA Federation.
For more information, call Iris Lazarus (416) 635-2883 ext. 177.

~

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1996
"CLINTON AND DOLE UNCOVERED:
WHAT WILL THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION MEAN TO CANADA?"

Featuring Sondra Gotlieb, Allen Gotlieb and Joe Schlesinger, moderated by Global TV's Peter Kent

Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street, 7:30 p.m.
Cost: $18 in advance, $25 at the door.
Sponsored by the Marketing Division of UJA Federation
For more information, please contact Rick Levine at (416) 631-5699.

~

OCTOBER 19 -21, 1996
"CREATING THE JEWISH FUTURE"

How can Jewishness and Judaism thrive in a period of unprecedented changes?
What will the Jewish future be in the 21st century?
What is to be done at this most crucial moment in Jewish history?
This conference will bring together international scholars with Canadian Jewish community and student leaders to consider the most important aspects of Jewish life as we approach the next century. Academic presentations and workshops will assess present conditions and suggest new strategies, policy guidelines and model programs for Jewish continuity.
To register call Elisabeth Friedman, Conference Coordinator, Centre for Jewish Studies, Vanier College, York University (416) 736-5823

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1996
WASHINGTON FLY-IN

Open to all UJA Federation $1000 +contributors, this outstanding one day trip will include visits to the Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Pentagon and more!

Cost: $485
For more information, please contact Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

~

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1996
"THE MAXIMUM MONTREAL REUNION"
Bathurst Jewish Centre • 4588 Bathurst St.
8:00 P.M.

For more information please call Olga Zelmanovitch (416) 635-2883 ext. 107.

~

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1996
YOUNG LEADERSHIP TELETHON
5:30 p.m.

Join fellow young leadership volunteers as they raise funds for UJA Federation. Win some prizes...and have fun....

For more information please call Ronit Climan at (416) 631-5738.

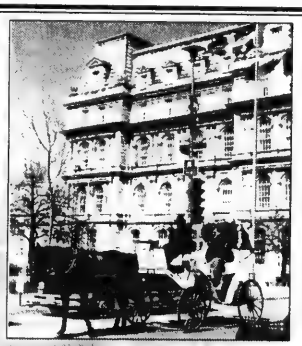
~

DECEMBER 29, 1996 - JANUARY 6, 1997
YOUNG LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL
If you will it... DO IT!!

Yachdav 96/97 International Leadership Mission to Basel and Israel, marking a century since the first Zionist Congress.
Join hundreds of young men and women from around the world for two days in Switzerland, then travel to Israel and ring in the New Year in Jerusalem!

For more information, call Ronit Climan at (416) 631-5738.

'Bye 'Bye
Beaver Lake & Beauty's...
...but not forever UJA FEDERATION



The Maximum
MONTREAL REUNION

Don't miss this exciting night of Montreal nostalgia!

- *Music provided by Mandell Entertainment*
- *Delicious Montreal deli-style food (Kashrut observed)*
- *Multi-media Montreal memories*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1996
8:00 p.m.
Bathurst Jewish Centre
4588 Bathurst Street
Couvert: $36 • space is limited
To RSVP call Olga at (416) 635-2883 ext. 107

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in T.O.

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From coast to coast

Ottawa students learn how to make a shofar

By MIRIAM VALE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA – Making your own shofar is easier than blowing one.

That is what 140 students at Maimonides Hebrew Day School here learned earlier this month, as part of a new educational program designed to teach children about Rosh Hashanah using a hand-on approach.

The Shofar Factory is part of a series of programs about Jewish holidays to be introduced in Ottawa this academic year. Rabbi Menachem M. Blum, part-time teacher at Maimonides and organizer of the series, shows students how to make a shofar in about 30 minutes. He says the program has been very successful so far in educating the students.

"When the children see the shofar being made, they get more of a feeling and appreciation for the holiday," Blum says.

And the students like it too.

"I got to drill a hole in the shofar," says Elisheva Shaps, a Grade 1 student at Maimonides. "It was fun making it."

Drilling the hole for the mouth to blow into is only one of the steps in making a shofar. Before the presentation, Blum boils the ram's horn in hot water for about eight hours so the marrow in the horn is easily removable.

The students are also involved in sawing, drilling and sanding part of the shofar. When it is completed, Blum asks for volunteers to try to blow the shofar.

During the first grade presentation, none of the students were able to blow the shofar. Then Blum proceeded to blow it and explain the different sounds heard in synagogue on Rosh Hashanah. For example, one of the sounds, *tekiah*, is a long unbroken tune.

Also part of the Shofar Factory presentation are the questions Blum asks about the holiday and the importance of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah. He says the program can be easily adapted for any age group or audience.

Blum says he plans to bring the Shofar Factory to synagogues, community centres and other schools in Ottawa. For example, he plans to present it at Hillel Academy, another Hebrew day school, on the days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

The Shofar Factory was first presented in the United States about eight years ago by the Lubavitch organization. Since then, it has been a regular part of the High Holy Day season. Blum moved from New York to introduce the program to Ottawa. The Shofar Factory has been well received by local educators.

Prof. Gerald Cammy, principal of Maimonides, says it will now be a part of the curriculum.

"It's a necessary hands-on approach to studying Judaism," says Cammy. "The holiday means more to children if they know what is happening at synagogue."

Blum says students will also participate in a menorah building program for Chanukah and matzah baking for Passover.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Claude Gelbard of the General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion, salutes in tribute to fallen Jewish servicemen at a recent memorial parade and remembrance service, attended by about 55 people at the Mount Sinai Memorial Park cenotaph.

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save a centre 600 SHEPPARD AVE., W. DOWNSVIEW 2760 BATHURST ST., TORONTO

Dominion Plus 300 JOHN STREET THORNHILL

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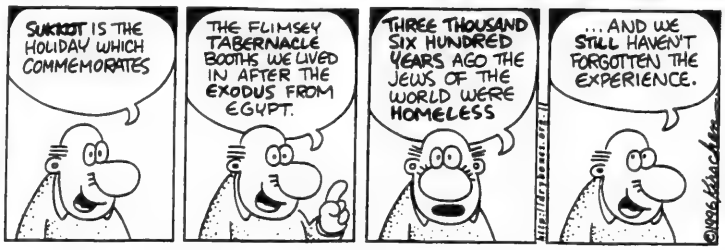
From coast to coast

Dry Bones


SUKKOT IS THE HOLIDAY WHICH COMMEMORATES
THE FLIMSEY TABERNACLE BOOTHS WE LIVED IN AFTER THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT.
THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED YEARS AGO THE JEWS OF THE WORLD WERE HOMELESS
... AND WE STILL HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE EXPERIENCE.
©1996 Kirchner

Creating the Jewish Future

Centre for Jewish Studies at York University

19-21 October 1996

A CONFERENCE THAT WILL BRING TOGETHER PROMINENT INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS AND CANADIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY AND STUDENT LEADERS TO CONSIDER THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF JEWISH LIFE AS WE APPROACH THE NEXT CENTURY

This conference is sponsored by Mr. Bernie Ghert and will be chaired by Professor Irving Abella.

Conference Program

Saturday Night, October 19

8:45 p.m. Opening Remarks

THE CENTRALITY OF ISRAEL IN THE JEWISH WORLD
Professor Aviezer Ravitzky, Hebrew University
Mr. Hillel Halkin, Israeli author

Moderator: Professor Michael Brown, York University

Location: Varl Hall "A"

Reception to follow

Sunday, October 20

Registration and all lectures will be held in Vanier/Founders Dining Halls, Lower Level

9:00 a.m. Coffee

9:30 a.m. **FAITH AND RELIGION IN A "SECULAR" AGE**
Professor Robert Eisen, George Washington University
Professor Susan Handelman, University of Maryland
Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, Senior Scholar, Holy Blossom Temple

Moderator: Professor Martin Lockshin, York University

11:30 a.m. **THE FUTURE OF JEWISH CULTURES IN THE DIASPORA**
Professor Jane Gerber, CUNY Graduate Center
Professor Michael Stanislawsky, Columbia University

Moderator: Professor Seymour Mayne, University of Ottawa

1:00 p.m. Lunch

2:15 p.m. Seminars on Centrality of Israel, Faith and Religion, and Jewish Cultures

4:15 p.m. **EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE**
Professor Michael Rosenak, Hebrew University
Professor Alvin Schiff, Yeshiva University

Moderator: Professor Alex Pomson, York University

6:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. **CHANGING GENDER EXPECTATIONS AND ROLES IN JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE**
Professor Paula Hyman, Yale University
Professor Norma Joseph, Concordia University

Moderator: Professor Rachel Schlesinger, York University

Monday October 21

Registration and all lectures will be held in Vanier/Founders Dining Hall, Lower Level

9:30 a.m. **DEMOGRAPHY AND ECONOMICS: THE INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE**
Professor Daniel Elazar, Bar Ilan University
Professor Barry Kosmin, Institute for Jewish Policy Research, London, England

Moderator: Professor Sydney Eisen, York University

11:30 a.m. Seminars on Education, Changing Gender Roles, and Demography and Economics

1:30 p.m. Closing Lunch

UNIVERSITÉ YORK UNIVERSITY

For registration and further information, please contact Elisabeth Friedman, Conference Coordinator, at (416) 736-5832 (phone & fax). Centre for Jewish Studies, 260 Vanier College, York University, 4700 Keele street, North York, Ontario, M3J 1P3

ייִדיש ווינקל

YIDDISH CORNER

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

ייִדישע פאָלקס-ווערטער, עפּיגראַמען און וויצן

(פֿן אַריעל קאָפֿראָוו'ס נייעם בוך „אַ העלפֿט מיט חכמות")

אַ הומאָריסט דאַרף וויסן, אַז שרייבן הומאָר איז אַן עורסטער ענין.

שעם זיך בעסער פֿאַר זיך אַליין, ווועסטו פֿאַרשפּאָרן זיך שעמען פֿאַר אַנדערע.

ווען איינער זאָגט צום צווייטן — זיי נישט קיין נאַר, איז עס נאָך נישט קיין סימן, אַז ער אַליין איז אַ חכם.

זיי שפּאָרזאַם אין דער יוגנט, ווועסטו קענען טאָן אַלע זאַכן פון ווועלכע נאַר די יוגנט האָט פֿאַרגעניגן.

אַז מען שפּייט איז הימל, פֿאַרשפּייט מען זיך אַליין דאָס פּנים.

ווער ס'גייט נאָך אַ צוויטן, ווועט קיינמאָל נישט זיין דער ערשטער.

אַז יענער הרבה אַ האַנט, איז גלייכער צו הריבן די פּיס.

דער טויט קומט אומזיסט, און דאָך קאָסט ער דאָס גאַנצע לעבן.

גאָט היט מיך פֿאַר מיינע פֿריינד, פֿאַר מיינע שונאים וועל איך זיך אַליין היטן.

וויסן אַן פֿאַרשטאַנד איז ערגער ווי פֿאַרשטאַנד אָן וויסן.

איבערגעקומענע צרות איז גוט צו דערציילן.

אַז מען קען נישט וואָס מען וויל, מוז מען וועלן וואָס מען קען.

נאָענט צו דיין האַרץ איז נאָר דיין בלוט.

לויט זיין קלידונג דערקענט מען אַ מענטש ביי זיין אַריינקומען, לויט זיין שכל דערקענט מען אים ביי זיין אַוועקגיין.

מען לעבט אין אַ פֿרייַער וועלט — יעדער מאַן מעג סאָן, וואָס זיין וויב באַפֿעלט אים.

פֿרייַער לערנט מען קינדער ריידן, דערנאָך שטראָפט מען זיי פֿאַרוואָס זיי שווייגן נישט.

ייִדיש איז מאַמע-לשון, וויל דער טאַטע קומט זעלטן צום וואָרט.

זינט ס'איז געבוירן געוואָרן דער טויט, איז מען נישט זיכער מיטן לעבן.

אַ נדבה איז: אַדער מען גיט, אַדער מען נעמט; איז בעסער צו גיבן. . .

די טייערסטע זאַך אויף דער וועלט איז דער אמת, דעריבער נוצט מען אים אַזוי וויניק.

שעם זיך בעסער פֿאַר זיך אַליין, וועסטו פֿאַרשפּאָרן זיך שעמען פֿאַר אַנדערע.

מען קען אויך אין משך פון איין טאָג דערגיין יענעם די יאָרן.

אַז מען עסט הונדערט יאָר, איז מען פֿאַרזיכערט מיט אַ לאַנג לעבן.

ווען אַ פֿריינד ווערט אַ פֿיינט, איז ער דער גרעסטער שונא.

קויף דיר איין אַ פֿריינד אפֿילו פֿאַר געלט, שונאים וועסטו קריגן אומזיסט.

ווער עס האָט אַ קך געלט איז גליקלעך. ווער עס האָט אַ שיין וויב איז גליקלעך. און ווער עס האָט נישט בײדע זאַכן — דער שלאָפט רואיק.

אָדם הראשון איז געווען אַ מזל'דיקער מענטש, ער האָט ניט געהאַט קיין שוויגער!

מ'פרעגט אַ מאָן: וויפֿל פרויען האָסטו געהאַט? פרעגט ער: מיינע צי בכלל?

2 מענער דערזען צווישן זיך. איינער זאָגט: איך און מיין וויב זיינען מיר צווי. דער צווייטער זאָגט: איך און מיין פרוי זיינען צען. מיין פרוי איז איינע און איך בין אַ זערא.

דער מענטש דאַרף האָבן געזונטע פיס אויף זיי צו שטיין, און אַ געזונטן קאָפּ אַלץ צו פֿאַרשטיין.

אַ מענטש קען מאַכן געלט, אָבער דאָס געלט קען אים מאַכן אויס מענטש.

קנאה און שנאה זיינען ברידערלעך צווי. ווויל איז דעם מענטשן, וואָס איז וויט פון זיי.

דער וואָס קען נישט אויפֿהאַלטן קיין פֿריינדשאַפֿט, קען אויך נישט זיין קיין פֿריינד.

דעם קראַנקן איז שווער צו גיין, לויפֿט ער צום דאָקטאָר.

אַמאָל זיינען יונגטלעכע אַנטלאָפֿן פון דער היים חתונה צו האָבן; היינט, נאָך דער חתונה לויפֿן זיי צוריק אַהיים.

From coast to coast

Finestone planning to seek fourth term

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Sheila Finestone ended speculation about her intentions when she announced she will seek a fourth term as member of Parliament for Mount Royal.

She said at the Mount Royal Liberal Riding Association, "without equivocation, that if I am asked to stand for election, to represent the people of Mount Royal as I have over the past 12 years, I will respond in a positive manner."

Sheila Finestone

Finestone's future has been the subject of rumor for months since she was dropped from the position of secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women last January.

Finestone, who will be 70 in January, has held Mount Royal, one of the safest Liberal seats, since 1984. There were media reports last winter that she was being urged to resign to make way for a "star" candidate, like lawyer Eric Maldoff. (Maldoff firmly denied that at the time.)

"I cannot abandon all of those people who have come to depend on me and my office for the help and service and advice that we have been able to offer since 1984," said Finestone, who received a standing ovation when she made the announcement.

"My contributions to Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the party are on record, and I will face any opponent with that record as testimony to my ability to serve."

Finestone used the occasion to lambaste the Parti Québécois (PQ) government for heightening tensions between anglophones and francophones.

"The olive branch extended at the Centaur Theatre [Premier Lucien Bouchard's address to anglophones in March] has been replaced with the tape measure and the return of the language police ...

"We are being told to obey the law, but if we obey the law too much and ask for English on store signs as is allowed under the law and upheld by the Supreme Court, then we're told we're too provocative and they'll change the law. We've disturbed the linguistic peace for asking that our basic human rights be respected," she said.

Without being specific, she congratulated "grassroots organizations" for speaking out for Canada and their rights.

She regretted that French-Canadian federalists are too "intimidated" to speak out for "fear of repercussions against themselves and their businesses. This is anathema to a democratic society."

Finestone said she finds it "deceiving and disturbing" that the PQ "thinks it can selectively choose which parts of the law to enforce and which to ignore."

Quebec Justice Minister Paul Begin should resign or be fired for his dismissal of the Superior Court ruling in favor of Guy Bertrand that separation must be in accordance with the Constitution, she said.

"Mr. Begin has effectively announced that the rule of law only applies when it suits his purpose ... Surely, even if we differ on the question of separation, there is no difference in a civil and democratic society as the interpretation of the rule of law."

Lambasted PQ government

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***CYCLE IN THE CITY:** Start the New Year off Healthy! Explore the cycling paths of Toronto during Fall colours. Sunday, September 29th, 1996. Information: 905-707-0147.

Thank you for making last year's group a success. New groups starting Oct. 1st. 7:30pm Topic: "Why are we afraid to commit to a long term relationship?" Coffee, tea, served. Cost $5.00, profits to Breast Cancer Research , 636-0391 (day or eve.).

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIME OUT! presents its second sensational season! Great way to have fun, meet new people and keep fit. Teams and individuals welcome. **FREE** T-shirt for the first 50 to register.
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Metro Toronto Singles Presents our 1st Annual Washington Trip. Featuring visits to the Holocaust Memorial, Oct. 23rd-26th, almost sold out! For further info. 222-7111.

METRO TORONTO SINGLES presents our 3rd Annual co-ed volleyball season, from November - March. Limited space. $65.00 Call 222-7111.

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מזל טוב

Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription. We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

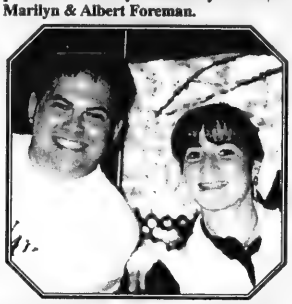
Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 10 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1.

Happy birthday to Joshua Alex Foreman, who turned 3 on July 24. Happy parents are Melanie & Mitchell and proud grandparents are Marilyn & Stanley Beder and Marilyn & Albert Foreman.

Happy first birthday to Samuel Adam Levy from proud parents Edith & Alan Levy and grandparents Ana & Harry Itzcovici and Evelyn & Leo Levy.

Mazel tov to Brenda & Marvin Merrick on the birth in June of their first two grandchildren, Jordana Paige (left), daughter of Heather Merrick & Brian Eker, and Eryn Nicolle, daughter of Lisa & Izzy Nelkin.

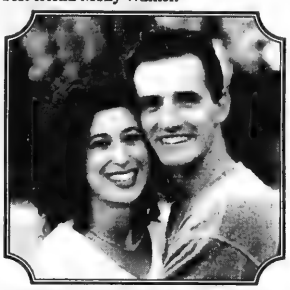
Happy 80th birthday to Sammy (Shimmy) Salsberg, husband of the late Molly Salsberg, from children Barry, Bev & Stan, Karen & Bill, Jerry, 12 grandchildren and best friend Molly Walker.



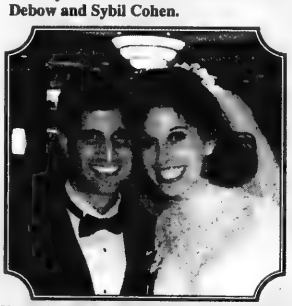
Keren & Chuck Cohen are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Debra to Michael, son of Marvin and the late Phyllis Litvack. Proud bubbies are Eve Debow and Sybil Cohen.

Bethany, daughter of Ralph & Bea Strasberg, and Alan, son of Benny & Freda Bokser are thrilled to announce their engagement. Proud grandparents are Adele Bokser, Pessie Cloth and Leo Frohlich.

Lynne & Jerry Pressman and Paula & Gil Weber announce the engagement of their children Elissa & Kevin. Proud grandparents are Thelma Pressman, Molly Wallerstein and Sarah & Melach Rybak.



Rosaline & Willy Rotstein are happy to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Lana to Shaun, son of Abraham & Vivienne Rootenberg.



Ilana Sherman, daughter of Donald & Janet Sherman, and Louis Hoffer Verny, son of Roslyn Hoffer Verny were married June 16.

Mazel tov to Ben & Ruth Wagman on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 23. Love from your children and grandchildren.

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Auntie Baela & Uncle Sidney Sanders on Sept. 8. All our love, Mark, Ginger, Josie & Erin.

Mazel tov to Rose & Jack Silverberg on their 50th wedding anniversary. With love from Honey, Larry, Alide, Howard, and grandchildren Miriam, Adam, Mike, David, Hayley, Lindsay & Joey.

Happy 15th anniversary to Michele & Adam Bower on Sept. 17 from your loving children, Josh & Vanessa.

Sam & Lil Burke celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 8. Love and best wishes for health and happiness from children Lorne & Paula and grandchildren Sarah and Joanna.

Mazel tov to our parents and Bubbie & Zayde Esther & Murray Swartz, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 1. Love from all the kids.

Happy, healthy 75th birthday to Nathan Arback on Sept. 4. With love from your family.

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Health news

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Mount Sinai surgeon works on Crohn's research

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Dr. Zane Cohen

TORONTO — Dr. Zane Cohen is surgeon in chief at Mount Sinai Hospital and a professor in the department of surgery at the University of Toronto. But one of his major interests is in inflammatory bowel disease, which includes Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Both are chronic diseases of the bowel system, but while Crohn's disease can affect any portion of the digestive system from the mouth to the anus, ulcerative colitis attacks the colon and the rectum.

They tend to appear, Cohen said in an interview, from the late teens to the 30s, occasionally also appearing in the 60s, although, he said, pediatric cases are not unknown.

Symptoms include chronic, sometimes bloody diarhhea and severe pain. Ulcerative colitis can be cured surgically, but care for Chrohn's disease is only symptomatic, including drug therapy and surgery.

Current research suggests there is a strong genetic component, with 10 to 15 percent of patients reporting someone else in the family having one or the other illness.

Jews have a proportionally high rate, especially of Crohn's disease, Cohen said, which seems to agree with the genetic theory.

Mount Sinai, he explained, is involved in a research project on this very theory, together with the Whitehead Institute at Harvard University in Boston.

"We think that several genes are involved, and one or more genes might have to be affected for a person to get one of these diseases," Cohen said.

Cohen is working on the research project with Mount Sinai surgeon Dr. Robin McLeod and physicians Gordon Greenberg, Hillary Steinhart and Kathy Siminovitch; Shelly Bull, from the University of Toronto's department of statistical analysis and the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute; and Dr. Tom Hudson of the Whitehead Insitute at Harvard University.

Funding is provided by the hospital, private sources and peer review granting agencies.

"We are taking blood from both affected and non-affected members of families and sending it to Boston. We are looking for linkages, where certain gene combinations are present," Cohen said.

The results of the blood screening will be returned to Toronto and statistical analysis will be done at U of T.

They hope to have initial results by this winter, Cohen said.

Genetic research is also being done at Johns Hopkins and UCLA in the United States, at Oxford University in England, in France and in Australia. Interestingly, different places appear to be identifying different genes.

"This may be because of the different patient populations or because multiple genes may be involved," Cohen explained.

There are also studies being done on drugs, including Pentasa, an aspirin-like drug; Methotrexate, and Budesonide, to see if they delay recurrence of Crohn's disease symptoms.

Mount Sinai is the site of the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Centre, a 29-bed unit which offers medical and surgical care, but also an in- and out-patient lifestyle centre, where a dietician, social worker, psychiatrist, entrastomal therapist and psychologist help people deal with the diseases' difficult physical, psychological and social aspects.

There are also support groups run from the hospital and a resource centre.

One way to deal with ulcerative colitis is to surgically remove part of the colon and the rectum, and create a stoma, or opening in the abdomen, for waste to come through.

Mount Sinai is known for its work with the internal pelvic pouch, a device which eliminates the need for a stoma in some patients.

The IBD centre also offers professional education and public information nights.

In recognition of the hospital's work in the field, the United Ostomy Association of Canada is marking World Ostomy Day Oct. 5 by presenting proceeds from a fundraising raffle to Cohen at the hospital.

Weizmann explores new method of treating inflammatory disorders

REHOVOT — A potential method for treating rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and other chronic inflammatory disorders has been developed in an animal study conducted by researchers at the Weizmann Institute and Ben-Gurion University.

This approach may also be used to control excessive weight loss such as that occurring in cancer, AIDS and tuberculosis.

The method consists of a new delivery system that provides the organism with a steady supply of a natural therapeutic substance. It was developed by Prof. David Wallach of the Weizmann Institute together with Prof. Joseph Kost and graduate student Rom Eliaz of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

People with rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune disorders characterized by chronic inflammation produce increased amounts of tumor necrosis factor (TNF). While TNF normally kills diseased cells and controls inflammation, it can sometimes get out of hand, causing a variety of illnesses. High levels of TNF are also responsible for excessive disease-related weight loss.

Previous studies have shown that injecting soluble TNF receptors — free-floating molecules that bind with TNF — helps relieve the symptoms in human patients because the receptors absorb TNF.

But the benefits are short-lived, as these receptors are quickly cleared from the body. Attempts to keep them in the blood longer by modifying them prior to injection may fail because the organism is likely to perceive the modified molecules as foreign and develop antibodies against them.

In their research on mice suffering from rheumatoid arthritis and/or excessive weight loss, Wallach and colleagues managed to maintain a steady level of natural TNF receptors in the blood, thereby imitating the process that normally occurs in the body when it tries to ward off the knockout punches of TNF. They achieved this by developing a polymer delivery system that contains TNF receptors and continuously releases them in small amounts.

Mice remained free of symptoms for several weeks after receiving injections of polymer-coated TNF receptors, while those that did not receive the injections developed joint swelling, impaired leg movement or lethal weight loss.

In addition to being effective, this method is also economical because the costly TNF receptors are released gradually in very small amounts.

Health Briefs

Centre for learning disabilities established

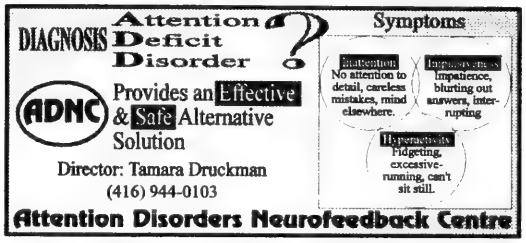
With an initial grant of $150,000 from Women's ORT in Israel, a centre for the diagnosis and care of students with dyslexia and other learning disabilities has been established.

The new centre will help thousands of students receive professional diagnosis, prepare for examinations, keep pace with their day-to-day schoolwork and ease their mainstreaming into regular classes. Thirteen consultants are presently being trained at Haifa University and each student will be matched with a trained volunteer for one-on-one assistance.

* * *

Liver transplant success rate

Israel's liver transplant success rate has reached 78 percent and now equals that of the largest centres in the U.S. and Europe.



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Israel downplays chance of early talks with Syria

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Peace talks with Syria are unlikely to resume in the near future, officials in Jerusalem said last week, after U.S. envoy Dennis Ross finished a three-day visit to the region.

Other officials reiterated that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu refuses to accept as binding previous unwritten understandings tied to the Golan, but only agrees that Israel is "willing to examine ideas" presented in the past.

The state-run Syrian media has suggested that if Netanyahu is not willing to accept previous understandings, there is little to discuss.

Officials admit that it is harder to make concessions to Damascus while Syria is engaging in threatening troop movements on the northern slopes of Mt. Hermon, since any concession would be viewed as yielding to pressure.

Ross departed from his usual habit on regional trips and decided not to visit Syria. Instead, after holding talks with officials in Egypt, the Palestinian Authority and Israel, Ross flew home.

It is not known if this was due to his belief that Damascus will not accept Netanyahu's formula for resumption of talks, or if – as some said – it may mark a form of U.S. displeasure with Syrian military redeployment in Lebanon and on Mt. Hermon.

Formally, the Ross trip was devoted to ensuring that the Cairo economic summit occurs on schedule in November, and to being briefed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai on plans for Hebron redeployment; so there was no need to visit Syria.

It should be noted that Secretary of State Warren Christopher is to meet Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara next week at the UN General Assembly, where they are expected to discuss resuming peace talks and Syrian troop movements.

In related developments, fierce fighting erupted in south Lebanon last week, after two Golani Brigade soldiers were killed and eight others wounded in a clash with Hezbollah gunmen near the northern perimeter of the security zone.

Lt. Tsur Parnas, 21, of Moshav Kidron, and Staff-Sgt. Zohar Mintz, 20, of Kiryat Bialik, were killed in the encounter.

At least three Hezbollah gunmen were believed to have been killed and a number of others wounded in the firefight.

The clash itself occurred near the IDF's Soujud position in the northeastern sector of the zone.

The Golani soldiers were on patrol when they encountered what appears to have been a squad of around a dozen Hezbollah gunmen.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine said the soldiers surprised the terrorists and opened fire.

The Golani soldiers apparently opened fire with machine guns and hurled grenades at the Hezbollah squad, and Parnas was killed in the initial exchange. The soldiers, however, continued to chase the gunmen, and Mintz was fatally wounded in the subsequent clashes.

IAF planes twice struck at Hezbollah bases, and helicopter gunships were also in action.

With files by David Rudge

Israeli Merkava tanks took up positions on the Golan Heights last week. Tensions were heightened after Syria redeployed as many as 12,000 of its troops in Lebanon to the Bekaa Valley and moved some to within striking distance of the Mount Hermon lookout. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Military helicopter goes down at sea

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The navy succeeded last week in locating the acoustic beacon of a Dolphin helicopter that crashed at sea during a routine exercise, but it is on the sea floor at a 650-metre depth. Two of the helicopter's three crew members, Lt.-Col. Zion Bachar and Eran Gravia, the pilot and communications officer, are still missing.

It is assumed that the beacon, which is some 12 nautical miles east of Nahariya, is still attached to the helicopter, but the navy does not have the special equipment needed to lift the Dolphin from such a depth. It is seeking the services of a company that has such equipment to help it retrieve the helicopter, the army said.

The body of the navigator, Capt. Shahak Sela, 24, was located the day after the crash, but the other two have yet to be found and have been declared missing in action.

This was the second fatal helicopter crash the IAF has suffered within six months. Seven soldiers were killed when a Yasur 2000 transport helicopter crashed during a training exercise in the Judean Desert last March.

An inquiry is being conducted into the crash.

The air force said the Dolphin was in good condition, which raises the likelihood that the crash was due to pilot error. The helicopter did not emit any distress signals.

Speaking to military reporters, an IAF spokesperson said the IAF plans to replace its Dolphins with more advanced models that have larger engines. He said he all Dolphins would be ordered grounded, if it is determined that the crash resulted from a mechanical malfunction.

He said the Dolphin was well maintained and that weather conditions were favorable during the exercise. Wind velocity was low and the seas were calm.

The dangers of deterrence

[Cont'd. from page 1]

problem and that of the democracies in the 1930s – even Anthony Eden once compared Nasser to Hitler – have combined to make deterrence a policy axiom since the establishment of the state.

The only real problem with the World War II model is that it doesn't describe every situation. Not all wars are caused by the failure to deter the aggressive intentions of hostile forces. Some result from a misreading of intentions, and from precautionary measures that are misinterpreted by the other side as a prelude to attack.

This leads to pre-emptive or preventive action which turns out, in retrospect, to have been unwarranted.

Of course, it is often difficult to know in advance which situation prevails and which strategy of war-avoidance is therefore more appropriate. But it is vital at the very least to be aware of the dangers of indiscriminately applying "lessons of history" to situations where they may not fit.

All of which brings us back to Syria. If Hafez al-Assad is Hitler and Syria is Nazi Germany, then an Israeli policy of deterrence based on credible threats is the most appropriate way to avoid war.

But this is a difficult analogy to make. The personalities are entirely different, as are the willingness to take risks and the ideological commitment. Most important, the relative resources and capabilities are entirely different.

There is therefore little reason to assume that Assad is bent on a conscious course of military confrontation with Israel. This conclusion should be qualified by two considerations.

Assad may believe that however slight his chances of recovering the Golan by military means, his prospects of doing so through negotiations are even worse. And the missiles at Assad's disposal may persuade him that he can deter Israel from escalating a war, thus limiting the risk he runs – but this safety net may soon disappear if Israel develops an effective anti-missile defence system.

Nevertheless, given global and regional developments, the Israeli-Syrian balance of forces and Assad's demonstrated record of prudence, there isn't much evidence to suggest that the World War II model is applicable to the Syrian-Israeli relationship, as it was in 1973.

The election of Benjamin Netanyahu was greeted in the Syrian media by a barrage of vitriolic propaganda; but Syria had been demonized by the Likud long before the election. It, not Iran, was identified as the primary villain in Lebanon, and threats to respond to Hezbollah attacks by hitting Syrian targets in Lebanon were followed by all kinds of loose speculation about "triple containment."

The heat was then turned up by what could only be inspired leaks, first about Scud-C tests and then about Syrian troop movements – as if to say publicly: "We know about all this, and if it goes too far, we won't repeat the mistake we made in 1973."

In this atmosphere, there is a serious danger that rhetorical escalation and measures and countermeasures meant to anticipate the imagined plans of the other side may result in loss of control. In particular, there is a risk that some flare-up in Lebanon will precipitate a slide into large-scale hostilities no one really intends.

Of course, minimal levels of vigilance and preparedness need to be maintained, but there is also an urgent need to end inflammatory rhetoric (and other sources of anxiety, such as televised reports of exercises and manoeuvres) and to use all channels of communication to convey reassuring messages.

Israel & the Jewish World

Hebron pullout linked to security

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM – Israel Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met last week for nearly four hours on the Palestinian side of the Erez checkpoint, in a bid to hammer out the principles of a Hebron redeployment agreement.

"I met today, for the first time, with [Arafat], the chairman, and a group of people from the Palestinian Authority," Mordechai said at their joint press conference after the meeting.

"We spoke in a serious and pertinent way on a number of issues. We decided that the [steering] committee will convene in the near future and will discuss details, and when it has in its hands the framework of an agreement, we will convene again and discuss further issues on the agenda."

He said he is linking easing the closure with a crackdown on terrorists. "We expect a further effort to tackle the problems still existing on the ground, to prevent unwanted actions and to strengthen security. As long as security is strengthened, we can advance with the processes themselves and do our utmost to ease and support the Palestinian Authority in those areas in which we can do so. I want to thank [Arafat] for hosting me," Mordechai said.

Arafat described the meeting as positive, but when asked if he had agreed to make any changes in the Hebron agreement, he said that "the steering committee will carry on all these details."

"Hebron is a very complicated subject," Mordechai said. "We are trying together to find the best solution for both sides and we will find it."

Looking stern as the meeting opened, Mordechai took Arafat's extended hand and held it for the photographers to snap their photos.

The Palestinian officials who joined Arafat at the meeting have said repeatedly that they will not accept any renegotiation of the Hebron redeployment. So the issue has been how to produce an agreement that will let Israel show it has improved security for Israelis in Hebron, while Arafat can show that it is essentially unchanged.

In related developments, Mordechai's approval of plans to build some 1,800 housing units in the haredi settlement of Mattityahu/Kiryat Sefer, located just over the Green Line in the Modi'in region, raised the ire of the Palestinian Authority, the United States and peace activists.

The State Department's Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross met with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza and was compelled to address the issue of the new settlement housing.

"The decision which has been taken by Mr. Mordechai concerning building new houses is another breach of what has been agreed upon and what has been signed," Arafat said at a press conference.

Ross responded that "the American policy on settlement policy has not changed. We continue to see that it's a problem. We continue to see it's the kind of activity which complicates the negotiating process."

Ross did not use the customary word "obstacle," which Palestinians see as a stronger condemnation than "problem."

Settlement policy is a balancing act

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israel's new settlement policy, unveiled recently by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, is essentially a balancing act on the part of a government which feels intense pressures from all sides.

Mideast Analysis

The policy spells finis to a four-year freeze on construction in existing settlements in the territories. It obviously pleases Jewish settlers and their supporters who chafed under the previous government's restrictions.

Netanyahu's policy, however, is based on the principle of gradualism and, more importantly, it does not sanction the building of *new* settlements. In this respect, it is something of a disappointment to hardliners in Israel's nationalist camp.

In essence, Netanyahu's policy seeks to placate various constituencies.

On the one hand, it appeases the majority in his right-wing coalition who want to continue the process of consolidating Israel's control over the territories, where Palestinian Arabs far outnumber Jews.

On the other hand, it sends an implicit signal to Washington, the Palestinians and the Arab states that Israel will not be bound by the wishes of Jewish extremists.

The policy is a source of general satisfaction to settlers because, in Netanyahu's own words, it theoretically gives Jews ''the unqualified right ... to settle anywhere in the Land of Israel.'' More than anything else, this is a reference to the West Bank.

The former government, led by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, distinguished between ''political'' and ''security'' settlements. The first category was deemed expendable, while the second was considered to be in Israel's vested interests.

Netanyahu rejects such distinctions and thereby opens up the West Bank to wholesale Jewish settlement. ''The previous government placed chains and bonds upon the natural development of settlements,'' said Netanyahu, referring to Rabin's decision to limit the scope of private construction in the territories.

For pragmatic reasons, Rabin and Peres finished building approximately 10,000 housing units begun by the Likud administration. In addition, they permitted another 4,000 units to be built in areas they intended to keep after a final agreement with the Palestinians: Jerusalem's hinterland, Gush Etzion and segments of northern Samaria closest to the Green Line.

A committee which monitored and supposedly controlled this activity was left to die, and thus Netanyahu ended Rabin's and Peres' settlement freeze.

But in a little-noticed decision, Netanyahu refused to re-establish a ministerial committee on settlement expansion the old Likud government had created. By implication, Ariel Sharon — the minister of national infrastructure and probably the settlers' loudest advocate in the cabinet — was denied a central role in the management of settlements.

Sharon's apparent marginalization, together with the government's move to concentrate decision-making powers on settlements in the hands of Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, was doubtless meant to convey a message to the United States and the Arabs.

The message, as expressed by Netanyahu in his first interview with a Palestinian newspaper (*al-Quds*, published in East Jerusalem), is ambivalent at best.

The expansion of settlements, he declared, will unfold ''without limits but under government supervision.''

By all accounts, Netanyahu wishes to focus on building blocs of settlements around Israel's major cities and along the system of bypass roads started by the Labor government to improve the settlers' security.

Work already has begun on these projects. On Aug. 27, the cabinet approved the first phase of a new neighborhood in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Sefer. And on Sept. 2, a new bypass road linking Jerusalem to settlements south of the capital was officially inaugurated.

The anticipated building boom is expected to attract some 50,000 settlers during Likud's four-year mandate, according to Pinchas Wallerstein, chair of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

And while this is an impressive figure, settlers like Wallerstein would prefer to increase the Jewish population in the territories by 300,000 to 500,000 people.

In order to mollify the Palestinians, who consider the expansion of settlements as a violation of the Oslo accords, Netanyahu will probably proceed far more slowly, hewing to levels tolerated by Rabin and Peres.

During their watch, the Jewish population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip grew from 96,000 to 145,000. In citing these figures during his first official trip to the United States in July, Netanyahu said, ''I assume that no one here is expecting us to do less.''

This, in a nutshell, is the direction Netanyahu's settlement policy will probably take.

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The Week in Israel

Sept. 16

• Media reports indicated Israel's population of 5.72 million is comprised of approximately 4.62 million Jews (80.8 percent), 835,000 Muslims (14.6 percent), 166,000 Christians (2.9 percent) and 95,000 Druze (1.7 percent).

• Israel's increase in inflation for August was 0.4 percent. It was the lowest for that month in 21 years. Inflation for the first eight months of the year was 7.7 percent.

Sept. 17

• Nurses across Israel held a one-day strike, calling for larger hospital nursing staffs. Union leaders said patients were being denied needed treatment because of the shortage of nurses.

Sept. 18

• U.S. Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross arrived in Israel after holding talks in Cairo with Egyptian officials and in Gaza with Yasser Arafat. In Cairo, Ross sought a firm commitment from the Egyptian government to hold the regional economic conference planned for November.

• Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani decided to extend the appointment of National Police Commissioner Assaf Heffetz by one year. Heffetz was scheduled to complete his three-year term as police head in April 1997. His term will continue until January 1998.

Sept. 19

• Shimon Peres announced that he would not run for prime minister in the year 2,000. The announcement came as as a Labor party report blamed Benjamin Ben-Eliezer and other Labor officials for losing the May elections.

Sept. 20

• Uri Lubrani, Israel's chief policy maker on Lebanon played down any link between recent Syrian troop movments and Hezbollah action in the area.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

Alzheimer Disease International is holding its 11th annual conference in Jerusalem Oct. 8 to Oct. 11 at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza. Approximately 600 people are expected to attend.

See JN

AT THE KOTEL

An "honorable mention" from our Rosh Hashanah photo contest. [Steve Mock photo]

France up in arms over Le Pen

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS – France's political establishment has been up in arms over how to deal with the leader of the extreme-right National Front after he openly espoused racial inequality.

Jean-Marie Le Pen, who once dismissed the Nazi gas chambers as "a mere detail in the history of World War II," caused an uproar after he said in a radio interview recently: "To say that the races are unequal is a fact, an unremarkable statement."

He cited as an example the "obvious difference between white and black athletes" during the Olympic Games.

Le Pen, who has repeatedly denied that he is racist or anti-Semitic, won 15 percent of the vote in last year's French presidential election.

Henri Hajdenberg, president of CRIF, the umbrella organization of secular Jewish groups in France, said Le Pen's "ideology recalls that of the Nazis. We haven't heard this type of language in Europe since 1945. Not only is Jean-Marie Le Pen an anti-Semite who has been convicted several times by French courts, but he is also a racist."

Some political leaders responded to Le Pen's latest remarks by calling for his anti-immigrant party to be banned; others demanded that he be taken to court for inciting racial hatred.

"I will not be intimidated by the demonstrations or the threats of a thought police," Le Pen said in response to the outcry.

Justice Minister Jacques Toubon rejected calls to ban the Front as unconstitutional, but considered taking legal action against its 68-year-old leader.

But Toubon later changed his mind after the public prosecutor said Le Pen's remarks were too vague to be punished by existing legislation.

"If legal action was taken against Mr. Le Pen, it would be futile." Toubon told the daily newspaper *Liberation*.

Inciting racial hatred is a crime in France punishable by up to one year in prison, a $60,000 fine and a five-year ban on holding public office.

Toubon has vowed to stiffen France's hate laws to punish "indirect provocation, indirect calls for racist acts, hatred, violence or discrimination based on race" and said he would try to present a draft bill to Parliament when its autumn session opens in October.

He also wants to toughen sanctions for racist crimes and speed up trials for their perpetrators.

France, along with Germany and Belgium, now has some of the most stringent laws against espousing racial hatred in the 15-nation European Union, which has attempted, but so far failed, to develop a unified legislative stance.

86-year-old widow attacked

PARIS – The widow of a Jewish man whose body was disinterred in 1990 by five skinheads was attacked and beaten by an unidentified man.

The incident occurred after the woman had publicly rejected an apology from one of the vandals responsible for the cemetery desecration.

Magdeleine Germon, 86, was hospitalized with head injuries after a young man, posing as a mail carrier, entered her apartment.

After threatening to kill her, he beat and attempted to suffocate her before fleeing when neighbors were alerted by her screams.

The day before, Germon had appeared on television to say she would not forgive Bertrand Nouveau, one of four former neo-Nazis who confessed to removing the body of her husband, Felix, from his grave in the Jewish cemetery in the southern town of Carpentras in 1990.

From his prison cell, where he has been held since his arrest in August, Nouveau expressed his apologies to Germon and to "the entire Jewish population," saying that he had been influenced by the "hateful and xenophobic stance" of the extreme-right National Front.

It was unclear whether the attack on Germon was motivated by the cemetery desecration or by her televised comments.

"I have received threats, and so has she, by telephone or in the mail," said Germon's lawyer, Jean-Marc Fedida, who added that the threats had increased since the skinheads' arrests, which ended a six-year investigation.

The arrests came after four of the five neo-Nazi skinheads confessed in August to the May 1990 desecration of the Carpentras cemetery. The fifth member of the group was said to have died in a motorcycle accident.

The four said they had desecrated 34 graves and disinterred Felix Germon's body to pay tribute to Adolf Hitler and to mark the anniversary of Germany's surrender, May 8, 1945.

The desecration caused an uproar in France and sent 100,000 people, including then-president Francois Mitterrand, to voice their outrage in a mass demonstration.

– L.Y.

Down's syndrome artist designs Israeli stamps

By DANIEL KEREN
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK — The Israel Postal Authority recently released a series of three commemorative postage stamps that celebrate the inauguration of the New Year 5757.

The stamps were designed by a talented artist — Sahar Pick — who was born in 1973 with Down's syndrome.

This is the first time that Israel has taken advantage of the artistic skills of an individual born with Down's syndrome.

Also known as Trisomy 21, the syndrome occurs in one out of 500 or 600 people. It is characterized by moderate to severe developmental delay; heart or kidney malformations or both; and abnormal dermal ridge patterns on fingers, palms and soles.

In recent years, special educators have developed techniques to help children born with Down's syndrome realize their full potential. Pick's parents who live in Carmiel, a development town in the Galilee, decided that their son should live as normal a life as possible.

They insisted on his attending a regular kindergarten and he was later enrolled in the Moriah State Religious School in Carmiel, where he completed Grade 6.

Afterwards, Pick studied at the Rogavic School at the Amal Junior High School for Special Education in Kiryat Haim and at the youth immigration boarding school on Moshav Nehalim. At the age of 17, he was accepted into a nursing course at the WIZO Hadassah Institute in Jerusalem, where he made a name for himself as a highly motivated, serious and responsible student.

Together with other members of the course, Pick volunteered to take part in activities of the IDF, where he received the title of Distinguished Divisional Soldier.

While in Jerusalem, Pick studied art privately with artist Ruth Beckman-Malka. Beckman-Malka has designed numerous commemorative stamp issues for the Israel Postal Authority, the most recent being the 1996 Memorial Day stamp released in April to honor those members of the Israeli Police Force who have given up their lives in the line of duty to protect their fellow countrymen.

At the age of 21, Pick enlisted for full military service as a "volunteer." During this time, he continued to study art, taking lessons from artist Deni Hazbani. Pick won scholarships as a result of his art.

Sahar Pick

Upon recently completing his 2½ years of voluntary service in the Israeli army, Pick gained employment with the Carmiel Community Centre and is now responsible for designing the costumes of the various dance groups that perform in the centre.

The set of three Israeli stamps will include symbolic art Pick designed to communicate popular motifs of the Jewish festivals of Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

Featured on the 1.05-shekel stamp is a bowl of honey and two lighted candles. During the festive meal, both challah and an apple are dipped in the honey and a prayer is recited to symbolize the hope that the coming new year should be a sweet one for all the Jewish people around the world.

Highlighted on the 1.60-shekel stamp are a variety of decorations that are traditionally employed in decorating a sukkah, the temporary dwelling place that recalls the booths that the children of Israel lived in following their exodus from Egypt. The decorating of the sukkah is often done by the children and contributes to the holiday atmosphere of Sukkot.

Completing the stamps designed by Pick is the 1.90-shekel stamp, which offers a colorful illustration of the inside of a synagogue at Simchat Torah, when the last portion from sefer Devarim (Deuteronomy) are read and the first verses from sefer Bereishit (Genesis) are recited, thus completing the annual cycle of Torah readings in the synagogue that began on the previous Simchat Torah. Pick chose to illustrate the Torah scroll being raised for all in the synagogue to see, illuminated by the colorful lights shining overhead.

Argentina compensates Jew tortured by military

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES – An elderly Argentine Jew who lives in the United States has expressed delight at having lived long enough to see justice done in his lengthy legal battle against the Argentine government.

In a landmark international human rights case, Jose Siderman won compensation from Argentina for torture and loss of property, after 20 years of harassment and legal struggle.

Siderman blamed endemic Argentine anti-Semitism for many of his problems.

"Since I was born in Argentina, because I'm Jewish, I have had many difficulties," Siderman said. "If you're Jewish in Argentina, you have 50 to 60 percent less chance of succeeding than any other Argentine."

With an unprecedented trial in an American court where a foreign government is being accused of crimes committed on its own soil, Argentina dispatched two emissaries who agreed to a sealed out-of-court settlement with Siderman, who is now 85 and living in Los Angeles.

Although the accord stipulated that the terms remain secret, the *Los Angeles Times* quoted published accounts from Buenos Aires that put Siderman's compensation at $6 million (US).

The *New York Times* cited a source who said the Argentine government "had agreed to pay a sizable monetary settlement to Mr. Siderman, his wife and their three children, and to acknowledge that they had been victimized by Argentina's former military regime."

Siderman and his attorneys from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California clearly considered the agreement a moral and financial victory.

Siderman's struggle started March 24, 1976, when a military junta began its "dirty war" against alleged subversives.

That night, soldiers knocked on the door of Siderman's home in the northwestern province of Tucuman, screaming, "Jew son of a whore, open the door."

Taken to a police command post, Siderman, then 65, was tortured with electric shocks and lit cigarettes, three of his ribs were broken and one of his testicles was crushed.

Siderman was released after seven days, and three months later fled with his family and settled in the United States, where one of his daughters lived.

The junta in Buenos Aires took over Siderman's property, estimated in court records at $26.4-million, and continued to harass the expatriate.

Claiming that Siderman had left Argentina illegally and falsified records, the government issued an international warrant for his arrest.

On the strength of the Interpol warrant, Siderman was arrested while on a visit to Italy and held for seven months.

The next year, Siderman, joined by the ACLU, filed suit against Argentina in U.S. District Court, marking the beginning of a 14-year legal journey.

Initially, the court awarded Siderman a $2.7-million default judgment against Argentina.

However, the Argentine government successfully appealed the verdict on the grounds that it could not be sued in a U.S. court for its treatment of Siderman, a position backed by the U.S. State Department.

Siderman found himself back at square one.

The case lay dormant for some years, during which Siderman returned to Argentina and unsuccessfully pleaded for compensationfrom the new civilian government, which had dismissed all the junta's charges against him.

However, in 1992, the case got a new life when a U.S. appeals court ruled that Argentina had unintentionally laid itself open to American jurisdiction. The reason was that in 1981, the junta, in its relentless pursuit of Siderman, had sought his arrest through papers filed with the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

In the next three years, Argentina unsuccessfully fought the appeals court's decision up to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Finally, this month, facing the possibility of becoming the first foreign government to be tried in the United States for human rights abuses committed within its own borders, Argentina responded to Siderman's earlier pleas for a negotiated settlement.

"The main message of this case to foreign governments is that if someone flees your country, you better not come after him in the United States," said ACLU attorney Paul Hoffman, who worked on Siderman's case.

"You better not hurt or harass him in this country, because then your government will be open to justice in the courts of the United States," Hoffman added. "That's an extremely important principle for every family seeking refuge in this country from torture or oppression."

Siderman said in an interview that anti-Semitism continues in Argentina despite the change to a democratic government.

"Anti-Semitism is the basic sentiment of all Argentines, except for a select few in public life," he said.

His son, Carlos Siderman, added that "without doubt, nothing has changed in Tucuman province," where the same general who conducted a particularly brutal "dirty war" against dissidents and Jews has now been elected governor.

Restraint urged on E. Jerusalem demolitions

By BILL HUTMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week urged Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to act with restraint when dealing with demolitions in east Jerusalem, because of the sensitivity to the subject shown by the Palestinians and the international community, government sources said.

The request was largely aimed at avoiding a showdown over the alleged illegal construction recently discovered next to Al-Aksa Mosque.

Netanyahu wants Olmert to hold off on taking action against the Wakf, the Muslim religious authority in charge of Al-Aksa, the sources said.

He also would like Olmert to delay demolishing an illegally constructed Palestinian home in the Old City, which had been slated for demolition, the sources said.

One source said that in both cases, "there is no question that the construction is illegal. But the timing [for taking action] is not right."

Another source said Olmert acted hastily on the Temple Mount construction, and should have tried to deal with the situation using "quieter channels."

The issue of demolitions was raised during a meeting between Netanyahu, Olmert, and other government and security officials.

They were presented with a report showing that some of the alleged illegal construction by the Wakf had halted. About 10 days ago, the Wakf was presented with a court order to halt all of the construction, on the grounds that it was being carried out without a permit.

Municipal sources said building inspectors would ascertain whether the order was being obeyed.

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It was a record-breaking summer for new memberships at the **Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto**. The concept of letting people choose for themselves who they would like to meet by viewing biography/profiles and photographs has swept Toronto singles with a passion. New members are joining on a **daily** basis, a good number of whom are referrals from friends who are already part of the **J.S.R.** network. **Most individuals are dating within a week or so of joining the service**. It is that easy! Membership is now well over 1,100 members and counting.

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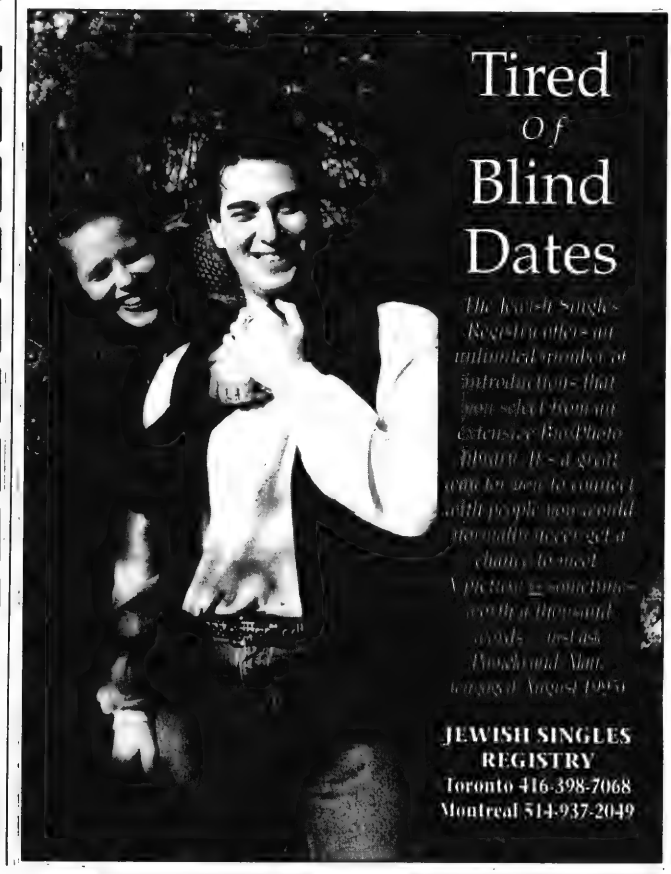

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Labor blamed for economic woes

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The former Israeli Labor government's "departure from fiscal consolidation" and "expansionary fiscal policy" led to the present deterioration in the current-account deficit, a surge in consumer imports and accelerating inflation, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) statement issued last week.

"I'm sure we made mistakes," said former economics and planning minister Yossi Beilin. "We could have cut more, but it was difficult to do this before the elections."

Former finance minister Avraham Shohat defended his record, saying the Labor government did not stray from the path of fiscal consolidation.

"I don't want to enter a row with the IMF," said Shohat. However, he stressed that he disagreed with the IMF analysis. "The problems were not caused by spending, but a failure in the ability to collect revenue."

The IMF recommended that the government continue its budget cuts program, reduce spending and implement its structural reform program, which supports the Bank of Israel-Finance Ministry's efforts to put the economy back on track.

Prior to the publication of the report there was intense speculation in the Hebrew media that the IMF would severely criticize the state of the economy. Indeed, the report does express considerable concern about a variety of negative trends, but it sums up by saying the policies currently being put in place could well solve the difficulties.

The absorption of new immigrants is proving to be successful, writes the five-member IMF group, which was headed by the deputy director of its European section Michael Deppler. Israel now has full employment, even over-employment, given the number of foreign workers here.

However, the potential of this new immigrant workforce remains to be fully tapped.

On a positive note, the IMF said, "The new government is fully committed to relieving these strains through its policies of fiscal consolidation, disinflation and structural reform."

If these are closely followed, there is a "good" chance this will lead to "a more sustainable growth path with rising living standards, declining inflation, near- current levels of unemployment, a more competitive real exchange rate and a viable balance of payments."

However, the IMF feels there is little room for manoeuvre, and the policies must be brought to bear in a "coordinated and integrated fashion."

Russian Jews discuss a range of issues in *Dinner With Friends.*

Russian Jews sit and chat at a TV dinner

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Dinner With Friends is an interesting television concept. Host/dinner guest Barry Cooke, a psychologist and teacher, sits down at a table with a group of people from an ethnic community and engages them in a lively conversation.

On Oct. 9 at 8:30 p.m. on Vision TV, Cooke meets Russians, or, to be more precise, Russian Jews, and elicits a spectrum of observations from them.

In this episode, the conversation flows freely as his guests discuss life under communism, the status of Jews in the old Soviet Union, their level of religious observance and Canadian democracy.

They are a mixed lot, differing in age, experience, loquaciousness and conviviality.

Not surprisingly, they express contempt for the Communist system. But an elderly woman admits that she enjoyed a full cultural and social life in the former Soviet Union.

"To be a Jew in Russia was a very hard task," says a middle-aged man, delving into an oft-discussed topic.

[Cont'd. on page 39]

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TAB news

Two-hour stroll of London's Old Jewish Quarter

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

LONDON, ENGLAND — At the doorway of Britain's oldest synagogue, tucked away in a gated courtyard in the area of London's financial district, stands Henry, the young-looking bearded *shammes*, black silk top hat in hand. Today the hat is being used to collect donations; on Shabbat, it is still worn by worshippers honored with an aliyah to read from the Torah.

A half-hour stop at the Bevis Marks Synagogue, which has about 200 members and holds services four days a week, is without question the highlight of the two-hour walking tour of London's Old Jewish Quarter (''a shtetl called Whitechapel'') offered by a company called The Original London Walks.

Built in 1701 and modelled after Amsterdam's then 25-year-old Portuguese Synagogue, the Bevis Marks Synagogue is rich with symbolism and dark wood. For special occasions, the candles in the original seven gold chandeliers — representing Shabbat and the six days of creation — are lit by hand, a task that takes 45 minutes to complete. (There are also electric lights, which together with the floor constitute the only non-original parts of the synagogue.)

The seats, some of which predate the building, include a roped-off one reserved at one time for Sir Moses Montefiore and now specified for his direct descendants, although exceptions have been made for royalty (Prince Philip in 1951) and for the Lord Mayor of London.

Petticoat Lane

As historic as the synagogue is, it's a relative newcomer in British history. The first stop on the walking tour is at the ruin of London's city wall dating back to Roman times.

Tour guide Steve (a musician and actor with a flair for the dramatic) provides a zippy crash course in British Jewish history from the time of William the Conqueror (1066) into the 20th century.

Before the Jews were expelled from Britain in 1290, it was ''difficult, nay, impossible'' for them to work in the city's church-run guilds or livery companies, said Steve. With royal sanction to become merchants and moneylenders, they prospered, but suffered persecution.

Following the expulsion, before the Jews were formally invited back in 1650 by Oliver Cromwell, there was still a Jewish presence in the country, said Steve, albeit in the form of Conversos such as Dr. Roderigo Lopez, who is generally believed to be the prototype for Shylock in Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice.*

The East End walking tour encompasses the area that was home to Jewish immigrants from Russia and Poland from the 1880s into the early decades of this century — ''the worst and most notorious slum in London.''

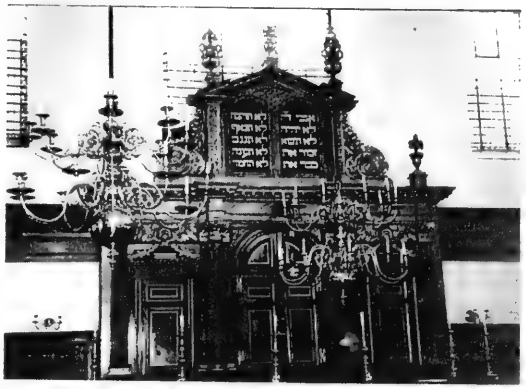
Today London's Jewish community, which numbers close to 200,000, is mostly concentrated in the northwest part of the city. Golders Green, where Jews first settled during World War I, has many amenities such as kosher butchers, bakeries and bed and breakfast establishments.

Sites seen on the tour of Old Jewish London include Petticoat Lane, known for its outdoor market, a Jewish soup kitchen established in 1902 and — a sign of the times — a former synagogue that is now a mosque, a reflection of a newer generation of immigrants to inhabit the East End.

* * *

The Original London Walks can be reached at P.O. Box 1708, London NW6 4LW or, by phone, 0171-624-3978. Complete information is available on the Internet at [http://www.bogo.co.uk/London.Walks]. Adult prices are approximately $9.

Other specialty walks include two Beatles walks (''In My Life'' and Magical Mystery Tour), Ghosts of the Old City, Legal London and Sherlock Holmes & the Baker St. Beat.



The Bevis Marks Synagogue is rich with symbolism and dark wood. On special occasions, the candles in the seven gold chandeliers are lit by hand, a task that takes 45 minutes. [Frances Kraft photo]

Dinner with Russians

[Cont'd. from page 38]

Some Jews, he notes, tried to conceal their origins so as not to be burdened by anti-Semitism. Citing an example, he mentions Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the fascistic and clownish Russian politician whose father was a Jew.

Speaking of the virtual impossibility of emigrating from the Soviet Union before the early 1970s, another guest comments that the 1967 Six Day War encouraged Jews to apply for exit visas.

They tell us that they kept their distance from synagogues because they feared losing their jobs. A younger man explains that, while he is not observant, he feels Jewish and has a kinship with Jewish history.

The challenge on adapting to a new society in Canada has not been easy for them. Apart from having had to master English, these Russian Jews had to learn Canadian ''patterns of behavior'' and, one 30ish woman says, how to smile.

Having been raised in a totalitarian society where public rudeness was the norm, they are impressed with Canadian democracy and with the politeness of people on the street.

One can understand and empathize with Cooke's guests. They give voice to the views and feelings of thousands of Russian Jewish immigrants in Canada.

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Streets Of St. Petersburg

On our first day in St. Petersburg, Russia, we took a tour that showed off the magnificence of this city of exquisite palaces, cathedrals, *prospekts* and Venetian-style canals.

We saw the Peter and Paul Fortress, Nevsky Prospekt, Palace Square, the Admiralty, several cathedrals with swirling onion domes, miscellaneous grand palaces and the Hermitage, one of the world's great art museums.

We also peeked into a few hotels and department stores, each with security guards posted prominently. Even our tour bus featured an unarmed guard.

"Of course we have some crime, but not as much as Los Angeles, Detroit or Miami," said Anna Kornilieva, our tour guide. "I saw an American television documentary about St. Petersburg and the new Russian mafia, and I didn't recognize my own city. It was a Hollywood fantasy."

Perhaps unfairly, this exquisite Baltic jewel has attained a reputation as a crime-infested city where murders, kidnappings, robberies, shoot-outs and sidewalk scams are common. The city comes across as a sort of lawless megapolis of the Eurasian Wild East, paralleling the American Wild West of the last century.

History might have something to do with it, since it was the anger of these people, or at least that of their grandparents, that sparked the Russian Revolution. The bus pulled into Revolution Square, scene of massive bloody confrontations in 1905 and 1917. As I hopped out to photograph the statues in the square, a Lada rushing recklessly by nearly hit me.

By contrast, the grand halls of the Hermitage seemed peaceful. Formerly belonging to the Czars, this series of palaces is now one of the world's foremost art museums, housing millions of works. The Hidden Treasures, a collection of dozens of impressionist canvases by Van Gogh, Degas, Matisse, Cezanne, Picasso and other celebrated modern artists, were being exhibited.

Emboldened after 50 years of secrecy, the Russians are proudly displaying these priceless paintings which they confiscated from Germany at the end of World War II. Few here agree that Russia should return them to the Germans, just as few can forget Germany's 900-day wartime siege of this city, then called Leningrad.

On my second day in St. Petersburg, I decided to forego another prepackaged tour, and ventured out independently. Since the public buses are crowded and unpredictable, I tried hitchhiking, a common and acceptable form of commuting, especially by tourists.

There are not enough taxis in this city of five million, so visitors rely on the kindness of strangers – plus a few American dollars or their equivalent in rubles – to get around. All one has to do is stand at the curb and gesture towards an approaching vehicle as if hailing a cab. Chances are pretty good that it will stop.

The rules are fairly straightforward. Keep out of cars with several passengers for safety reasons. Avoid foreign cars, which are impossible to repair. Don't get into a shiny, late-model European car because the driver may be a gangster. If it's an old Lada carrying only the driver – hop in.

A suitable car stopped almost as soon as I began gesturing at curbside. Twenty minutes later, the driver let me off by the Aeroflot building on Nevsky Prospekt.

I recently spent a few hours retracing my steps through St. Petersburg, courtesy of Lonely Planet's city guide for St. Petersburg ($16.95). This slim guidebook, which slides easily into a pocket or purse, offers excellent descriptions of all relevant sites and plenty of maps, color photographs and museum floor plans.

* * *

Travel Stories Wanted: *Travelers' Tales* is a new series of travel books that attempts to provide a deeper cultural and literary background for each destination. The books on San Francisco and Hong Kong, for instance, are filled with a wide variety of stories that won't help you get around in either of these cities but will help you understand their respective characters.

The editors are seeking unique travel tales. For submission guidelines, write to 10 Napier Lane, San Francisco CA 94133, send e-mail to ttguidelines@online.ora.com, or visit the website at [www.ora.com/ttales/].

Israeli Tourism Ministry hopes more Canadians will visit

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The chilled relations between Israeli and PLO peace negotiators since the recent election and last winter's string of Hamas bombings are among the factors that have led to a decrease of tourism in 1996, acknowledges Arie Sommer, Israel's new tourism commissioner for North America.

Based in New York, Sommer recently met about 30 local travel industry officials during a lunch hosted by the Israel Government Tourist Office (IGTO) in Toronto. Afterwards, he told them that the Israeli Ministry of Tourism has high hopes for increasing the number of Canadians travelling to Israel.

"We have a lot of plans for Canada for the next year," he said. "Over the next five or six years, we hope to double the traffic from Canada."

While IGTO director Ruth Ben-Tzur puts the number of Canadians who visited Israel last year at about 52,000, Samuel Kalev, El Al's representative for Ontario and Western Canada, provides a more conservative estimate of about 48,000. Whatever the actual numbers, Israeli tourism officials are keen to see them rise, and clearly see the potential for Israel to draw more than 100,000 Canadians annually by 2002.

Pilgrimage

Sommer said that while his office intended to increase efforts to woo the Christian pilgrimage market, it wouldn't neglect the Jewish market.

"For years we didn't pay much attention to the Jewish market, on the assumption that the Jews would come to Israel because they are Jewish. But we've found that many Jews from North America have never visited Israel."

Explaining that Israel is perceived as an "emotional and historical destination" and that the most effective method of persuasion involves "word of mouth," Stanley Morais, an IGTO official, played a videotape of a 30-second television commercial that has already started airing on CBC NewsWorld and other stations across Canada. In the commercial, a man tells his friend about his incredible trip to Israel, saying, "I couldn't believe it. It was like I could see with my eyes what I've always felt with my heart."

That's precisely the sort of message that "is going to get the adrenalin flowing in the public," according to Sara Pachter, senior Israel travel consultant for Fisher-Fremont Travel, 535 Eglinton Ave. W. "I think that the constant repetition of that message is going to be enormously helpful to us in selling Israel to the Canadian public."

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

People Of The Book

As we turn the page into the New Year of 5757, Eye On Arts presents its second annual survey of what some people in our community involved in the world of arts and letters are currently reading:

• **Sheldon Godfrey**, who last year co-authored (with Judith Godfrey) *Search Out The Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867* (McGill-Queen's U.), puts suspense novelists John Grisham and Ken Follett high on his list of favorite authors.

"I'm reading some old books at the moment – I have *Duddy Kravitz* beside my bed and James Michener's *Alaska*, which I'm just about finished. It's one of his epics, starting with prehistory and coming right up to the present moment. It's brilliant."

• **Erna Paris**, whose recent book *The End Of Days: A Story of Tolerance, Tyranny and the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain* is soon to be released by Key-Porter Books in paperback, is reading *The Politics of Memory: The Journey of A Holocaust Historian*, by Raul Hilberg.

"I'm finding it very sad, actually, that a man of such distinction and accomplishment seems to have had so little satisfaction from his exceptional career. Hilberg wrote the definitive book on the Holocaust, called *The Destruction of the European Jews*. He seems to be very bitter about the battles he has had to fight and the controversies that have surrounded his work. I'm saddened by his apparent lack of resolution of these personal and professional issues."

• **Dr. Shel Krakofsky**, whose book of poetry *Blind Messiah* won a Jewish Book Prize this year, is currently reading Cynthia Ozick's *Fame & Folly* (Knopf), a book of essays. "She is, as usual, brilliant, sensitive and combative," he says.

As well, he is reading *Fugitive Pieces*, by Ann Michaels (McClelland and Stewart), about a Greek archeologist who rescues a boy from the Holocaust and eventually brings him to Toronto.

"A hilarious romp"

"It's a beautifully written book but it lacks verisimilitude. Nevertheless, it's a significant work of art and I think it will win the Governor General's Award."

Krakofsky is also reading *Therapy*, by David Lodge (Viking), which he describes as "a hilarious satirical romp about British psychiatry and the world of writing."

• **Helen Redner**, who has been the director of Toronto's annual Jewish Book Fair since 1980, has just begun reading *Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor: Being the First Jane Austen Mystery*, by Stephanie Barron, a mystery novel featuring the famed British novelist as a character.

"I'm reading it because Jane Austen is a favorite author of mine, not just because of her new-found popularity. It seems like a fun idea to feature her as a sleuth. It's quite a change for me, since I spend so much time reading publishers' catalogues and book reviews for the book fairs."

• Toronto-based screenwriter **Len Blum** has recently been occupied with *The Agony of Czechoslovakia, 38/68*, by Kurt Weisskopf (Elek/Ryerson). He notes that in 1938, the invading Germans replaced Czech-language street signs in Prague with bilingual signs with German predominant.

"I find it telling that the Germans understood that it was important to the psychological oppression of the Czech people to assert their own language visibly. Naturally I'm compelled to read this book for its own sake, but I'm surprised to find similarities to certain conditions in Canada – namely the language battles currently being waged in Montreal."

• **Ruby Newman**, a lecturer of humanities and women's studies at York University, is currently reading *The Shadow Man*, a memoir by novelist Mary Gordon.

According to Newman, the author describes her attempts to understand her late father, who converted from Judaism to Catholicism and lied about the main events of his life. The book, she says, is "a daughter's search for her father and also a search for her own Jewishness."

• And me? At the moment, I'm halfway through *Possession*, by A.S. Byatt, who also wrote the novel upon which the wonderful movie *Angels and Insects* was based.

Set in contemporary England, *Possession* describes discoveries made and secrets held by a coterie of literary scholars specializing in the life and work of a revered Victorian poet. It's both a satire of our prurient need for overblown literary biographies and a genuine romantic adventure, full of breathtaking prose and surprises. Although weighted down with whimsical Victorian poetry, it's still a great read.

Theme hotel to open by late 1998

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Israel's first theme hotel, the Eilat Queen of Sheba Hilton, is due to open at the end of 1998, according to real estate developer Yitzhak Tshuva, who is building the 450-room hotel.

Tshuva signed a contract with Hilton International, which is to manage the property. In addition to being built on a Queen of Sheba theme, similar in style to Sun City in South Africa, the hotel is to have half its rooms built as apartment units, which are to be sold to private buyers.

"The hotel is on the only privately owned beachfront property in Eilat," Tshuva said. "Each buyer will be registered in Tabu."

The hotel, Tshuva said, would be more luxurious than anything existing until now in Israel. It will have a large public commercial recreation and restaurant complex on the ground floor, he said.

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Montreal teen dreams of World Cup of soccer

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — If Canada is lucky enough to make it into the next World Cup of soccer — slated for 1998 in France — don't be surprised if a Jewish Montrealer is playing defence.

Adam Braz seems to be well on his way.

At only 15, Braz, a resident of St. Laurent, is one of only three Quebecers — and the only Canadian Jew — to be selected to the national junior "elite" team in the age 17 and under category.

Braz, a student at Herzliyah-St. Laurent, is laid back about his feat.

But there's no doubt that Braz, who is already a strapping 6 feet tall, is in love with the game that has dominated the international sports scene just about everywhere except North America.

"It's not a slow game like some people think," said Braz in an interview, accompanied by his dad, Roni, himself a former soccer player in Israel.

"It's exciting and it's intense."

Braz hopes to be a professional soccer player one day, even while recognizing the odds are stacked against him — or even Canada — getting to the World Cup.

As it is, even making it to his age-group equivalent — the World Youth Cup in 1997 in Egypt — will be tough enough.

First, his Canadian team will have to do well at a junior tournament in Bermuda next month, and then in August in Trinidad and Tobago at a qualifying match for the World Youth Cup.

Since only three of 16 teams competing in Trinidad and Tobago will qualify, it will take some doing for Canada to make the grade.

Roni Braz saw the potential in Adam, then a student at Royal Vale, at the young age of seven, when Roni was coaching a house league team and saw right away that his son had "very fast, very good control of the ball."

Adam Braz took to the game right away and moved up the ranks year by year, graduating to provincial "selection" teams and competing in the Jeux de Quebec and Canadian age-group championships.

At the most recent try for the Canadian title, Braz scored two of the Quebec squad's total of four goals even though he was playing defence.

Last year, Braz was a member of the age-group Canadian national team competing at the l'Image Internationale tournament in France.

Braz's approach to the game is to try to "visualize" the action befor taking the field.

His lankiness and height is above average for a soccer player, and growing any taller will be a disadvantage because "his eyes will be further away from the ball," his father said.

To stay in shape, Braz practices five times a week, up to two hours a day, year-round, including some weight-training.

But his father stresses that it is Adam, not himself, who has his sights set on a professional career.

"I have always told him that school comes before soccer," Roni Braz emphasized. "He has to keep his marks up to a certain level.

As it happens, Braz's family is full of athletes. Older brother Avi, 17, plays basketball, and younger sister Ashley, 12, is making something of a name for herself in figure skating.

Asked why only one Jewish player has made it to so high a competitive level despite the numerous number of Jewish players at parochial schools, and Roni Braz has a ready answer.

It's not a question of there not being Jewish talent or potential out there, he said.

"It's just that you won't get the same level of coaching or competition you find elsewhere."

Adam Braz, for example, says he would not be where he is today had he not had the privilege to play on Quebec "elite league" teams or been coached by two of the province's best, Valerio Gazzolla of the Montreal Impact, and his assistant, Francis Millen.

Maccabi leader calls for exploring new structures

MONTREAL — Would the Jewish continuity cause be better served if Maccabi Canada (MC) — with its raison d'etre of reaching out to Jewish kids — came under some sort of formal affiliation with federation structures?

In the mind of Ronald Bakalarz, president of the Maccabi World Union (MWU), the answer is yes.

The Bogota, Colombia-based Bakalarz, who visited Montreal and Toronto recently to meet with MC officials, told *The CJN* that he would like to see MC become an "agency" of local federations, a situation he said already exists in the United States.

Local Maccabi leadership, however, is not so sure.

Gordie Schwartz, MC's national fundraising chair, said while Maccabi leaders who met with Bakalarz were enthusiastic over his idea to put particular focus on continuity by increasing the number of MC events at a local level, there is not necessarily any need to create "formal" ties with federations.

"Of course, there is a role [for the federation] to play, and it merits some type of study," allowed Schwartz, himself long associated both with Maccabi Canada and FEDERATION CJA campaign activities.

But that role would probably be more in line with both organizations' working "in harmony" towards common continuity goals, he said.

Schwartz said the Montreal community is so close-knit and its activities so intertwined, interaction on common agendas is inevitable, as well as desirable.

"Bakalarz had in mind [MC] becoming the 'sports arm of the federation,' " Schwartz said. "But we have the Y, and the natural tie is there."

Moreover, Schwartz added, U.S. assimilation rates are much higher than in Canada, where "we have a pretty good handle on Jewish continuity."

Still, Bakalarz's main priority — that MC should be more continuity-conscious and aggressive in reaching out to "unaffiliated" Jewish youth by organizing more grassroots sports, educational and cultural activities as a framework for Jewish identification — was not lost on local MC leaders.

One of the ideas already in the works, according to national athletic committee chair Bob Luxenberg, is to stage an annual "mini-Maccabiah" for Jewish schools. The project is being led by MC veteran Harry Hus.

MC also showed an interest in one of Bakalarz's favorite projects, the Israel Experience, a travel program run under the auspices of the MWU in which Jewish athletes from the Diaspora tour Israel and experience it fully in the Jewish continuity context, not just through sports.

One idea put forward by David Lisbona, a Montrealer involved with supporting Israel's hockey program, was to organize a trip for local Jewish hockey players.

According to Luxenberg, MC has always worked according to the principle that Jewish sports involvement is a means to an end — a "tool" — and not an end in itself.

Unlike the elaborate communal structures in North America, Bakalarz said that in many of the Maccabi movement's 57 nations, the MWU is the primary sports, educational and cultural body, connecting Jews to their identity through activities that even include music, dance, and folklore festivals.

One suggestion to Bakalarz — put forward by MC leader Mary Luxenberg — was to aim for more female representation at the Maccabiah, such as by fielding women's basketball and volleyball teams.

— D.L.

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330 OBITUARIES

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Geller, Rose on September 3, 1996
Mahl, Hilda Lilly on September 3, 1996
Berman, Abie on September 3, 1996, late of 12 Baintree Crt. W.
Zener, Celia on September 4, 1996, late of 605 Finch Ave. W.
Rudolf, Martha on September 6, 1996
Josephs, Hetty on September 5, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
Pekerman, Sofya on September 7, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
Friedman, Emo on September 10, 1996, late of 17 Roberta Dr.
Weinstock, Bernice on September 11, 1996
Cooper, Ben on September 15, 1996, late of 28 Roberta Dr.
Pasternack, Helen on September 11, 1996, late of 92 Island Rd.
Lerer, Avram on September 15, 1996
Blyacher, Oskar on September 13, 1996, late of 37 Fisherville Rd.
Goldstein, Mendel on September 13, 1996, late of 100 Canyon Ave.
Cadesky, Molly on September 13, 1996, late of 135 9th St. W.
Ostrowiecki, Hanna on September 13, 1996, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd. W.
Izsak, Tibor on September 15, 1996, late of 7420 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Dinah Meslin on September 5, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Harry Hyman on September 7, 1996, late of 300 Antibes Dr. #909
Sylvia Greenbaum on September 6, 1996, late of 2700 N. Forest Avenue
Donald J. Sivitz on September 6, 1996, late of 6030 Bathurst Street #1701
Leon Krakowski on September 8, 1996, late of 76 Reiner Rd.
Samuel Shuman on September 7, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
Ralph Nash on September 9, 1996, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd. #401
Esther Burke on September 8, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Avenue
Ben Levant on September 9, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Avenue West #302
Aurel Rosenthal on September 11, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Benjamin Zimmerman on September 12, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Avenue East
Leslie Kenez on September 12, 1996, late of 70 Cadillac Avenue
Rebecca Cole on September 12, 1996, late of 64 Glouster Grove
Sari Dicker on September 12, 1996, late of 30 Almington Street

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

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Contemplating a miracle

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — "The birth of a child is a miracle of renewal. We stand together this day, contemplating a miracle."

Surrounded by family and friends, rabbinical student Robert Morais and his wife Rochelle repeated these words at the *brit habat* of their firstborn, Sarah Arielle, in an affirmation of Jewish life and survival triumphing over the obscenities of Hitler and Mussolini.

The joyous service was prepared and led by Amy Greenbaum and Jonathan Tabachnikoff, students with Morais at Cincinnati's Hebrew Union College. Musical accompaniment was provided by Aaron Tornberg. The service was held in the home of Rochelle's sister and brother-in-law, Denise and Howard Shilling, under a chupah that Rochelle had originally helped to design and embroider for her wedding.

During the ceremony, Sarah Arielle snuggled in the arms of her great-grandmother, Eva (Handke) Salinas, while her great-grandfather, Armando Salinas, looked on.

In 1940, Berlin-born Eva Handke, still in her teens, was ordered, as a Jew, to report for forced labor at a factory operated by Siemens, the German munitions giant.

Eva's parents realized that it was time to take their only daughter and get out of the country. But where could they go?

A relative in Shanghai sent visas, but they also needed transit visas for each of the seven countries en route.

"We would collect four and three would expire before we got the others," Eva remembers. Over and over her father made the frustrating rounds of the consulates, until at last they had a fistful of stamped and restamped visas.

A circuitous train journey through numerous jurisdictions finally brought them through Siberia to Shanghai and temporary safety.

Armando Salinas was born in Alexandria, Egypt, of Italian Jewish lineage. Though both his parents had also been born in Egypt, they retained their Italian citizenship.

When Armando was 9, the family decided to settle in Rome. In 1938, as anti-Semitic rumblings escalated, he returned to his Egyptian birthplace but his visa was not renewed. From there he went to England where he had relatives, the Sassoons, who had international holdings. He had a doctorate in commerce and finance and studied briefly at London University. While he was on holiday in Switzerland, World War II broke out.

In 1940, the Sassoons sent him to Bombay to work in one of their banks, but because of his Italian citizenship and the likelihood of his being interned, they transferred him to a bank in Shanghai.

Eva was a clerk at the hotel where Armando was staying and he made frequent stops at her desk. They became engaged on Dec. 8, 1941, the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and were married at the Italian consulate in Shanghai the following February.

Their first daughter, Liliana, who would later become Robert Morais' mother, was only 4 months old when they were taken by the Japanese and transported into the interior for internment in a camp at a former American mission in Weih-Sen.

Because the Salinas were Italian citizens, they were considered "quasi-enemies" and were not harmed, though any internment under the Japanese was harsh and threatening.

"When things went badly for them in battle, we worried," Eva recalls.

They also worried constantly about their baby as proper nourishment became scarce.

In 1945, after two years in the camp, they were freed by American soldiers and returned to Shanghai. They set out on another round-about voyage, this time by slow boat, ultimately arriving in England.

Armando applied for visitors' visas to Canada and once here, they were granted permanent residence as political refugees and in due course earned Canadian citizenship.

In 1953, a second daughter, Jacqueline, became the first Canadian-born member of the family.

Now, after 54 years of marriage, Eva and Armando are able, with their family and Rochelle's family who emigrated from South Africa, to "contemplate a miracle."

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The Inside Back

About Life

Dear Ella,

I have a relative whom I see every once in a while. I just saw her at our family gathering on Rosh Hashanah. She is a very nice person and I usually enjoy her company, however there is one thing she does that bothers me tremendously. She talks about anyone and everyone behind their backs. She talks about her best friend, her sister and brother, her parents, her in-laws, and I know that she is also talking about me.

I know that she has a good heart, and I am not sure why she does this or that she is even aware that she is always talking about people behind their backs. Of course the comments are always nasty and usually uncalled for.

I am afraid to say anything to her, because I know when I leave she will be talking about me!

I don't want to stop my relationship with this person, because other than this unfortunate need to judge people so harshly, she really is a very nice person.

Any suggestions as to how to handle this situation?

Dodging the Dagger

Dear Dodging the Dagger,

It is unfortunate that your relative feels she has to talk about people behind their backs. I can understand how this could create a feeling of mistrust.

If you feel you can't say anything around her, then what is the point of staying in touch? I have to wonder if your relative realizes what she is doing and how much it affects not only the people she is talking about, but the people she is talking to.

It's time for someone to tell her what she is doing, not in an accusatory fashion, but in a caring and concerned way.

This is not an easy task, but someone has got to do it. It should be someone close, and it should not come off sounding like an attack.

If she only knew that she was hurting those closest to her, I'm sure she would think twice before talking behind peoples' backs.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

GOING FOR THE GREEN(HOUSE)

The New Ben-Gurion Associates, the leadership development division of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University's Toronto chapter, raised close to $50,000 at a sold-out performance of Cirque du Soleil. Proceeds are designated for the establishment of a desert greenhouse at the Israeli university. Above, back row, are (from left) Jordan Gould, Stephen Chelsky, Bruce Bronfman (president), Brian Medjuck, Michael Spigelman and Mitchell Oelbaum. Front row (from left) are Brian Kalishenko, Ralph Shepherd and Claire Horowitz, executive director, Ontario region.

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APPLE & SPINACH SALAD

3 apples - peeled, cored and diced
3 green onions - sliced thin
3 stalks celery - diced
juice of 2 lemons
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup tahini
2 tblsps honey
1 bunch spinach - torn into bite-size pieces
1/4 cup roasted sesame seeds

In a large bowl: toss apples, onions and celery. Sprinkle with juice of 1 lemon to keep apples from darkening.

In a blender or small bowl: blend mayonnaise, tahini, honey and remaining lemon juice (mixture will be thick). Toss with apple mixture. Cover and chill.

Just before serving, toss salad with spinach. Serve on a bed of spinach leaves and garnish with sesame seeds. Serves 4 to 6.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Diplomatically Speaking

BY JEHUDI KINAR

I recently returned from home leave in Israel. The 3½ weeks passed in a flash as usual. Although it had only been half a year since my last visit to Israel, I was again struck by the changes which had taken place. It seems that the construction of roads and houses is ever increasing.

The scene on the streets of Jerusalem drew my attention as I shared my walks there with many tourists, who were probably less struck by a new image. I saw faces around me which were not part of the image of Jerusalem I had in my mind. Strangers, but not tourists, were present in large numbers.

Suddenly I realized that these were the foreign workers who arrived in Israel to reinforce our labor force. As I have served and lived in the past in a few European countries, I am familiar with the situation of foreign laborers who were not always well received by the citizens of the host country. Nobody knows exactly how many foreigners have succeeded in entering Israel legally or illegally. Estimates vary from 200,000 to 400,000. I hope that we shall not have to face similar unfortunate experiences guest workers endured in Europe.

By contrast, I was delighted to learn about some of the new and dynamic changes taking place at home. I had no idea of the extent of activities available for those seeking fun and perhaps an activity off the beaten track. While people travel the globe, spending huge sums of money in search of a thrill, many of these activities are available in Israel. For those adventurous souls, Israel now offers hang gliding, parasailing and jeep rides to the north and south that provide newcomers with a sense of the desert.

In the meantime, the High Holy Day period is upon us, but hotel rooms are still available in Israel. We realize that prices remain on the higher side; this is a problem the Israel tourist industry must contend with. Recently, many international triple star hotel chains decided to build a number of hotels throughout Israel. This added competition will undoubtedly bring prices down. People accustomed to the services of these chains will find that they receive the identical service in Israel.

As the festival of Sukkot approaches, pilgrims from around the world will make their way to the Holy Land. It seems only natural that the vast majority of these visitors would be Jews making the ascent to Israel as in biblical times, to mark one of our pilgrim festivals (*Shalosh Haregalim*).

In my daily encounters with Canadian Jews, it is striking to realize how many have never visited Israel. As we approach the 100-year anniversary of the official founding of Zionism as a movement and prepare to mark 50 years since the establishment of the State of Israel, the time has come for Jews to celebrate these momentous and proud occasions in Eretz Yisrael.

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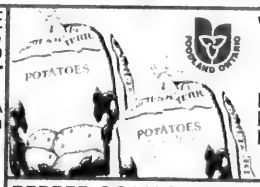

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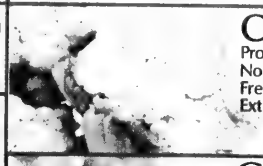

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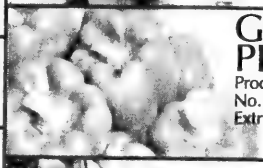

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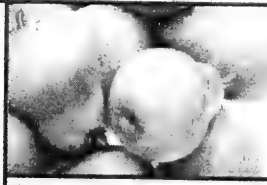

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This Week

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Israel Experience programs moves to Toronto and affiliates itself with the federation system. *Page 20*

Israel & the Jewish World

Five candidates vie to replace Shimon Peres. *Analysis.* *Page 35*

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Summit called to defuse crisis

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat were to meet in Washington Tuesday, at President Bill Clinton's invitation, in a bid to defuse Israeli-Palestinian tensions and resume negotiations.

They are to be joined by Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was invited.

A senior U.S. official said the meetings were to run Tuesday and Wednesday. The first day would consist of separate bilateral meetings between the leaders and Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher, with expanded plenary meetings scheduled for Wednesday.

The official said that the United States will urge Netanyahu to put redeployment from Hebron "on the fast track" to move negotiations ahead.

"The sights are on Hebron as the key first step. These discussions will be focused on an implementing mechanism," he said.

Israeli soldiers take up firing postions as they come under attack by Palestinians last week. Netanyahu and Arafat were to meet this week to defuse the crisis. *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Tunnel Turmoil

Christopher cautioned that because neither Netanyahu nor Arafat could afford to be away from home for a long visit, "we should not expect miracles out of this rather brief meeting here.

"They're estranged. They're pretty raw and so I think the important thing is to get them back into direct contact, discussing these issues," he said on NBC's *Meet the Press*.

Arafat and Netanyahu initially refused to make any concessions to bring about the summit, but Channel 2 said last Sunday night a tradeoff was shaping up.

Arafat would pledge to end the violence and stop objecting to the tunnel, while Netanyahu would agree to a timetable for future negotiations and a date for Israel's pullout from Hebron, the report said.

Continued on page 34

'I will do whatever I can to win leadership,' Barak says

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff reporter

TORONTO — "I'm used to winning," said Ehud Barak, the leading contender for Shimon Peres' job as head of the Labor party. "And I will do whatever I can to win."

Exclusive

Barak – Israel's former chief of staff and its foreign minister during Peres' short-lived reign as prime minister following Yitzhak Rabin's murder – discussed party politics and the peace process in an interview in Toronto last week. His trip to Canada was sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal.

Fresh from an overnight flight from Tel Aviv, a jet-lagged Barak exuded brash self-confidence and a measure of introspection in addressing these topics.

A boyish 54, Barak said the Labor party could have won the general election last May if egregious technical and tactical mistakes had not been made.

Barak, who was in charge of Peres' campaign for prime minister, said the party's major errors were three-fold. It was too closely associated with the left-of-centre Meretz party. It was perceived as anti-religious and elitist. And it was seen as moving too fast with respect to the peace process.

If he is elected party leader, Barak intends to take a cautious, perhaps conservative, approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He is opposed to a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, notwithstanding a recent decision by the Labor party to drop this objection from its platform. Barak favors a confederation or a federation between a Palestinian entity and Jordan. "But we can't

Continued on page 18

OFFICE CLOSED

***The CJN* offices will be closed Monday Oct. 14. Advertising deadlines for the Oct. 17 issue are: Classified and organizational ads Oct. 8 at noon and regular display ads Oct. 9 at noon.**

Tunnel opening unleashes old passions — please see page 33

Israel & the Jewish World

Hebron high on summit agenda

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Last Sunday, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat accepted President Bill Clinton's invitation to the five-party Washington summit, accord-

TUNNEL TURMOIL

ing to Arafat's media adviser, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, and he left Monday for prior consultations with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo.

Arafat's spokesperson Marwan Kanafani said Arafat will raise all the outstanding issues from Oslo 1 and Oslo 2, including Hebron redeployment and safe passages, in addition to demanding timetables for the unspecified IDF redeployment from parts of Area C and a date for starting final-status talks.

Clinton, in his phone call to Gaza, "insisted that he will work with President Arafat to ensure the participation of President Mubarak as an indication of the pivotal role that the president of Egypt plays. Egypt is the major player in the peace process in the Middle East," Kanafani said.

Hebron is likely to be the most difficult problem on the agenda, as the Israeli government believes last week's riots showed even more clearly than before the dangers of deploying Palestinian police close to settlements. In Gaza, settlements came under fire and in Ramallah, gunmen fired from the high ground around IDF posts.

Peace Now hold march

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – A crowd that Peace Now organizers estimated at about 7,000 marched in Jerusalem from Yitzhak Rabin's grave on Mount Herzl to a square near Benjamin Netanyahu's home last Sunday, and called on the prime minister to uphold Israel's end of the Oslo agreements to prevent an escalation of violence.

Meretz head MK Yossi Sarid, Labor MK Ofir Pines, and Peace Now activist Galia Golan were among the speakers who decried the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel.

Peace Now spokesperson Alon Arnon said that the route from Rabin's grave to Netanyahu's neighborhood was meant to demonstrate that there is a "straight line from the extremism that led to the murder of the leader of peace, to the wrong path being chartered by the current prime minister."

The battle for Joseph's Tomb

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Hundreds of Palestinian policemen and armed demonstrators stormed Joseph's Tomb in Nablus last week, killing six soldiers and wounding eight others. They ransacked parts of the yeshivah and then reportedly protected the Israeli soldiers like prisoners of war.

The IDF rushed an armored column to the outskirts of the city, but refrained from moving tanks into the Palestinian-controlled territory.

At one point, the IDF district brigade commander broke through to the 42 soldiers trapped inside the yeshivah, but suffered heavy casualties in the attempt.

The battle began when an angry mob stormed Joseph's Tomb in the morning, hurling anything that came to hand. They were joined by Palestinian policemen, who opened fire at the soldiers inside.

The soldiers called for help, but reinforcements came under a hail of stones and bullets, forcing them to abandon their vehicles. An IDF helicopter attempted to evacuate the wounded but was turned back by the heavy gunfire.

At one point, the mob attacking the Israeli pocket inside Nablus, the West Bank's largest city, overturned Border Police jeeps and set at least six of them and an APC alight.

Once the armored column reached the tomb, most of the wounded were treated and evacuated.

Palestinian witnesses said the Palestinian policemen were keeping many of the demonstrators away from the tomb and treating the Israeli wounded.

Other witnesses said residents later brought the soldiers soft drinks and water and gave them cellular telephones to call their families.

A Palestinian flag was said to be flying atop the tomb's dome, instead of the Israeli flag, witnesses said.

Dayan and OC Judea and Samaria Maj-Gen. Gabi Ofir negotiated with Jibril Rajoub, head of Palestinian Preventive Security, and Gen. Haj Ismail Jaber, West Bank police commander, to resolve the siege.

Fresh IDF troops later arrived to secure the tomb.

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Jewish organizers said they felt the federal government would keep Kosygin's itinerary a secret until the very last moment.

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Congress accuses separatist of inciting hatred

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has lodged a complaint of incitement of hatred against former Front de Libération du Québec terrorist Raymond Villeneuve with the federal and provincial attorneys general.

CJC Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum, referring to Villeneuve's warning that, after sovereignty, nationalists will remember that many Jews worked actively against independence and could face retaliation, said his remarks were racist and dangerous" and "a clear incitement to violence."

Montreal Urban Community police are already investigating Villeneuve's statements to determine if they constitute an indictable threat.

Mount Royal MP Sheila Finestone said the investigation is a "positive first step" in the case.

"But," she added, "the denunciation of statements by one-time terrorist Villeneuve must be made by citizens of Quebec from all walks of life, including Premier Lucien Bouchard, who up to now, has remained silent."

CJC drew attention to what it described as the "poisonous climate" in Quebec, where "the political debate has crossed the line and is veering toward scapegoating" of minorities and the Jewish community in particular.

Villeneuve, 58, who was sentenced to 12 years for manslaughter in 1963, after a bomb he planted killed a man, wrote in the newsletter of his Mouvement de liberation nationale du Quebec (MLNQ) that Ashkenazi Jews have played a leading role among those opposed to separation and Bill 101.

"With the latest escapades of (Howard) Galganov, it's too much. It is necessary to dare to denounce their inexplicable and incomprehensible hostility toward our people and its right to self-determination."

Alliance Quebec founders Eric Maldoff and Michael Goldbloom, Equality party leader Robert Libman and author Mordecai Richler are among those cited.

Villeneuve advises those "communities who have refused to be conciliatory toward the Quebecois people" to think about what will happen the day after a victory for sovereignty and suggests they "prepare now for a harmonious cohabitation."

The newsletter, *La Tempete*, claims a circulation of 250, but Villeneuve sent copies to the media — on Yom Kippur eve.

The next day on French-language radio, he said Alliance Quebec and English-rights leaders could become targets of bomb attacks.

CJC Quebec executive director Jack Jedwab said Villeneuve is "marginal," but "that does not mean that it is not important to pursue. We know from history what people of his ilk are capable of," adding that Jews will not be "intimidated."

CJC also called upon Bouchard to "clearly denounce" Villeneuve or else it fears the targeting of Jews for their political beliefs will only continue.

Jebwab said the Villeneuve outburst is the latest in a series of events in the last few weeks in which Quebec nationalists have singled out cultural communities, and in particular Jews, as the adversary. Equally "disturbing" to Jedwab are some French-language radio talk shows which have picked up and amplified this theme.

Among the most grievous, according to CJC, was the debut column of veteran hard-line separatists, Pierre Bourgault, in the *Journal de Montreal* Sept. 21, in which he attacks CJC for not responding to a demand from another ultra-nationalist Gilles Rheaume for a meeting to discuss Galganov.

Bourgault accuses CJC of "duplicity" for trying to stop American black Islamic leader Louis Farrakhan from speaking in Toronto, yet refusing to denounce Galganov, whose remarks are offensive to French Quebecers.

Jedwab, who noted that Rheaume had made no such request of CJC, criticized the *Journal*, which is owned by Pierre Peladeau, for hiring Bourgault, whom he called "xenophobic."

Meanwhile, B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), in a joint statement with the Black Coalition of Quebec and the Centre for Research-Action on Race Relations, urged Bouchard to make Quebec's hate laws more effective.

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From the editor's desk

Cotler provides important lessons

Against the backdrop of the killing and the mayhem last week in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, a discussion of the state of human rights under the Palestinian Authority might seem somewhat surrealistic. But the two subjects are related.

There is no doubt that the violence, which erupted and then quickly, murderously escalated, reflected the mounting sense of frustration felt by Palestinians in their quest for meaningful self-rule. There is also no doubt that those frustrations are partly a result of the snail-like pace of the peace process. But this is only a small part of the story.

The deep frustration ominously coursing its way through Palestinian society in the self-governing areas is more deeply rooted. It has now been established beyond dispute that, along with the disappointment in the political process with Israel and the depressed economic situation, a major factor in the tension tugging on that society is the ongoing disregard by the Palestinian Authority itself for the simple, civic dignity and human rights of the people it is governing.

The Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights of the U.S. Congressional House Committee on International Relations convened this past summer to examine the condition of human rights for the Palestinian people living under the authority of Yasser Arafat.

One of the witnesses who was invited to testify before the American legislators was Irwin Cotler, professor of Law at McGill University.

* * *

Cotler is an expert on human rights and international law. That is the very least one can say about him, merely the starting point of a description. Cotler is to the discipline of human rights what wind and breeze are to sailing — a driving force by which progress is achieved and achievements are measured.

He is internationally recognized for his knowledge and his commitment to the advancement of human rights. His office at McGill University is not an academic sanctuary for quiet, reflective thinking and writing. It is rather a hive of student activity, a hub from whose kinetic centre, at any one moment, emanate a number of intersecting spokes of important domestic and international causes.

Indeed from time to time, he occupies many offices around the world including in Boston at Harvard University and in Jerusalem at Hebrew University. His first prominent appearance on the stage of international relations and human rights was perhaps his advocacy on behalf of Natan Sharansky two decades ago. At considerable risk, he personally served the procurator in Moscow with the 1,000-page defence factum which he had prepared for his refusnik client.

Since then, he has travelled countless times around the globe on fact-finding missions, lecture tours or as counsel to the oppressed, visiting not only "safe" western countries, where human rights are embedded into the deep structure of society, but also non-democratic despotisms and dictatorships, where human rights hang like abstract paintings in a gallery wall, talked about or looked at but never touched. His numerous human rights missions have taken him throughout the Middle East, to Israel and the territories of course, and to Egypt, Syrian Lebanon and Jordan.

In presenting argument, Cotler speaks in an unceasing staccato of logic, reason and passion. Hearing him address an audience can be compared to watching a master dismantle an elegant set of Russian dolls, continually refining a paradigm into a smaller, more perfect fractals of the original idea until it becomes an irreducible truth.

It says a great deal about him that one of his favorite words is "dialectics."

* * *

Cotler was invited by the subcommittee to testify in Washington on July 23. His testimony was based on incidents and events which had occurred in the West Bank and Gaza up to July 16. The new government of Israel had been in place for about a month.

As he explained in his testimony, a copy of which recently came across my desk, and which ran for 61 pages, the timing of the invitation to him was "particularly fortuitous [having] just returned from a visit to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza" where he "met and had discussions with a distinguished and representative group of Palestinian human rights monitors including Dr. Iyad Surraj, director-general of the Palestinian Citizens Commission on Human Rights; Raji Sourani, director of the Centre for Palestinian Rights in Gaza; Dr. Bassem Eid, who served for six years as director of field research for B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories."

He also met with many Palestinian officials from the various levels of executive, legislative and judicial authority of the self-governing regions.

The "underlying and inspirational basis for [his] submission" was that "the promotion of democracy and the protection of human rights are indispensable to international peace and security ... History has shown, and international law affirms, that we shall either have both peace and human rights, or neither."

His purpose was to prove that the improvement of human rights for Palestinians was vitally important, not only for its own sake, but also for the sake of the peace striving to be born between Israel and the Palestinians.

Typically, Cotler's testimony to the subcommittee was a thorough, impeccably documented tour de force. It was organized around six themes. "First, a report on meetings and discussions with Palestinian human rights monitors and officials ... Second, an appreciation of Palestinian undertakings to respect human rights ... Third, a summary of human rights abuses under the Palestinian Authority drawn largely from Palestinian witness testimony and documentary evidence ... Fourth, an evaluation of Palestinian compliance with the Israel-PLO Accords ... Fifth, a check list of testing criteria for determining the state of human rights under Israeli or Palestinian jurisdiction. Sixth, a set of recommendations directed towards both the Palestinian Authority and the American and international community."

Cotler pulls no punches. He draws a straight line between the treatment of Palestinians at the hands of the Palestinian Authority and the future of peace between Palestinians and Israelis. With regard to the bloody events of last week, there are important lessons to be learned from Cotler's congressional testimony.

In the coming weeks I shall reproduce excerpts from it. ***MBD***

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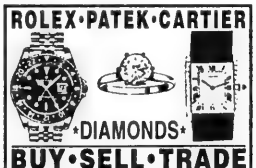
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Greater Toronto Area

Kalejs denies involvement in killing unit

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The cross examination of Konrad Kalejs began in earnest this past Monday at his deportation hearing, with the alleged Nazi war criminal denying he participated in anti-Jewish arrests or murders.

Under cross-examination by Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh, Kalejs acknowledged he took part in a "self-defence unit" consisting of former Latvian army personnel, and he agreed that a Nov. 1941 document sent to the University of Riga claimed he "terrorized" Communists and members of the Soviet Red Army.

But Kalejs denied the unit arrested Jews or shot Communists, despite evidence of historians that such activities were common among Latvian self-defence units.

He disagreed with a report authored by SS General Stahlicker, read to him by MacIntosh, that local units cooperated with the Nazis, saying "we did not know what it means, Nazi." Kalejs said he knew the invaders as the German army, not Nazis.

He also disagreed with Stahlicker's report that local Latvian units initiated anti-Jewish pogroms. He answered, "I don't know" when MacIntosh suggested that many Latvians believed Jews supported the Soviet cause and were Communist leaders, though he said he knew of some people who were "mad at Jews."

Kalejs said his self-defence unit, operating in June and July 1941, "had much more important things to do than to pursue Jews." Instead, he said the unit pursued and terrorized the Red Army.

Later, he said the unit had few guns and almost no ammunition, and had pursued the Soviets by "scaring" them.

In earlier testimony last week, Kalejs claimed a simple request for a letter of reference from a member of "some kind of police" unit has resulted in years of "troubles" for him.

Had he not requested a special letter from a friend in that police unit, and had another letter testifying to his service in the Latvian military arrived on time, he could have avoided questions about his wartime service, he suggested.

Kalejs was testifying about events in November 1941, when he submitted a letter to a university in Riga indicating his service in the Arajs Kommando (AK). Kalejs said he was facing a deadline to apply to university and he obtained the letter from a friend who was a member of the police unit, but that the letter was "not true."

Under cross-examination, he was asked why he submitted the letter when he had in his possession a document certifying he had fought the Communists in a partisan unit in 1941, which would have been sufficient to gain entry to the university. He said he did it for "good measures" and that the first letter was "a lie of necessity."

He claimed he did not know the nature of the police unit, only that its members wore green uniforms with black armbands.

Kalejs made the claim during an immigration hearing last week. Federal authorities are attempting to deport Kalejs, who is an Australian citizen, for his alleged war crimes. In 1994, he was ordered removed by U.S. courts, which concluded he participated in the wartime persecution of civilians.

In his Toronto hearing, a host of former members of the Latvian Auxiliary Security Police, also known as the Arajs Kommando, have testified on videotape that Kalejs was a senior officer in the unit. Some have indicated that Kalejs' men took part in the murder of villagers.

However, in testimony last week, Kalejs denied membership in the unit — contrary to the November 1941 letter he signed and from which he attempted to distance himself. He also denied participating in murder, enslavement or kidnapping.

Instead, he painted a portrait of himself as a member of a church-going family who was brought up to live according to the Ten Commandments. He said he would not have been confirmed in the Lutheran Church if his pastor doubted his high ethical standards. He also claimed to have helped a Jewish family survive the Nazis.

Under questioning from his counsel, Win Thompson, Kalejs recounted numerous painstaking details of his life before and during the war.

He said he feared deportation to Siberia by the "godless" Red Army, so when German forces arrived in 1941, they were seen as "saviors."

At the time, he said, he did not know he'd be called upon to join the German war machine later in the war. Kalejs acknowledged he was a member of the Latvian Legion (more properly known as the Latvian Security Police Battalion), though he denied being part of the Waffen SS, which he said was restricted to Germans only.

Asked to identify two photographs of himself, Kalejs said one was taken when he graduated from Latvian military school but the other was a KGB forgery. "The uniform makes me suspicious. I never had a uniform with a star or collar," he said.

Kalejs also denied ever signing a list acknowledging receipt of cigarette rations. The list was entered as evidence earlier in the hearing to indicate Kalejs was a member of the Latvian Legion.

RCMP handwriting expert Joel Harris said the signatures were probably Kalejs'. But Kalejs denied the seven signatures were his, suggesting instead they were KGB forgeries.

Kalejs said that prior to the war, he befriended a Polish piano-player named Tracevskis. Tracevskis' wife, Raisa, and son, George, were Jewish but that didn't bother him because he believed in judging people by their character.

During the war, they came to him for help and he approached a former Latvian army comrade who was serving in the police. Through him, he obtained a document permitting Raisa and her son to live at home and avoid wearing a yellow star. As a result, they were able to survive the war, Kalejs said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Federalists urged to stress Canada's greatness

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Quebecers must be convinced it is in their best interest to stay in Canada, the federal minister of Multiculturalism and the Status of Women told the recent annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

But "no one said it's going to be an easy trip," Hedy Fry told some 200 council members.

Fry was responding to a question from Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, a longtime council member, who said some of the issues that have risen in Quebec — language inspectors and an increasingly monolothic, hostile atmosphere — "gnaw at us."

"We must continue to fight the fight," Fry responded. "We must continue to tell Quebec that it, too, is responsible for the richness and greatness and successes in Canada. We must go to the people of Quebec and tell them that."

Canadian Council of Christians and Jews President Ned Goodman presents Hedy Fry with the council's Good Servant Medal at its recent annual meeting. [Ron Csillag photo]

Quebecers must be persuaded that being part of Canada "is richer and more rewarding than walking away from it."

Part of the reason is that Canada is a "role model for the world" because of multiculturalism, Fry said in her prepared remarks.

In the 21st century, the world "will look to Canada [to learn about multiculturalism] because we will have done it."

Ottawa is "absolutely committed" to multiculturalism because it also has economic advantages, Fry said, notably in the $22 billion worth of foreign trade Canada expects to conclude in the next two years.

Canada is profiting from multiculturalism because "built into our advantage is our ability to recognize and respect other cultures."

We are probably the only country in the world to stress our differences in order to strengthen the whole, Fry said. The twin themes of unity and diversity are "a natural paradox for Canada to embrace."

Canada "has chosen the difficult route over the easy one. The amorphous melting pot — that's the easy route." Canadian multiculturalism "is not based on tolerance. Tolerance means you put up with something because you have no choice. It's based on respect."

Multiculturalism "is an inherent Canadian value. It has taught us certain skills in accommodation and conciliation, and that negotiation is a reasonable way of accepting our differences. We are seen as a people who are fair."

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Keegstra fined $3,000

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Alberta Court of Appeal last week imposed a fine of $3,000 on former Eckville school teacher Jim Keegstra and would have sent him to jail for one year but for the unusually long delay that took place from the start of his trial to its conclusion.

The 12-year span from the time charges were laid in 1984 to last week's sentencing decision are mitigating factors "because of the added expense for the accused (Keegstra) and the extended anxiety for him and his family," the Appeal Court stated.

The three-judge court suspended the jail sentence and instead released Keegstra on one-year probation. It also imposed 200 hours of community service and an order not to preach hatred of the Jewish people, even under the guise of historical research.

The court decision was welcomed by Canadian Jewish Congress and the Calgary Jewish Community Council (CJCC).

"By increasing Keegstra's sentence, the Court of Appeal sent home the message that wilfully promoting hatred against any identifiable group is a serious offence," said Nate Feldman, president of the CJCC and a Congress representative in Alberta.

However, the sentence was criticized by Rubin Freedman of B'nai Brith Canada. "It's amazing the Alberta Court of Appeal has not yet received the message of the Supreme Court that promoting hate propaganda is illegal in Canada," he said.

In ordering Keegstra to perform 200 hours of community service, the court recommended that the beneficiaries be "those who have come to Canada as victims of racial, religious or ethnic hatred elsewhere."

Congress president Goldie Hershon responded to that suggestion by stating "is unredeemable. We would not want him engaged in community service in our community. He has nothing to offer."

Greater Toronto Area

Ex-Airborne officer unconcerned by swastika

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The tolerance shown by the Canadian Airborne Regiment's former discipline officer to soldiers wearing swastika tattoos was fairly typical of the Canadian military's attitude towards racists at the time, according to a spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress.

At the same time that former Sgt. Maj. Bud Jardine found no racist element in swastika tattoos, other Armed Forces officers were tolerating the display of a Confederate rebel flag in a soldiers' barracks. Jardine also said other officers knew of the swastika tattoos and did nothing about it, said Keith Landy, counsel for Congress.

'It's no surprise Somalis were killed'

"If you look at the pattern of the soldiers' behavior, then see the attitude of the officers who failed to read the signals, it's no surprise Somalis were killed," Landy added.

Jardine's comments came during cross-examination by Landy during a recent hearing of the Somalia inquiry in Ottawa. Jardine said he was aware soldiers sported the tattoos but he did not believe the tattoos were a symbol of racism or undermined discipline.

"To me, in this day and age, no, it doesn't bother me at all that people would have a tattoo on their arm," Jardine said. "It symbolizes their belief, not mine."

Jardine's comment was "shocking" and displayed "a lack of understanding and a tolerance for racist views," said Bernie Farber, Congress' director of community relations.

Farber said Jardine's admission "illustrates our point, that there were individuals on the fringe who held racist views and who shouldn't belong in the Armed Forces of Canada."

It also indicates that the military "didn't take [the issue] seriously," he added.

Since the Somalia incidents, in which members of the Airborne Regiment killed young Somalis, the Armed Forces have enacted regulations against manifestations of racism, Farber said.

Four recruits who possessed racist materials were drummed out of the service, he said.

Congress, which has full status to cross-examine witnesses, will continue to participate in the inquiry to ensure the full story of racism in the military is told, Farber added.

Israel's new ambassador arrives

OTTAWA — Israel's new ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, arrived here last Thursday, and will present his credentials to Governor General Romeo LeBlanc in a formal ceremony at Rideau Hall Oct. 17.

Sultan, 58, served as Israel's ambassador to Egypt for the past four years. In press reports last week, he referred to the Egyptian posting as the most challenging job in the foreign service.

Born in Egypt, he served at Israel's embassy in Cairo as deputy head of mission from 1983-85. He has also served as Israel's ambassador to Italy.

Sultan said he's looking forward to his Ottawa posting, especially in light of the recently-signed Canada-Israel free trade pact, which could generate "huge potential for benefit to both sides."

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Tunnel pretext

The opening of the tunnel exit was but a pretext for the fighting last week.

The bloody rioting by Palestinians in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, which continued for three days and which claimed the lives of 70 people including 14 Israelis, was not spontaneous.

That was the conclusion of Israel's Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. "There is no doubt that the incidents which took place in all the central cities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza were certainly not spontaneous, but initiated incidents."

A reconstruction of last week's events confirms his assesssment.

The "eruptions" were too widespread, involving all the main population centres, and appeared to ignite as if on signal.

They followed the same pattern. Civilians initiated the action by hurling stones at the IDF and then were joined by both uniformed and non-uniformed Palestinian police who began shooting.

They occured on cue. After a meeting of the PLO executive committee and the Palestine Authority (PA) cabinet last Wednesday, the first day of the fighting, Mohammed Nashashibi, PA finance minister, told reporters that Arafat and the cabinet had approved "escalation by all means" in the territories. As reported in the Israeli press, Arafat accused Israel of "escalation" against the Palestinian people. "The most important thing," he said, "is we can't accept the Judaization of Jerusalem. East Jerusalem is our capital." The cause of the rioting was clear: to bring more pressure to bear on the government of Israel and to attempt, yet again, to undermine Israel's sovereignty over unified Jerusalem. Thus, the plan to open the new exit/entrance to the Hashmonean tunnel, which was known to the Palestinian authorities months before and to which thay had agreed, could hardly have been the religious affront that they decried to the western world. But it certainly was a convenient excuse to launch a renewed media campaign against Israel.

There is no denying that Palestinians do indeed feel a growing impatience with the Netanyahu government. But violent mayhem cannot be a balm for that impatience. Reaching for an automatic weapon is not the way to resolve differences. When the battle is joined by thugs and hooligans, the shooting cannot be stopped as easily as it can be started. The fighting has encouraged Hamas and Islamic Jihad, the radical, hateful fundamentalists, to announce that they will once again try to perpetrate more killings upon the people of Israel through renewed intifadah and suicide bombings. Is this the path on which Arafat plans to take the peace process?

From the response of the western public to last week's events, one could say that Arafat's calculations had partially succeeded. Most western governments, including, regrettably, the Canadian government, have condoned the instigators and inciters of the violence and condemned Israel. In their reflexively simplistic responses, they have set a terrible precedent, encouraging confrontation across the scope of a gun rather than confrontation across a table.

But the response which counts most in the search for an enduring bilateral peace is not that of the western public. It is that of the Israeli public. Here, Arafat has miscalculated badly.

It is true that many Israelis, a large number of whom voted for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, also feel discouraged and frustrated that the peace process appears to have halted. But with all their frustration, they are now concerned and troubled anew by what last week's events revealed of the PA leader. If Arafat deliberately plotted the rioting and the killing, then he cannot be trusted because the sanctity of life means nothing to him. On the other hand, if he planned "only" the rioting and not the killing, and lost control when the shooting started, then he cannot be trusted because he is ineffectual. Either way, the confidence of the Israeli public in the achievability of peace continues to erode, and thus, too, the chances of building that peace.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"A home not made for spring or for rainy days, is no home."
(Talmud, Yoma)

MR. ASSAD... YOU REJECTED AMERICAN PLEAS, RABIN'S OFFER OF WITHDRAWAL TO THE SEA OF GALILEE, AND BIBI'S MESSAGES
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NOT AT ALL!
I MAY OR MAY NOT BE INTERESTED IN THE PEACE...
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Sept. 29, 1738 Esther Brandeau, daughter of refugees from the Portuguese Inquisition, sailed to New France in disguise, calling herself Jacques La Farge. She was sent back. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC)

Dispute poses threat to all Jews

As a concerned Jew, I find B'nai Brith Canada's continued assault on Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) potentially harmful. In fact, headlines portraying the CJC and the Office de la Langue Francaise (OLF) agreement over kosher products as "secret" incite political rhetoric damaging the integrity of these much needed Jewish organizations of our community. Is this what we want as a minority group of Quebec? It is enough that Jews must combat the provincial government for their communal rights (as in the so-called Matzahgate case). Is it really necessary to divide the community politically?

It is no dark secret that both the CJC and B'nai Brith have had their rifts in the past. In any case, this "kosher" issue seems to be not too kosher at all. Furthermore, to determine a community concensus, I do not think it is necessary that every organization or community member agree on a position taken on a particular issue. The fact is, the CJC had reached an agreement with the Communaute Sepharade du Quebec and the Vaad Ha'ir, which comprises the majority concensus of the Montreal Jewish community.

I fear the potentially harmful consequences of unproductive remarks targeted amongst Jewish community organizations. Political divisiveness will only weaken the Jewish community when it is obligated to fight for its rights in the future.

Neil Stolovitsky
Montreal

Wants Jonathan Pollard freed

Raoul Wallenberg was left to his cruel fate, but there is a present day "Raoul Wallenberg," His name is Jonathan Pollard and he is rotting in prison.

I am waiting and will continue to wait for a *Lamed Vovnik* or even more than one, to come forward. I would like to hear a voice of outrage against this present-day injustice.

If all of us band together, Jonathan Pollard can be freed!

Goldi Steiner Raab
Chair
Raoul Wallenberg Memorial Committee

Hungarian Jews won fencing medals

On the subject of Jewish Olympic medal winners, which Hungary supplied in a number disproportionate to its population size, that country stood out for its prowess in fencing.

At the only Olympic Games held in Nazi Germany in 1936 when I was a teenager there, a unique event occurred, unlikely to be repeated. In women's fencing, all three medals were won by Jews. Ilona Elek of Hungary won gold, Helene Mayer (who accepted an invitation to come back from the United States to compete for Germany) won silver, and Ellen Reis of Austria won bronze. Elek won another gold in 1948 in London and silver in 1952 in Helsinki.

Frederick Rose
Toronto

New Day School in Toronto

For some reason our school was not mentioned in the article on tuition fees in day schools (*CJN*, Sept. 12).

Tuition in junior kindergarten in our school this year is $3,250 (half a day) and in grades senior kindergarten and up (full day), $6,800.

Baruch Rand
Principal
Toronto Heschel School

Reporter's note: The CJN*'s story discussed tuition fees only at schools affiliated with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE). The Toronto Heschel School, with about 50 students, just recently got off the ground, and may apply for BJE affiliation only after two years of operation.*

— R.C.

Ostry an officer of ORT Canada

I was pleased to see the results of my interview with Sheldon Kirshner in a recent issue (*CJN*, Sept. 5). However, I confess I am very surprised that there was no mention in the article that I hold the position of honorary president of ORT Canada, and in fact have been for several years a member of the Academic Advisory Council of World ORT, which meets annually in England. Such an omission has a serious connotation for me and for ORT Canada.

Dr. Sylvia Ostry
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Perspectives

The ancient discipline

Scribes' craft ensures Judaism's sacred objects

By RABBI ELIE BENZAQUEN

The Torah scroll is perhaps the holiest of the physical objects in our faith and it is an exact replica of the very same scroll Moshe our teacher wrote following the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai over 3,300 years ago. It contains the words, thought, and will of G-d, the basis of our entire raison d'etre as a nation, a moral foundation for all mankind.

So valued and precious is the Torah that the laws surrounding its care and treatment are almost like considering it as a living being with a soul of its own. We celebrate a Torah's coming into existence or arrival in a community with great joy, and G-d forbid, in a fire, we'll risk our lives to save it. Should a Torah be damaged beyond repair, Heaven forfend, the community will bury it with a proper funeral.

Just like a living being, the sefer Torah too is made up of physical material, but is only "alive" when its "soul" is united with it. Just as there are laws of nature that dictate what needs must be met to maintain life, such as oxygen, food, proper connections throughout the body, so too, must certain laws be met and maintained for the Torah to be kosher, "fit for use." Only when the sefer Torah is kosher, may the community fulfil its obligation to read from it and make blessings over it.

The tools of the scribe are simple and the ones I use in my work as a *sofer* (scribe) are the same as those used over the centuries by my predecessors. A duck or goose feather, or a bamboo reed, finely cut and honed to a surgically precise tip is the pen I use to create the individually formed letters. The ink is formulated with the same three basic natural ingredients that have been used over the centuries. The surface is parchment, made of the skin of a kosher animal that has been cleaned, treated and finely sanded to an ivory smooth finish. The parchment is cut to size and lined. When the work on a number of sheets is completed, the scribe will sew the sheets together at the ends with a thread made of kosher animal sinews.

There remains a fifth and most important ingredient that is intrinsic if not fundamental to the creation of a kosher Torah scroll. The intent and concentration of the scribe throughout the entire process must be in accordance with the laws governing the writing of a holy article, whether it be a sefer Torah, *t'fillin* or mezuzah scroll. The thoughts a scribe has while writing do in fact affect the validity of that writing, and indeed the entire Torah, for if even one letter in the Torah is written without the required accompanying intent and concentration (*kavanah*), the entire sefer Torah is *passul* (invalid).

There are 27 letters in the Hebrew alphabet, each having its own particular form and details which must be correctly inscribed. No less than 165 different regulations govern the shapes of these letters, yet if even one of them is incorrectly formed, the entire Torah is rendered *passul*. The laws governing the creation of a sefer Torah are many and detailed, and the scribe must be well versed in them, but even more importantly, he must be conscientious and G-d fearing, for only the scribe himself can be sure if the writing was done with the correct *kavanah*. It is for this reason the scribe chosen must be well recommended and researched when one is considering the purchase of "STaM" (sefer Torah, *t'fillin* and mezuzot.

***The Reassuring Touch,* charcoal on paper, by Elie Benzaquen.**

While a certain artistic talent and skill are necessary to write an esthetically pleasing script, the more important factor of conscientiousness on the part of the scribe is what is really sought after by the serious Torah connoisseur and purchaser.

Even before a single letter is put down, the factor of *kavanah* comes into play. From the time the animal skin begins being prepared for use, whether it be for a Torah page or for a *t'fillin* or mezuzah scroll, this process must be carried out with that expressed purpose in mind and must be vocalized as well (*l'shem mitzvah*). When the lines are individually embossed on the parchment as a guide upon which the scribe will write, they, too, must be done with the expressed intention of *l'shem mitzvah*.

When the scribe dips his pen into the inkwell, he must intone to himself the letters he is about to form and the words that will result are all for the sake of the mitzvah of Torah (or *t'fillin* or mezuzah).

On top of that, when the scribe is about to write one of the Holy Names of G-d, he must again intone that the Names are holy and that they are being written with that knowledge and expressed purpose in mind.

Furthermore, an additional requirement is that each letter be correctly written in the exact sequence that it appears in the original. This law is referred to as the law of *Kesidran* and it is a law that poses great difficulties, for if one were to mistakenly omit a letter and only discover the mistake later, after having written a number of lines, the only way to correct the mistake would be to erase all successive lines back to the point where the error occurred and only then begin anew. The obvious difficulty with this law is that if the scribe wrote one of the holy Names of G-d following his mistake, he would be forbidden to erase backward to make the correction, and the entire page would then be rendered *passul* and uncorrectable.

If all this leaves one in wonderment regarding the feasibility of producing a kosher Torah, the rabbis' of Talmud themselves agonized over this last problem. They came to the conclusion that some opening must be found regarding the law of *Kesidran*. Otherwise we would never have a kosher Torah scroll! This law, however, remains in force as it applies to the writing of *t'fillin* or mezuzah scrolls.

Every reliable scribe will have a collection of uncorrectable mezuzot, and ironically, one can measure the honesty of a scribe by requesting to see his non-kosher mezuzot! If he has none, one might wonder if and how the mistakes were ever corrected, for everyone will make some mistakes at some point in time.

One can understand that the temptation would be great for a scribe to simply make a correction in the place where a mistake occurs without erasing the successive lines, and no one would be able to tell if the correction was done properly. The mezuzah would appear to be kosher but would be as unkosher as a one printed on paper. Whether it was done out of ignorance or greed, the article bought by the unsuspecting buyer would be as valid as a burglar alarm that does not sound the alarm when triggered!

Many people understand the importance of having a mezuzah to protect their homes, just as the sign on the doorposts protected the Jewish people from harm when the angel of death "passed-over" their homes in Egypt. It is unfortunate that many place more importance on the design and appearance of the outer casing than on the infinitely more significant contents. I once received a call with a request for "inserts" for mezuzot! It is a matter of understanding our priorities. Do we pay more attention to the core of the matter or merely to the superficial externalities that surround it?

As an artist, I can easily relate to the idea of giving "life" to a object that was inanimate. Compare the blank face of the canvas before Rembrandt applied his brush with one of the self portraits that he created. In his own way, Rembrandt created life that remains alive over 300 years later.

In my charcoal work *The Reassuring Touch,* I have sought not only to bring life to a blank piece of paper, but also to convey the warmth and security the old Yemenite Jew feels as he touches the mezuzah on his doorpost. His grandaughter watches the ancient custom of acknowledging the mezuzah. She recognizes it as an act of deep feeling which she in turn will emulate and pass on to her own children and grandchildren.

And so, whether it is the *t'fillin* that we personally don as an everlasting testimonial and connection to G-d and the Jewish people, or the mezuzot that mark our homes with holiness, or the ultimate sanctity of the sefer Torah that binds us as a community and as a people, it is through the ancient discipline of the scribe that an ancient people maintains its sacred objects. Holding fast to these objects and lovingly renewing their holiness in each generation will ensure the continuity of this ancient people for all times to come.

Rabbi Benzaquen is a sofer, artist and animator currently residing in Ottawa.

Opinions

Jewish presence rooted in Prague

PRAGUE DIARY: PART II

Our interest is caught by a postcard on the rack of a shop: "Kafka and Svejk," it reads, with a picture of Franz Kafka lifting a glass of Czech Pilsner to the health of the everyman soldier/layabout of *The Good Soldier Schweik*.

By Jean M. Gerber

What is the connection between Prague and its Jews? We set out to find out. We begin at the old town square, which our guide calls the "parlor of the nation." Buildings writhing with rococo ornamentation stand on ninth century vaults. Among this restless abundance of lavish ornamentation, the soul of the Czech nation resides, just as does the soul of Jewry at the Western Wall Plaza.

Everyone comes here, we are told, if only to see the famous clock featuring an hourly procession of apostles while a skeleton chimes the hour. Across the square, the Communist regime proclaimed victory in 1948. Crosses in the bricks mark the place where Czech national leaders were shot in the 17th century, and dominating the landscape is the monument to national hero John Hus.

Where is the Jewish connection? Our guide points to the Kafka House. Kafka spent 90 percent of his lifetime within one mile of the square. His home, school and parents' store were nearby; his dark days as a clerk were reflected in his tale *Metamorphosis*, as well as his life as an intellect, spent in cafes along the river (now the site of the Intercontinental Hotel). Kafka was himself a child of the Emancipation.

Beginning in the 18th century, Jews moved into the social, economic and intellectual life of the country. Kafka practised little of his religion formally, but regarded his Jewish identity as the basis, for good or ill, of his writing. Reflected in it is the labyrinthine nature of the city with its winding streets and alleys, as well as the looming castle across the river from the old town, our destination.

We cross the Charles Bridge with its posturing statues and pause in front of a crucifix. The cross is surrounded, astonishingly, with Hebrew lettering in gold: *Kadosh, kadosh, kadosh, Adonai tzeva'ot*, it reads.

Supposedly a Jew, fined for showing disrespect for the cross, was made to pay for the statue and added a Hebraic touch!

Crossing the bridge, we stand in the shadow of the castle on the Vltava/Moldau River. The original Jewish settlement of the ninth and 10th centuries was below its walls until fire and war forced it across the river. Few Jews, however, approached the castle after the Hapsburgs took power. This lengthy reign was hard on the Czechs and even worse for the Jews, who bore expulsion and return many times.

The worst was Queen Maria Theresa. A rabid anti-Semite, she came to power determined to be rid of the Jews. So out of Prague they went, into neighboring towns. Imagine her chagrin when after a few years the townspeople themselves begged for the return of the Jews. As our guide laconically observes, "They missed the custom of the Jews."

So back the Jews came, and as an expression of their gratitude to the witch on the throne, they prepared a banner, now hanging in the Maisel Synagogue, showing her royal self enthroned and surrounded by troops of soldiers.

Whose fingers, I wonder, had to sew this ironic thank you note? What she could not accomplish, the town named after her did: Theresienstadt, the city of Theresa.

Our guide begins to speak of his own experiences as a Czech Jew, growing up a few blocks from the castle. He felt at home until his boyhood was cut short by the German occupation. One of the 100 out of 15,000 children to survive Terezin, he saw Hitler enter the castle and look out over the defeated town.

He recalls the carpet-bombing of Dresden that shook the ground. "To us it was a symphony, those bombers a beautiful sight."

After liberation, he went to Israel and fought (with Czech-made weapons) in the War of Independence. "Those Czech arms made Israel possible", he tells us.

After years abroad, he has returned home. Why have so few Czech Jews returned since the overthrow of communism? Well, they have families rooted in a new place. He has none. Is anti-Semitism a fact in the new country? Never has he experienced it. Today Jews serve in the government and other posts without stigma.

The ghetto is truly gone, and so are its Jews. Wandering in the gardens of the castle, I pause by a stake that has writing in four languages, Russian, Czech, Japanese and English. "Peace," it reads. "May peace prevail on earth."

A moving tribute to Wallenberg

Although he was a much travelled person who studied in Germany, France and the United States, Raoul Wallenberg did not, as far as I know, ever make it to Canada. However, this savior of 100,000 Jews (and their descendants) in wartime Budapest in 1944-45, now has a permanent home in this country, a posthumous honor conferred upon him through sculptor Ernest Raab's dramatic bust of the great Swedish diplomat unveiled in a moving ceremony in Toronto's Earl Bales Park last month.

By Arnold Ages

That ceremony, which had its beginning just two years ago as a worthy idea in the mind of Goldie Steiner Raab, the organizer of the memorial day activities, came to fruition in front of almost a 1,000 people on a somewhat misty and cloudy day in September — the weather itself cooperating in the solemnity of the moment. For those assembled there, it was an epoch-making event, listening to Wallenberg's sister, Nina Lagergren, describe the human face of a man who has assumed a larger-than-life image in the saga of European Jewry during the Holocaust.

It has taken more than 50 years for the Wallenberg monument to be dedicated in Toronto, although it must be said that international committees have been active in the last decade in trying to tell his story and in pressuring the Soviet Union and now Russia to reveal what is known about his ignominious arrest, incarceration and fate in the Soviet gulag.

During the Soviet period, officials first denied any knowledge of Wallenberg, then issued vague statements about his whereabouts in the post World War II period and indicated only that he had died in captivity — this, despite periodic reports from exprisoners that he had been seen.

The situation has improved only marginally since the collapse of communism and we are still in ignorance about the exact circumstances surrounding Wallenberg's fate. There can never be closure on the Wallenberg file until this information is secured. Petitions directed at President Boris Yeltsin in this regard were circulated during the Wallenberg memorial ceremony.

It is one of the more subtle ironies of modern history that Canada — whose wartime immigration policy towards Jews fleeing Hitler was perhaps the worst of what Emil Fackenheim has called the "half democracies" — should be the country that has made Wallenberg its only honorary citizen. The honor is doubly shared by a Canada which has changed for the better in the last half century and by Wallenberg, whose sterling example of personal courage helped pierce the darkness of that terrible period when the swastika almost blotted out the sun.

Recognizing Wallenberg in 1996 is important during a period when researchers are examining ever more closely the Nazi stain that besmirched the conscience of the West between 1933 and 1945. Recent books by professors Daniel Goldhagen (*Hitler's Collaborators*) and William Brustein (*The Social Origins of the Nazi Party*) suggest that the racist and anti-Semitic ideology which fuelled the Holocaust was more pervasive in German society than has hitherto been believed. The evidence is not fully in, but a persuasive case can now be made to the effect that Nazism and the Holocaust were not merely "aberrations" of German history, but in part a logical result of decades of German anti-Semitism.

In view of the sobering and realistic picture of the past, the personal, moral example of Wallenberg stands out in stark relief against the inertia, indifference and ambivalence of governments and societies. As Prof. Irwin Cotler mentioned in his stirring address at the memorial, Wallenberg individually saved more Jews than any government or agency, and personified the Talmudic dictum that "he who saves one life saves the world."

The news media have reported that film personalities Barbra Streisand and Peter Bogdanovitch will be in Toronto this fall for a six-part series entitled *Rescuers* — which will deal with gentiles who saved Jews during World War II. It would be appropriate for them to visit Raab's visual, moving tribute to Wallenberg, the righteous man who rescued past, present and future generations of Jews.

Blacks & Jews

The ruckus that developed around the appearance of Louis Farrakhan in Toronto did not add to our *yontef* mood. Inside the hall, he said that he was not anti-Semitic, but at the door they sold anti-Semitic literature. It is no wonder that Jews feel uneasy about him, and I wish that circumstanes were otherwise.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

I remember fondly the days — only 30 years ago — when blacks and Jews marched together, stood together, worked together, when Martin Luther King preached in the pulpit at Holy Blossom Temple and emphasized the close relationship that Jews had with those who were underprivileged.

I was happy, therefore, to note that at least one American group is taking this problem seriously. The American Jewish Committee and Howard University (a black university) are now publishing a new magazine, the first edition of which appeared on my desk a few weeks ago. It is called *CommonQuest* and has the subtitle The Magazine of Black-Jewish Relations.

Somehow it seemed to speak directly to me — not only because I have been given a fair amount of my own life to this enterprise, but because the major article and magazine hit very close to home.

The article I refer to is called *Atlanta 1958: No Middle Ground*:

"On Oct. 12, 1958, the detonation of five sticks of dynamite in the oldest synagogue in Atlanta echoed with the admonitions of one of the South's pre-eminent rabbis, that 'there is only one real issue, civil rights.' "

I have every reason to remember that October day very well, for it is my wife's birthday and we happened to celebrate in St. Paul (where we lived at the time) by having a special guest, a friend of our younger days staying with us. Rabbi Jacob Rothchild of Atlanta was our scholar-in-residence. It was on that weekend that his temple was bombed, and *CommonQuest* features excerpts from a new book by Melissa Fay Greene, *The Temple Bombing*.

In the book, she describes how the Jews of the South, and of Atlanta especially, felt about blacks and the pervasive segregation problem. The rule was, "Keep a low profile." But then came Rabbi Rothchild who — on assuming the pulpit in 1946 — began preaching about the need to stand up and acknowledge that Jews and blacks had a common cause.

The author of the book credits the rabbi with turning not only the Jewish community towards civil rights but the general community as well. The attack on his temple was undoubtedly engineered by people who wanted to abort or at least slow the process of integration. But the voice of Rabbi Rothchild helped to turn the tide.

It is no accident that so many of the people who went on freedom rides and exposed themselves to danger were Jews. My own late brother, Walter, was one of them.

I hope the magazine is successful and that it will gain readers in Canada as well. Doing the right thing for our community is a religious command, and we should let no one — not even Farrakhan — deter us

The Kirshner File

Festival films are a mixed lot

Films of Jewish interest were screened at the recent Toronto International Film Festival. Some were better than others.

By Sheldon Kirshner

Virtually all these movies will be released commercially in theatres across Canada. Watch for them.

In recent years, the Australian movie industry has carved out a niche for itself on the international market. Just think of Gillian Armstrong's *My Brilliant Career* or Baz Luhrmann's *Strictly Ballroom.*

Now you can add Scott Hicks' *Shine* to that honorable list. A low-budget crowd pleaser, *Shine* is an extraordinary real-life drama framed by the trauma of the Holocaust and the soaring notes of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3.

The film revolves around the eccentric figure of David Helfgott (played by a succession of accomplished actors from Alex Rafalowicz and Noah Taylor to Geoffrey Rush), whose talents at the keyboard are recognized when he is all but seven years old. David's teacher, his father Elias Peter (Armin Mueller-Stahl), is a Polish Jew whose family was murdered by the Nazis. Elias Peter wants the best for his son, but being domineering and possessive, he stifles and alienates him.

Shine, which takes place during a period from the 1950s to the 1980s, charts David's odyssey from child prodigy in Sydney and student at London's Royal College of Music to his mental breakdown and inspirational recovery.

The performances are first-rate. Mueller-Stahl, a German actor with a penchant for portraying tormented Jewish characters, plays a man who is so haunted by the Holocaust that he denies David the training he requires to perfect his skills. Sir John Gielgud is impressive as David's unconventional tutor, while Lynn Redgrave projects a rare radiance as the remarkable woman who takes a shine to David.

A superior film in all respects, *Shine* is intelligent, heart-breaking and uplifting. And the thundering "Rach 3" piece leaves a memorable impression.

By any criterion, *The Substance of Fire,* directed by Daniel Sullivan, will be regarded as a winner.

Isaac Geldhart (Ron Rifkin), a New York City publisher whose boyhood was scarred by the sight of his family herded away by the Germans, devotes himself to the printed word and to serious, high-minded books, particularly about the Holocaust. He scoffs at popular works which might appeal to a mass audience. But Isaac, stubborn to the core, does not seem to realize that his marketing strategy is driving his respected company into bankruptcy.

Isaac's pragmatic son, Aaron (Tony Goldwyn), tries to convince him to publish his friend's manuscript, which he judges to be a potential best-seller, a commodity the firm has lacked for six years. Isaac rejects the proposal and goes ahead with plans to put out two books with little sales value — *The Architecture of the Holocaust* and *The Science of Genocide,* a four-volume, handsomely-bound work written by a cranky acquaintance who has spent three decades on the project.

Utterly frustrated by his father's obstinacy, Aaron enlists the help of his siblings to dissuade Isaac. Sarah (Sarah Jessica Parker), an actress, and Martin (Timothy Hutton), a teacher with a debilitating disease, side with Aaron in the inevitable showdown, and the family is torn asunder.

The Substance of Fire, powered by a brilliant performance from Rifkin and empathetic portrayals from the supporting cast, emerges as a strong, compelling film about the memory of the Holocaust and the anguish of inter-generational strife.

By turns idiosyncratic and burlesque, *Conversation with the Beast* marks Armin Mueller-Stahl's turn as a director. Regrettably, it is not an auspicious debut.

Arnold Webster (Bob Balaban), a timid American historian, arrives in Berlin to interview a 103-year-old recluse claiming to be Adolf Hitler (Mueller-Stahl). He is attended to by his sexy young wife, Hortense (Katharina Bohm), who humors him.

More often than not confined to a wheelchair, the man purporting to be Hitler claims that his body double committed suicide and that no one after 1945 believed he was Hitler. The man-who-would-be Hitler boasts of his magical powers and sexual prowess, declares that he was forced into the war by "Jewish statesmen," confesses that the German people gave him heartburn, claims that he lost the war because of incompetent aides and proclaims his immortality.

As he rants on, Webster speculates about the true identity of his interlocutor. The mystery, such as it is, cannot sustain the film, which is inappropriately playful. What suspense there is vanishes long before *Conversation with the Beast* flickers off the screen.

Volker Schlondorff's *The Ogre,* yet another German film which trades on Germany's Nazi-era guilt, suffers from a similar malaise. All but bereft of conflict and tension, it elicits only a modicum of interest.

John Malkovich plays the role of Abel, a simple, kind-hearted French soldier who finds himself in a German prisoner-of-war camp. Assigned to Hermann Goering's

Magical powers

sumptuous hunting lodge, Abel thrives in his new environment. As the Third Reich totters, Abel becomes an attendant at an SS preparatory school in a castle, the seat of an old family headed by an aristocrat (Armin Mueller-Stahl) contemptuous of the Nazis.

At the request of the resident Nazi race theorist, Abel roams the countryside, rounding up boys of pure Aryan lineage. And although Abel is usually incapable of drawing moral distinctions, he defies his masters by saving a Jewish boy from certain death.

Whether regarded as a kind of a fable or as a fairy tale, *The Ogre,* notwithstanding several chilling scenes which grip the heart, is invariably disappointing.

The only Israeli film at this year's festival, *The Arena of Murder* unfolds as a bleak meditation on Israeli society following Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Amos Gitai's free-form documentary, an amalgam of formal interviews, casual conversations, excerpts from a rock concert and current news clips, portrays Israel as deeply fragmented.

Politically, Gitai is a leftist, and this perspective informs and permeates *The Arena of Murder,* an unconventional film by any yardstick.

Jerusalem, Bille August's three-hour Swedish marathon, blends several grand themes: religious piety and zealotry, faith and unrequited love. Adapted from Selma Lagerlof's epic novel, which itself is based on a true story, *Jerusalem* is set in the late 19th century in rural Sweden and in Ottoman Palestine.

The plot turns on a young man whom fate has given a cruel hand: either marry his beloved and follow her to an unknown life in the Holy Land, or remain in the quiet village in which he was raised.

As brooding as an unrelieved northern landscape, *Jerusalem* is a palette of contrasting colors, juxtaposing the bluish cold of Scandinavia against the mellow browns of the Judean desert. Distinguished by a fine cast, the film sustains itself over a course of dramatic twists and turns, but ultimately lacks the power of August's 1988 tour de force, *Pelle the Conqueror.*

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Jewish Life

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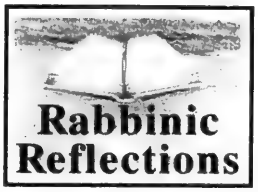

Dancing, joy a part of Simchat Torah

By
RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

In the Torah, the holiday of Simchat Torah has no special mitzvot. There is no sukkah, no lulav, no mention other than of a yom tov with the regular holiness and cessation from work.

However, we know Simchat Torah as a day of singing and dancing with the Torah, circling the bimah seven times and reading various verses from the Torah. This is not a mitzvah from the Torah, but rather it is a *minhag*, a custom or practice that has been adopted by the entire Jewish people.

The difference between a mitzvah and a *minhag* is its origins. A mitzvah is a commandment from the Commander, G-d, telling us what He expects of us. A *minhag* is us expressing what we want to say and to do. A *minhag* expresses our feelings of joy or sadness, or appreciation or whatever feelings we happen to have.

The *minhag* of wearing a *kittel* on Yom Kippur expresses our feelings of mortality and vulnerability. The *minhag* of saying Kabbalat Shabbat with Lecha Dodi expresses our desire to properly prepare for the holiness of Shabbat, based on a practice of some of the great scholars of the Talmud. The *minhag* of singing Adon Olam at the end of Shabbat morning services is as if to say that we do not find the services burdensome, the minute they are over we are out the door, but rather we will sit for a moment, like standing at the door saying goodbye to your hosts, not running out the door the minute the dinner is over.

On Simchat Torah, we Jews want to dance. We aren't commanded. We want to express our joy, our appreciation, the love that we feel for the Torah and all the beauty in it. This is the Jew speaking.

The Halachah states that on all the yamim tovim, if a person wanted to forgo eating and drinking and spend the entire day in *t'fillah*, in prayer and in learning, he would have that option — except for Shavuot, the day of the giving of the Torah. On Shavuot, we must eat and drink, spending half the day for our enjoyment and the other in prayer and eating and drinking. The Torah must be accompanied by pleasure, by enjoyment and gladness. On Simchat Torah, the day in which there is no mitzvah, we fill it with our feelings of love for the Torah.

Simchat Torah and Shavuot are partners in our love for the Torah. Shavuot has no mitzvah that we perform; so we learn the Torah all night — *a minhag*, an expression of our love for the learning of Torah. On Simchat Torah, a day of no mitzvah, we dance with the Torah. Shavuot is intellect, Simchat Torah is emotions.

May we all be filled with joy and love of the Torah on Simchat Torah and throughout the coming year.

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader for Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

You really think the wind is a sukkah's only problem?

By **JORDAN MAX**

Guest Voices

Once upon a time, in a cold and forbidding country called Canada, there lived a young family in a small northern town. Now the father was a real shlemazel, who was not very good with home repairs, much less construction. However, as the holiday of Sukkot was approaching, he decided to build a sukkah of wood and cloth in his backyard, and when it was finished, he was very pleased with his work.

Then the neighbors, who were by now very confused, called the Building Department to investigate this apparent zoning bylaw violation, but that is another story.

Well, the first night of Sukkot finally arrived. But along came the Big Bad Wind from the North, and it just laughed and blew and tore his lovely wood-and-cloth sukkah to shreds. And the shlemazel was very upset, for his ego was sorely bruised. He resolved to build a bigger, stronger sukkah the next year. But just in case, he moved his family further south to a house in Thornhill, where surely there was a warmer climate with less wind.

All that year, he toiled long and hard in his spare time, designing his new sukkah. It would be bigger, it would use more wood and thick tarps to keep out the cold and it would be anchored in kosher gelatin, the hardest material known to man, that is, next to Aunt Zelda's matzah balls. Finally, he finished his sukkah and it looked very beautiful. The sukkah survived two days until the Big Bad Wind came calling.

The Big Bad Wind was very cross with the shlemazel, for it had not been able to find him since he had moved. The Big Bad Wind blew great gusts at the second sukkah, but the tarps held. And the Big Bad Wind laughed a mighty laugh and blew again, twisting the wood frames until they were reduced to matchsticks. The shlemazel was distraught, but resolved more than ever that he would triumph over the Big Bad Wind the next year.

So the shlemazel consulted with his rabbi, engineers, "bildners," and other sukkah owners. Not only would he build a windproof all-wood sukkah, but it would also be a feat of engineering. And the shlemazel bought power tools and worked on the sukkah all year and tested it in wind tunnels, and he saw that it was very, very strong and beautiful. And he assembled the sukkah and bolted it to his house. Finally, when all was done, his children decorated the sukkah and people came from miles away to marvel at his creation, even though it did not have a retractable roof.

On the first night of Sukkot, the shlemazel and his family sat in the Mighty Sukkah, and who should arrive but the Big Bad Wind, without so much as a lousy box of chocolates. And the Big Bad Wind huffed and puffed to blow the sukkah down, and although it did rattle the door and blow down *s'chach* and decorations, it could not blow down the sukkah. And the shlemazel rejoiced at finally outsmarting the Big Bad Wind. But the Big Bad Wind just laughed at the shlemazel and spoke: "You simple shlemazel, you think this is all I have up my sleeve? I may not be able to blow down your sukkah, but I will cause you to run like a scared bunny into your house."

And the Big Bad Wind summoned his associates: first Arctic Air, and then Bees and Rain to harass the shlemazel in his sukkah. Although he got stung by Bees or frozen to the bone, or drenched by the Rain until he caught a very bad cold, the shlemazel would not retreat indoors, and for the remainder of Sukkot he ate his meals in his sukkah.

And so, every year, during the holiday of Sukkot, the Big Bad Wind and his associates Arctic Air, Bees and Rain do battle with the shlemazel's family and all other families with sukkahs.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Vignettes of Babylon

Waters of Babylon, by Avner Meiri (Lugus Press (no price indicated)).

Jews and Iraq have had a long and tangled history. It was the country of the exile after the Temple was destroyed in 586 BCE. There, the great Babylonian Talmud was created. In subsequent centuries it remained the only large Jewish community outside the Roman Empire with its own political head, the *rosh ha-golah*, the prince of the exile. During the Middle Ages and into relatively modern times, Jews were unmolested by the Muslim majority and enjoyed relative prosperity and cultural identity.

The rise of Nazism in Europe led to anti-Jewish feeling and the terrible pogrom of June 1941 when 180 Jews were killed and much property destroyed. Soon after the creation of Israel, almost all Iraqi Jews left for renewed hope in a new land.

The author of this slim volume of vignettes is a native of Baghdad, where he served as a teacher in Jewish community schools. The stories reflect the traditions, folklore and many-sided relationship between Iraqi Jews and Arabs a half century ago. The unpretentious, quickly-read stories are filled with provocative detail, as seen through the eyes of an inquisitive young boy. They are often amusing with surprise endings and are redolent of a former age and an exotic setting.

By the waters of Babylon and throughout exile, the tower of David in Jerusalem was always the centre of Jewish yearning.

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Jews for Judaism

Finding Jewish records in Utah

Roots & Remembrance

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

There's an ordinary-looking, four-story white stone building in the heart of Salt Lake City, Utah, that could be considered one of the wonders of the modern world.

Situated at 35 North West Temple St., the building is not nearly as grandiose as the temple across the street that Mormon pioneers erected in the last century. Nor is it as well-known as the nearby 6,500-seat Mormon Tabernacle, home of the legendary Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

But for most genealogists, there's no better place to do family tree research. The building, the Family History Library of the LDS or Mormon Church, holds vital records for an astonishing proportion of the human race, including the Jews. Whether your Jewish roots extend back to Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Germany, France, England or other countries, chances are reasonably good you'll find microfilmed family records in Salt Lake City. (The collection is weak for most republics of the former Soviet Union.)

The Family History Library is the main public repository for nearly two million rolls of microfilm and perhaps as many sheets of microfiche. Church officials estimate they possess information on more than two billion people who lived within the last 400 years.

Since 1938, teams of LDS photographers have been traveling the world, microfilming birth, marriage, death, baptism, naturalization, census, military and other records pertaining to most nations, ethnic groups and religions. At present, some 200 LDS camera technicians are filming in more than 40 countries, sending back about 60,000 rolls of microfilmed records to Utah each year.

Only the most commonly used microfilms are housed in the library. The rest and all master negatives are stored under optimum conditions of humidity, temperature and light in the Granite Mountain Records Vault in a mountain outside Salt Lake City.

According to LDS spokesperson Thomas Daniels, church officials estimate that written records of one sort or another exist somewhere on Earth for at least one-tenth of the estimated 70 billion people who have ever lived. "We have two or 2.5 billion names in our collection, so we're perhaps one-third of the way towards getting all the names of those for whom records have been kept," says Daniels.

The Mormons have gone to such extraordinary lengths to build the world's foremost genealogical library because of their belief in the permanence of family ties. All adherents are required to chart at least four generations of their family trees, then perform a religious rite called "sealing," essentially a form of posthumous baptism, to join spouses, children and ancestors together in the hereafter. Although they are supposed to perform this ritual only for their own ancestors, LDS officials admitted last year that a few overzealous church members had performed the ritual using the names of Holocaust victims. After receiving Jewish protests, they stopped the practice.

Everyone is welcome to use the LDS Family History Library. For researchers who can't make the trek to Salt Lake City, most library materials are available at minimal charge through thousands of branches in North America and Europe, including about 100 across Canada and more than 30 in southern Ontario.

About a decade ago, I visited the small LDS library in Etobicoke (416-621-4607) and ordered a microfilm of Jewish records from 1845 to 1865 from Konin, the Polish hometown of my Glicenstein ancestors. Soon after the microfilm arrived, I found a handwritten, largely indecipherable document in which the name Glicensztayn appeared repeatedly. At first, all I knew for sure about the document was that it was dated 1846.

Aided by the excellent *Translation Guide to 19th-Century Polish-Language Civil Registration Documents: Births, Marriages and Deaths,* edited by Judith Frazin, I determined that I had found the marriage record for my great-great-grandparents, Raphael and Rudeszc Glicenzstayn. The document provided a wealth of family information, including the names of my third great-grandparents. I've since uncovered hundreds of other family documents and constructed a massive family tree with dates going back inferentially to the 1750s.

Many Jewish researchers around the world are now using these records. As mentioned in an earlier column, many are also involved in the massive indexing project known as REIPP (Russian Era Indexing of Poland Project). For details, send an e-mail query to [reipp2@jewishgen.org] or write to 25 Cathedral Circle, Nashua, NH 03063-2716. To reach the LDS Library in Salt Lake City, call 800-453-3860.

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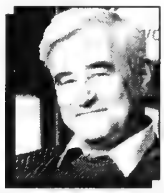

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UJA FEDERATION

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Sunnybrook hospital gets Jewish chapel

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The largest hospital in Ontario, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, now has a synagogue, the first ever built in a hospital.

Though it didn't open officially until Oct. 1, the Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel had a service led by Rabbi Barry Schneider of Beth Emeth Synagogue on the second day of Rosh Hashanah, attended by 60 patients and staff, including war veterans in wheel chairs, and one in a hospital bed.

This synagogue is special in many ways. It serves the 40 disabled Jewish veterans who live in the hospital and are the special concern of members of the General Wingate branch of the Canadian Legion. It also serves a hospital which has more Jewish patients, doctors and other staff than any other hospital in Ontario.

To tie it in to the community's total resources, Rabbi Schneider, the hospital's voluntary chaplain for the past 15 years, plans a minyan once a week, or even more often, with the help of volunteers from youth groups and other synagogues.

Along with a handsome ark designed by Ron Henig, the chapel will eventually have 12 stained glass windows depicting seasons of the Jewish calendar. Its podium-lectern can be turned mechanically into a table for study purposes, to save space.

As the chapel is a place for prayer, study and reading, Rabbi Schneider is enthusiastic about its potential for Jews and non-Jews alike. A state-of-the-art medical ethics library, perhaps the first of its kind in Canada, is planned for the chapel.

The synagogue is designed to be flexible enough to accommodate wheel chairs or hospital beds.

It is expected that the chapel will be used as much by the approximately 250 Jewish patients and staff for *yahrtzeit* as by the veterans who were the inspiration for its building.

"It would not have been possible without the active support and cooperation of Rev. Alan Tipping, the retired chief of the hospital's pastoral services, and Rev. Bob Hunt, the coordinating chaplain," said Rabbi Schneider.

Two members of Beth Emeth, Ralph Snow, chapel committee chair, and Dave Smuschkowitz, head of fundraising and construction, have been key players. A generous donation from Leslie Dan helped the project.

The synagogue, which includes a counselling and meditation room, is on the ground floor of E wing and is accessible from all parts of the huge hospital, including K wing where the war veterans live. It has its own sukkah patio.

The chapel honors the memory of Harvey Lister (1920-1991), former president of Steeles Memorial Chapel and a long-standing member of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada and the General Wingate branch.

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Greater Toronto Area

Cantor Bagley assumes rabbi's duties at Beth Radom

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Cantor David Bagley

TORONTO — Beth Radom Congregation has hired its first full-time spiritual leader, renowned chazzan David Bagley, who will serve as both rabbi and cantor to the North York synagogue.

Cantor Bagley, whose operatic tenor has earned him an international reputation, took on his new duties in August.

He made time for an interview — with surprising ease, given the timing of the request — three days prior to Rosh Hashanah. Three weeks into the job, he had already organized a seven-person choir of men and women conducted by his wife Klara, prepared his High Holy Day sermons, instituted regular afternoon services and dusted off his smichah.

"I've been a rabbi since I was 19 years old," he said, smiling. Born in Vilna, he escaped Europe with his family as a child. At the beginning of World War II, they fled to Japan and then to Shanghai, China, where he studied at the Mir Yeshivah.

Bagley immigrated to the United States as a teenager and obtained smichah at Yeshiva Beth Yosef Novardok in Brooklyn, he said.

His career as a synagogue cantor has taken him to Mexico, Israel and South Africa. In the latter two countries, he was affiliated with, respectively, the Great Synagogue of Ramat Gan and the Oxford Synagogue in Johannesburg. Most recently, he served at Chevra Kadisha B'nai Jacob in Montreal.

No stranger to Toronto, he is past president of the Toronto Council of Chazzanim and served two stints — a total of about 15 years — at Beth Sholom Congregation. Cantorial concerts and recordings have also been an integral component of his career.

Cantor Bagley laments the decline of professional chazzanut, a subject he expounded on at length, noting with alarm the increasing number of synagogues to forego the services of professional chazzanim, some for financial reasons, others for ideological ones. The trend poses "a danger to the continuity" of the traditional melodies used in Ashkenazi services, melodies he sees as a unifying force for the community.

"When we have a problem with the law, we look for the best lawyers," argued Cantor Bagley. "The chazzan is the lawyer of the congregation. That's why he faces the Ark. He faces G-d."

In his new dual role, Cantor Bagley hopes to continue to "serve humanity and Judaism."

With a membership of over 300 families, the recently renovated Beth Radom has come into its own as a synagogue in the past few years. This year, there was a waiting list for High Holy Day tickets.

The North York congregation began life as a *landsmanshaft* and evolved to meet the changing needs of its membership, now a mix of young families and original members.

A Conservative synagogue affiliated with the New York-based United Synagogue umbrella, Beth Radom is "a traditional congregation," said Cantor Bagley, who described himself as a traditional man.

The highest form of charity

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – New Jersey resident Alisa Flatow was only 4½ years old when she decided she wanted to study at a yeshivah later in life. Still attracted to Judaism as a teenager, she travelled frequently to Israel to study religion in Jerusalem.

Last year, while on her sixth such trip, the 20-year-old woman was killed by a terrorist explosion that also took the lives of seven Israeli soldiers.

"What I learned from this, basically, is that Jews care for each other," Stephen Flatow, Alisa's father, told an audience in Toronto recently. "We are responsible for each other's well-being. Many people reached out to us in our grief. And we have an obligation not to let personal tragedies like this interfere with our beliefs. You keep going forward, especially as a Jew."

Speaking at a fundraising event for Israel Bonds, Flatow explained that his daughter died after a terrorist bomb ripped a bus apart while she was visiting a resort in the Gaza Strip. Several friends who were travelling with her survived the blast.

A frequent lecturer for the Bonds organization, Flatow said that Alisa's strong interest in Judaism deepened her family's Jewish faith over the years, and that it was that same faith that had helped them cope with the tragedy of her murder.

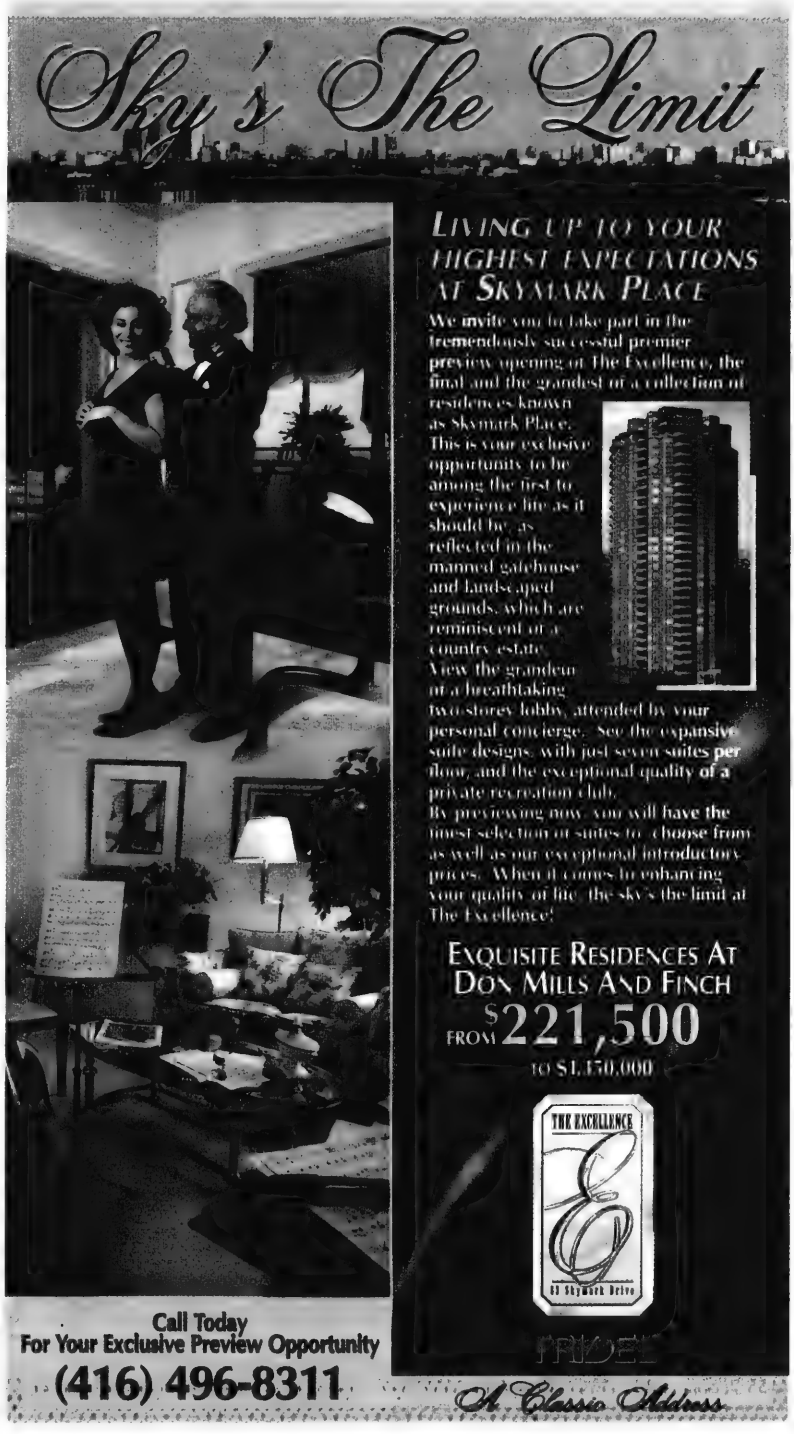
The family has started the Alisa Flatow Memorial Fund, he said, to provide scholarships to college-aged students from North America to study Judaism in Israel.

"I believe personally that it is a Jewish obligation to help other Jews, and the highest form of charity is to go into business with someone who is a little bit down on their luck. That's where Israel Bonds come in.

"In essence, you're helping people get by. You're helping them free up their resources so they can do something else with the money. This is a loan, it's not a free gift. It's important to support Israel Bonds as a way of showing our unity."

Flatow spoke in the home of David and Luba Smuschkowitz, who were the honorees and the hosts of the event, which drew more than 100 guests.

David Smuschkowitz was instrumental in building the Holocaust Centre in the Lipa Green Building in North York and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Memorial in Earl Bales Park. He is also a major force behind the new Jewish chapel in Sunnybrook Health Science Centre.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Greater Toronto Area

Child abuse under-reported, coalition says

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Large" numbers of "seriously" abused and neglected children still go unreported, a coalition of children's aid societies warned last week.

The coalition, which includes Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) joined Metro's two other children's aid societies and Metro Chairman Allan Tonks in proclaiming October Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Child abuse in Metro "is seriously under-reported," coalition spokesperson Gordon Wolfe told a news conference. More aggressive reporting of child abuse and neglect "is crucial" to understanding the problem and helping children at risk, said Wolfe, executive director of JF&CS. "Without a report, there is no possibility of help."

Last year, Metro's children's aid societies served 31,000 children and 17,000 families. The coalition estimates that one in 17 children receives assistance from JF&CS, Catholic Children's Aid or Metro's Children's Aid Society.

Metro Chairman Allan Tonks (centre) holds the proclamation of October as Child Abuse Prevention Month. He's flanked by Dr. Paul Steinhauer (left) and JF&CS director Gordon Wolfe.

In the Jewish community, 270 allegations of child abuse were investigated by JF&CS in 1995. The agency also had 82 children in its care.

Wolfe cited a poll in the United States showing the number of physical abuse victims is more than 16 times the number of reported cases. For sexual abuse, the figure is 10 times the number of officially reported cases.

Metro's proclamation came on the heels of the announcement by Queen's Park of a task force to probe child abuse deaths in Ontario.

The alliance cited a report on child poverty in Metro showing that one in three children under 18 and living at home relied on social assistance. Fully 80 percent of children served by agencies live at or below the poverty line, and over 40 percent of Metro's food bank users are under 19.

Wolfe said more than half of the Metro agencies' services were provided to single-parent families, which are most likely to be poor.

"The relationship between poverty and child neglect has been well documented," he noted.

Provincial budget cuts are increasing child abuse in Metro, said Dr. Paul Steinhauer, a child psychiatrist.

He said once all cuts sink in — including the 20 percent reduction in social assistance and the end of rent controls — more children "will be lacking the basic skills needed to survive."

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Vancouver teen elected president of B'nai Brith Girls

TORONTO — Seventeen-year-old Nava Mizrachi of Vancouver has been elected international *n'siah* (president) of B'nai Brith Girls (BBG) of B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO), the world's largest international Jewish youth organization.

Mizrachi, who has already received over 20 academic, community and organizational awards, attributes her passion for helping others to her strong Jewish background.

Her duties as international *n'siah* include travelling across North America, Europe and Israel and assisting the local programs in achieving their goals for the upcoming year.

"I love trying to inspire and motivate others," she says. "All I wanted was the opportunity. Now that I have it, I'm not going to waste a second of it."

Mizrachi is the fourth Canadian to be voted in as president of the 52-year-old BBG.

BBYO in Canada will be returning to a structure whereby the Canadian regions will once again be supervised by BBYO International in the United States. BBYO International had fully funded the BBYO national structure over the last 3½ years, in order to ensure the stability of local programs during a transitional period, after funding of local BBYO programs was severed by B'nai Brith Canada.

BBYO International will continue to work with federations and Jewish community centres in providing programs in different communities. BBYO International will retain its commitment to Canadian Jewish teens through direct supervision and provision of resources to individual local programs.

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UJA FEDERATION

Barak urges Netanyahu 'to pull toward the centre'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Ehud Barak, the man trying to succeed Shimon Peres as leader of the Labor party, said last week he will support Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if he pursues "pragmatic policies."

Barak, the former chief of staff who was briefly foreign minister after Yitzhak Rabin's assassination last November, said that Netanyahu's "only real alternative" is "to pull toward the centre."

Characterizing Netanyahu as "quite a pragmatic person," Barak, who was his commanding officer in the army, urged Netanyahu not "to break his head on the rock of reality."

Barak, however, criticized, Netanyahu's foreign policy record after 100 days in office. He claimed that Israel's relations with the Palestine Authority have become "tenuous" and that its ties with Egypt have fallen to "an all-time low."

Tension with Syria has flared in Lebanon, while Arab states in the Persian Gulf have frozen their relations with Israel, he said.

Barak, who recently announced his candidacy for the Labor party's top post, spoke to a capacity audience at Holy Blossom Temple. He was in Toronto under the auspices of UJA Federation.

In a blunt, wide-ranging speech, Barak suggested that Israel is powerful enough to take risks for the sake of peace.

"Israel has never been stronger," he declared, citing its military might, its nuclear deterrent, its economic strength and its strategic relations with the United States, the only super power.

Barak, who praised Rabin and Peres for having launched the current peace process, described peace as a "vital interest" rather than a "luxury," not only for Israel but for the Arabs.

Paraphrasing the late John F. Kennedy, Barak said, "Let us never fear to negotiate."

However, Barak said he had no illusions about the peace process. "The Palestinians are still dreaming about our disappearance," he acknowledged. But Israel can defend itself because "we're strong enough."

Taking a question from the floor following his formal address, Barak disputed a contention that the PLO had failed to abrogate its national covenant, which calls for Israel's destruction.

"To the best of my knowledge," he said, "it was cancelled." And the Palestine Authority, he added, has pledged that the PLO's new charter will not contradict the Oslo accords.

Still, Barak said, he prefers to regulate Israel's relationship with the Palestinians through a policy of separation.

For now, because Israel and the Palestinians have yet to fully normalize their relations, " high fences-make good neighbors," he noted.

Barak said it is not in Israel's interests to maintain a permanent grip on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with its 2.5 million Palestinian Arabs.

"For Israel to control all the territories is to create a binational or apartheid state." Is this the dream of Zionism? he asked rhetorically.

"The choices are not between 'peace with security' or 'security with peace,' " he said, referring to the election campaign slogans of the Labor party and the Likud bloc, "but between democracy and apartheid."

Turning to the thorny and still unresolved issue of Hebron, from which Israel is obliged to make a partial withdrawal, Barak said that the Palestine Authority rather than Israel should administer the 100,000 Arabs who live there.

Israel, he said, should control the Jewish enclaves in Hebron, which he called "the cradle of our civilization and traditions."

Jews have a right to settle in the territories. But in order to achieve peace with the Arabs, he said, "we have to find a point of equilibrium."

Dismissing the far-right notion that Israel can expel, or transfer, Palestinans from the territories, Barak said it was "morally impossible and politically impractical."

Touching on Jerusalem, Barak heatedly denied that the Labor party sought to divide the city. "We're determined to keep Jerusalem united, under our control."

Claiming that Jews in Israel and the Diaspora have "grown apart," Barak called on both parties "to redefine their relationship."

He urged Jews to visit Israel more frequently, to teach their children Hebrew and to invest in Israel, "our shared future."

And while Jews outside Israel have a responsibility to be involved in Israel's affairs, they do not have the right "to tell us what to do."

In other comments, Barak left a rosy impression of the current state of Israel's economy, categorized Soviet immigrants as "superb human capital" and applauded the resiliency of Israeli democracy in the wake of Rabin's murder.

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Barak seeking Likud leadership

[Cont'd. from page 1]

enforce it on them," he warned.

As part of a final settlement with the Palestinians, Israel should retain the eastern sector of Jerusalem (which Israel annexed in 1967), keep the Gush Etzion bloc, straighten its borders in northern Samaria, widen the corridor to Jerusalem and maintain a military presence along the Jordan River.

Furthermore, no foreign armies should be stationed west of the Jordan River, and Palestinian refugees should not have the right to return.

"It's a wider Allon Plan," he explained, referring to a formula worked out by Yigal Allon, Israel's late foreign minister.

Barak also believes that the majority of Jewish settlers in the territories should live under "Israel's control."

He was not prepared to say whether Israel should relinquish the Golan Heights in exchange for a full-fledged peace treaty with Syria.

"The only card we have is the depth of a withdrawal from the Golan," he said.

"We demand from the Syrians full peace, with normalization, security arrangements, early warning systems, water rights, curbs on terrorism and a solution in [southern] Lebanon."

Early this year, Barak spent two days talking with Syria's chief of staff in Washington, and at the end of their conversations he was not convinced that Syria would or could meet Israel's demands.

Reacting to a report that Rabin had notified the United States that he was willing to withdraw to the June 4, 1967 lines with Syria in return for a fullblown peace treaty. Barak dismissed the story as untrue. Rabin, however, was prepared to take "far-reaching risks," Barak noted.

Turning to southern Lebanon, Barak said Israel should not unilaterally pull out of its self-declared security zone there, unless the withdrawal is made within the context of agreements with Syria and Lebanon.

As for Yasser Arafat's record in containing terrorism, Barak said his performance of late has markedly improved. "He's doing much more than two years ago."

In Barak's judgment, the Palestine Authority is essentially in compliance with the Oslo accords.

"Here and there are technical violations. But basically, it's a promising and successful process," he said in reference to Israel's budding relationship with the Palestinians of the territories. (Barak spoke just as the latest violence in the territories got under way).

Barak has no doubt that Israel will comply with the Oslo agreements and deploy from Hebron, albeit with "cosmetic changes."

"We are the most powerful player in the Middle East in terms of military and strategic capabilities. We are perceived by the Arabs to have a nuclear capability. We have a huge economy. All these elements make us stronger, and we should use this leverage in pursuit of peace."

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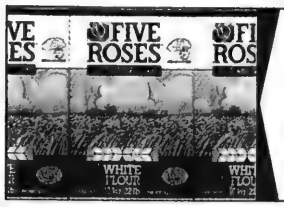

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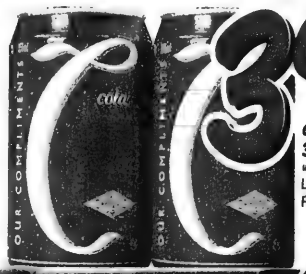

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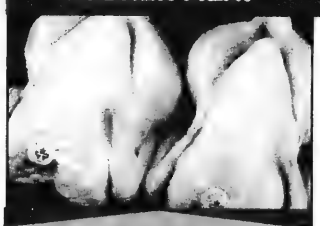

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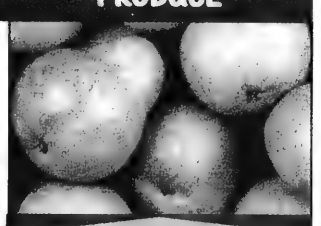

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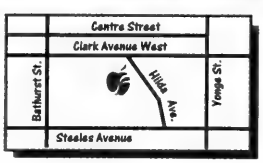

Greater Toronto Area

From left, CIEC staff Adam Minsky, national education director; Yael Markus, administrative assistant; Michael Soberman, Ontario Israel Experience director; and Elizabeth Sokolsky, national executive director, met with Linda Israel, past national director, Youth & Hechalutz, CZF, at the CIEC's new office. [Stephen Epstein photo]

Israel Experience head office moves to Toronto

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel experience programs will have a new Canadian home as of Oct. 1. The newly formed Canada Israel Experience Centre (CIEC) will share office space with the United Israel Appeal (UIA)/Council of Jewish Federations office in Toronto.

The formation of the new entity marks significant change in two areas: the national umbrella office for Israel Experience programs is now located in Toronto, not Montreal; and it is now formally affiliated with the federation system, the umbrella group for local Jewish communities.

Until now, Israel Experience programs were run on a national basis out of Montreal's Youth & Hechalutz (Y&H) office, a department of the Canadian Zionist Federation managed for the last decade by Linda Israel. The department, which sent about 600 young people to Israel last year, had seven constituent offices across the country, one of which was located in Toronto.

The new Toronto office replaces the Montreal office on a national level (locally, FEDERATION CJA has assumed responsibility for Israel experience trips); at a local level in Toronto, the new office will provide resource services formerly offered by the Israel Youth Program Centre (IYPC), whose office in the Bathurst Jewish Centre is closing in order to be integrated into the CIEC.

"There was a need for everyone to work together," said Israel during a recent visit to Toronto to help ease the transition. She called the move "a logical step," given also the larger size of Toronto's Jewish population and the location of the UIA office.

Michael Soberman of the IYPC will work in the new office as Ontario Israel Experience director; Liz Sokolsky, 37, former national director of B'nai Brith Youth Organization, has been appointed national executive director. Also on staff will be Adam Minsky, national director of education and a former leader on Y&H Israel trips. An administrative assistant and a Jewish Agency *shaliach* (scheduled to arrive in November) will also be based there.

The CIEC is affiliated with CZF/Youth & Hechalutz Jerusalem, the CRB Foundation, UIA Canada and the Council of Jewish Federations. It is also connected with New York-based Israel Experience Inc., a newly created North American umbrella for Israel Experience offices.

The function of the CIEC will be to promote and market Israel Experience programs for high school and university-age students, said Sokolsky. Its mandate will also include creating new programs to attract unaffiliated Jewish youth.

"The Israel Experience is an integral part of [students'] informal Jewish education," said Sokolsky. She hopes the CIEC will become "almost like a Yellow Pages" for the different programs available.

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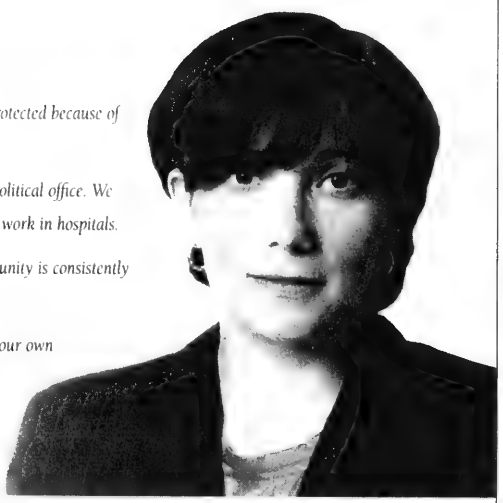

Carole Sterling

Through its funding of Canadian Jewish Congress, UJA Federation supports essential principles of Jewish life: Democracy, justice, pluralism and freedom. It fights antisemitism, promotes government funding for day schools, works to free Jews from oppression, and promotes human rights.

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UJA FEDERATION

Experts clash over Nazi doctors

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A visiting expert's contention that doctors in Nazi Germany were primarily used by Hitler as a "cover" for his war on Jews was challenged here by two university professors.

The opinion of Dr. Henry Friedlander of City University of New York, who survived Auschwitz and other death camps as a young man and wrote *Origins of Nazi Genocide*, sparked a lively debate at the Hannah seminar on the history of medicine at the University of Toronto recently.

The analysis by Friedlander failed to give enough weight to the eager participation of German doctors in furthering Hitler's plans said Prof. Michael Kater, a York University history professsor and author of *Doctors Under Hitler*.

"One out of two male physicians in Germany was a member of the Nazi party," Kater said. These doctors were anxious to oust Jewish physicians who made up 10 percent of the total, he added.

Friedlander, himself the son of a Berlin doctor, downplayed Nazi ideology "as a crucial ingredient," argued University of Toronto history professor Michael Marris. The New York visitor also failed to make clear the link between the early eugenic killings authorized by Hitler and the final solution of mass killings of Jews, Marris said.

While agreeing that Hitler's main attack was against the Jews, Friedlander said the German physicians and university medical professors were co-opted by Hitler to give legitimacy to Nazi policy. Important motives for the doctors included their desire to be at the centre of events, to get salary and fringe benefits, including travel with their wives, "all the things of carreerism," Friedlander said.

One of several Holocaust survivors who attended the seminar deplored the fact that there was no outcry from the German public when the extermination of Jews became known.

Freidlander said Hitler used the killing of the handicapped and mental defectives in the early days of the Nazi regime as a "model" for the later death camps.

"They wanted to pipe gas into the hospital wards but were warned by chemists that it wouldn't work. So they developed the gas chamber and cremated the bodies, after taking gold teeth and bridgework from the victims."

Yiddish heritage studied

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It may be a long way from Kolomyya in Bukovina, Romania, to Toronto, but, through learning Yiddish, Claudia Bickel hopes to make the journey.

The Toronto woman, now studying Yiddish at the University of Toronto, is a granddaughter of famed Yiddish Romanian writer and critic Shlomo Bickel, but she has never been able to read the 10 books he has written or edited.

When she grew up in New Haven, Conn., no Yiddish was spoken in their home. "I really didn't know anything about my Jewish identity," she said. Her late father, Alexander, died when she was 12. He taught constitutional law at Yale, was a "real American" and her mother, Joanne, an Italian-American living in New York, is non-Jewish.

Bickel, a writer of fiction and poetry, who attended Haverford College in Pennsylvania, and went on to graduate school at the School of Medieval Studies at U of T, became interested in her Jewish roots as her education progressed.

She was delighted to find a laudatory entry in Encylcopedia Judaica about her grandfather who came to New York in 1939 and was literary editor of the Yiddish daily *Der Tog*.

His most famous book *A Shtot Mit Yidn*, a City of Jews, was about the lives of ordinary Jews in Kolomyya. Bikel was an active Labor Zionist and was editor of *Di Freyheyt*, the organ of the Poale Zion of Bukovina. He was an officer in the Austrian Army in World War I.

His granddaughter attended a six-week Yiddish course at Columbia University, New York, this past summer. She is one of three winners of scholarships sponsored by Friends of Yiddish, Workmen's Circle and the Zukerman Charitable Foundation to attend the course. The other winners are Sharon Grainer and Benjamin Nemerofsky-Ramsay.

Claudia Bickel says she is stronger in reading and writing Yiddish than in speaking it but her conversational skills are increasing and she is looking for opportunities to speak Yiddish. Her honorary membership in Friends of Yiddish and their conversation club will help.

"I'm excited about eventually being able to read my grandfather's books," she said.

This is her second year in Yiddish studies at the U of T with teacher Ellie Kellman.

At a recent Friends of Yiddish breakfast meeting, she sat entranced, listening to a reading of a Shalom Aleichem story by Nathan Garnick. "I was able to follow some of the Yiddish but his English summaries helped a lot."

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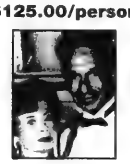

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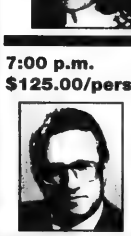

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Controversial judge will step down

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jewish groups applauded Quebec Superior Court judge Jean Bienvenue's decision to retire following a Canadian Judicial Council recommendation that he be removed from the bench.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Goldie Hershon said it was "the right thing to do under the circumstances," adding that Bienvenue's apology to the Jewish community was "simply insufficient."

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) spokesperson Stephen Scheinberg agreed the judge's stepping down was, not only appropriate, but "the best judgment Justice Bienvenue has shown during his tenure on the bench.

"We are just sorry that the resolution of this issue took such a long time and that the legal avenues to his removal were so very cumbersome."

Had he not left, Bienvenue's future was in the hands of Justice Minister Allan Rock who would have had to decide whether to recommend to Parliament that the judge be ousted.

Only Parliament, by joint resolution of the House of Commons and the Senate, can fire a federally appointed judge. It would have been the first time in history such a vote had been put to Parliament. The council, established in 1971, has never previously recommended a judge's removal.

The council, by a vote of 22-7, endorsed an earlier five-member inquiry committee's majority finding that Bienvenue had become "incapacitated or disabled from the due execution of the office of judge." The council, chaired by Supreme Court Chief Justice Antonio Lamer, is composed of the chief and associate chief justices of federally appointed courts across Canada.

"We find the judge has shown an aggravating lack of sensitivity to the communities and individuals offended by his remarks or conduct. In addition — the evidence could not be any clearer — Mr. Justice Bienvenue does not intend to change his behavior in any way," the council report states.

The inquiry was held in response to complaints about the behavior of Bienvenue last December in Trois-Rivieres during the trial and sentencing of Tracy Theberge for murder, and specifically his comments concerning women and Jews.

He stated that millions of Jews died without pain or suffering in the gas chambers and that women can "sink to depths to which even the vilest man could not sink."

As well, according to the inquiry committee report released in July, the judge inappropriately criticized the jury's performance and competence.

The council found Bienvenue has "undermined public confidence in him and strongly contributed to destroying public confidence in the judicial system ...

"It is essential to the integrity of the administration of justice that the public have confidence in the impartiality of the judiciary ..."

Bienvenue, 68, a one-time Liberal education and immigration minister, had been a Superior Court judge since 1977.

The Bienvenue affair points to the need for reform of how judges are disciplined, according to BBC senior counsel David Matas. "A recommendation from the Canadian Judicial Council should be sufficient given that every Superior Court judge sits on the council and given the number of judges now presiding in Canada.

"Also, it would be unprofessional to remove a judge through Parliamentary debate, as it becomes a matter of politics, not confidence."

CJC Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum hopes this episode will lead to clearer guidelines on the behavior of judges.

Journalist interviewed Schindler

MONTREAL — The first known journalist to interview Oskar Schindler — veteran Montreal newsman Herbert Steinhouse — died Sept. 21 at age 74.

Steinhouse's 1948 meeting with Schindler, whose name achieved legendary status following the release of Steven Spielberg's acclaimed 1993 film, *Schindler's List*, was just the start of a varied career as a journalist, novelist and broadcaster that spanned more than 40 years.

For 30 of those years, starting in 1957, Steinhouse, with omnipresent pipe in hand and distinguished good looks, worked at the Montreal CBC, as a public affairs producer, in public relations, director of English-language programming, and as the man charged with establishing radio and television transmitters and receivers to regions across the province.

But Steinhouse scooped the world as the first man to document the exploits of Schindler, a German industrialist credited with saving the lives of hundreds of Jews he hired as factory workers.

He is survived by his wife, Tobie (Davis), and sons Stephan and Adam.

J.N.F. TORONTO SUMMER PICTORIAL REVIEW

Tanya Rossby dedicates a forest picnic area in memory of her late mother, during 1996 MegaTour.

The J.N.F. Toronto group on tour in Israel - May, 1996.

Teacher Ziona Hagler receives the J.N.F. Jerusalem flat on behalf of Bialik Hebrew Day School for the 1995/96 school year in June.

THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO EXTENDS BEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

AS J.N.F. PREPARES FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF ACTIVITY AND ITS 48TH NEGEV DINNER, WE TAKE A QUICK GLANCE BACK AT RECENT EVENTS - A SUMMER PICTORIAL REVIEW.

Michael Rosenberg (right) receives the outstanding volunteer award, the Bloomfield Medal, from J.N.F. President Tom Ungar, at the Annual Meeting in June, 1996.

Tom and Elaine Ungar (centre and right) are joined by J.N.F. World Chairman Moshe Rivlin in Jerusalem during the May, 1996 MegaTour to dedicate the "Cyprus Lookout" in the Peace Forest, a special project donated by Tom and Elaine and their children.

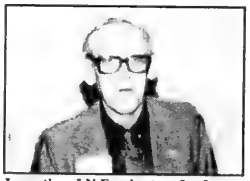
J.N.F. Toronto's Education Co-ordinator Roni Kadmiel at work co-producing "Our Jerusalem - Gan Yaldei Yisrael".

Jerusalem 3000 Chair Frank A. Wilson reporting on projects.

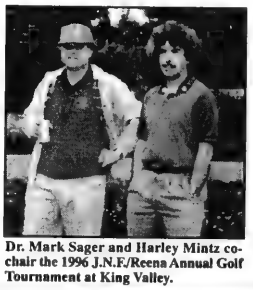
Planning for another year of J.N.F. activity are (left to right) Executive Director Ben Prossin; National Executive Vice-President Avner Regev; Jerusalem Emissary Brig. Gen. Doron Kadmiel.

The final performance, in early summer, of "Our Jerusalem - Gan Yaldei Yisrael", a Jerusalem 3000 project.

Dr. Roger and Susan Stronell inaugurate a major project in Jerusalem at Ammunition Hill in May, 1996, in memory of those who fell liberating Jerusalem.



Long-time J.N.F. volunteer Joe Lester celebrates his 90th in August, 1996.



Dr. Mark Sager and Harley Mintz co-chair the 1996 J.N.F./Reena Annual Golf Tournament at King Valley.

Launching the 1996 Negev Dinner campaign at the Royal Ontario Museum (left to right) Lt. Gov. Hal Jackman; philanthropist Bluma Appel; former Lt. Gov. Lincoln Alexander.

This page is sponsored by the Jewish National Fund of Toronto

From coast to coast

'Hope' gave survivor the strength to carry on

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The memory of what Gerda Weissmann Klein thought of as "just another boring evening at home" as a young girl sustained her through the nightmare of three long years in German labor camps, hunger and finally, a gruelling death march.

Klein never abandoned hope that one day, she would be back in that living room with her family.

It was not to be. She was the sole survivor.

Weissmann Klein spoke to close to 200 guests at a recent State of Israel Bonds Women's Division luncheon honoring Fay Schmerling and her mother, Zelda Rostoker.

The author of *All But My Life*, the autobiography on which the Oscar-winning documentary *You are Free* is based, spoke of her early years in Poland and showed several scenes from the film.

She noted that even during the Holocaust, Jews "never lost their pride in who they were," and that "even under the most unspeakable conditions, there was friendship, there was love and there was sharing."

During her three years in a labor camp, which housed 2,000 girls from all walks of life, there were no suicides, Weissman Klein said, and "not one nervous breakdown, and although we were always hungry, no one gave up hope.

"I hope that this time, too, with the help of G-d, Israel will survive. "You must celebrate every opportunity to help our people."

Weissman Klein was introduced by Women's Division vice-chair Sandra Fuss and thanked by Sylvia Klein, who also spoke on behalf of Israel Bonds. In her tribute to the honorees, Isabel Strub recalled Zelda Rostoker as a tireless worker on behalf of Zionist and local Jewish causes, and spoke of Schmerling "as a person who can be relied upon ... who "had learned from the words of wisdom of her mother," and who "loves to learn, loves to teach and loves to live a Jewish life."

Schmerling thanked her mother for being a "wonderful role model, whose motto was not 'live and let live,' but 'live and help live,' " while Rostoker drew laughter when she exclaimed "I never thought I should live so long to hear such words from my daughter!"

The presentation was made by Judy Schwartz, and Hamilton Bonds Women's Division chair Flora Rams gave the welcoming remarks. Immediate past Women's Division chair Stephanie McLean also spoke.

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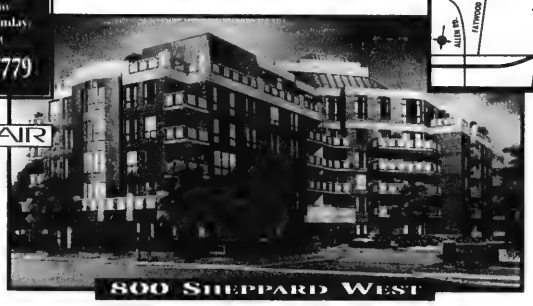

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Chargé d'affaires gets new position

By MIRIAM VALE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA – Only a few weeks into his job as chargé d'affaires at Israel's embassy in Ottawa, Chen Ivri is about to change titles.

Ivri, who assumed the post Aug. 1, will become Counsellor at the embassy once Israel's new ambassador, David Sultan, takes over on Oct. 17.

Sultan arrived in Ottawa last week.

Ivri took over as chargé d'affaires from Eli Yerushalmi, who returned to Israel in August and had served as Israel's acting ambassador.

These days Ivri is familiarizing himself with his new home.

"I'm in the process of learning," he says, adding that his first goal has been to connect with the Canadian Jewish community and the government, especially Foreign Affairs.

On July 31, an Israeli delegation, including Ivri and Israeli trade minister Natan Sharansky, attended the signing in Toronto of the free trade agreement between Canada and Israel. Ivri says the agreement can only strengthen Israeli-Canadian ties.

"It's a sign that [there will be] more agreements in various fields."

He says the event was a "milestone in the historic relations between the two countries."

In order to acquaint himself with the Canadian Jewish community, Ivri has visited synagogues in Toronto and Ottawa and has attended cultural events. He says he's especially impressed with the level of organization in Canada's Jewish community.

"It's an internationally organized community. And the community accepts us warmly with friendship."

Previously, Ivri served as the first secretary for the Latin American division of the Israeli Foreign Ministry. He says he's looking forward to applying his knowledge to his new post.

"Every diplomat brings something besides the message that his colleagues bring," Ivri says. "He brings his own personality."

REENA PRESENTS AWARDS

CFTO anchor Ken Shaw (right) was given the Reena Foundation's Tammy Gutstein Award at the organization's annual meeting last week, while longtime Reena volunteer Marty Strom was presented with the Sam Handler Award. Between them is Elva Strom. The Royal Bank announced a $50,000 donation to Reena's planned Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

From coast to coast

שישאר ביננו

גידי קורן

דוחפים את ביבי לשלום:

כשניסו להסביר מדוע נוצח שמעון פרס, אדריכל השלום, בבחירות האחרונות, הסכימו רוב המפרשים כי מרבית הציבור בישראל סָבר שהוא צעד במהירות גדולה מידי לקראת עראפת. על כן כל -כך הפתיע אותי הלחץ הציבורי על נתניהו לנוע במהירות מיד אחרי הבחירות. הלחץ לא היה רק מצד אנשי השמאל, אלא גם מצד אנשי מרכז וימין. אני אישית סברתי שחודשיים וחצי הם זמן בהחלט סביר ללמוד בזהירות את המצב, את הצעדים , את הטריקים, אבל לא במזרח התיכון! באמצע אוגוסט הודיע הנשיא וויזמן שאם לא נתניהו, יהיה זה הוא שיפגוש את עראפת. מקץ שבוע למד נתניהו לדעת שאם לא יפגוש את עראפת אין לו מה לנסוע לוושינגטון. בקיצור - איש הימין, שהצהיר לפני הבחירות שלא יפגוש את מנהיג אש"ף נאלץ לפגוש אותו קפוא שד. הביקורת הקשה שספג נתניהו מאנשי הימין בעקבות לחיצת היד עם עראפת מלמדת עד כמה קשה מצבו. מאידך גיסא, היא מבטיחה עכשיו שגם הימין מכיר בזכותם של הפלשתינאים לטריטוריה משלהם וישות משלהם. כלומר- לכשיישיג נתניהו את השלום הסופי יסכימו לו כולם, בעוד שאם פרס היה משיג את השלום, היו נתניהו ואנשיו מתנגדים לו. סך הכל סידור לא רע.

הרפת של דגניה ב':

דגניה היא כזכור הקיבוץ הראשון בהסטוריה האנושית, ומטבע העניין זכתה הרפת של דגניה לתיעודים שונים בדפי ההסטוריה של המאה העשרים הציונית. עכשיו, רוצים אתם לדעת מה יש ברפת של דגניה בקיץ 96? שלושה ניחושים, ארבעה ניחושים, עשרים ניחושים... מוותרים? ובכן, הרפת של דגניה ב' הפכה למרכז יופי וטיפוח לנשות הגליל העונה לשם " ביוטי שביט" בהנהלתו של המאפר גיורא שביט. תושבי הצפון יכולים עכשיו להשתלם בשעורי יופי ואיפור בכמה מקצועות. בסיום הקורס יקבלו הבוגרים תעודות איפור מקצועי. כמו כן יימכרו שם מוצרי קוסמטיקה ויינתנו טיפולים הוליסטיים ורפלקסולוגיה. אם מייסדי הקיבוץ יכולים לראות ממקום מנוחתם בגן עדן לאן הגיע הקיבוץ של היום - הם היו לבטח מתהפכים בקברם. אבל זהו חלק ממהפכה רצינית שעוברת על הקיבוץ בנסיונותיו להישאר בחיים כלכלית ובעיקר חברתית, ואני בטח עוד אגע בזה בעתיד.

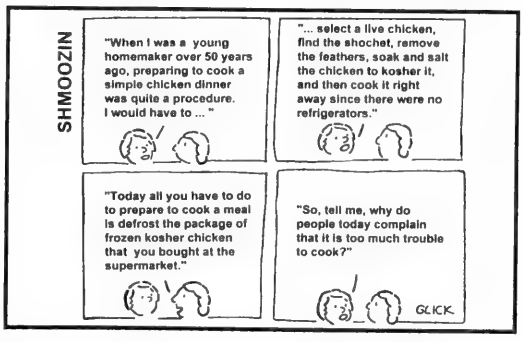
ומה קרה לפָּרות, אתם בטח שואלים? העבירו אותן מן הרפת ההסטורית לרפת חדשה ומודרנית יותר.

לנהוג במכונית באוגוסט בישראל:

לעלות על הכביש ולנהוג במכונית בישראל בקיץ היא פעילות הרת סיכון. בכל נסיעה כזו, אפילו קצרה, מזומנת לך האפשרות לראות ארבע-חמש תאונות בחיתוליהן. אנשים חותכים מסלולים ממש סנטימטרים לפניך, איש לא נותן להיכנס מרחוב צדדי, כולם צופרים לכולם ומקללים את כולם, וכל יום מישהו נהרג בכביש ורבים נפצעים. חבר טוב אמר לי: העובדה שכל יום נהרג רק איש אחד ולא שישה, גם זו הוכחה לקיום האל.

כפר רופין, עמק בית שאן:

צבי ויזל קם כל יום בחמש בבוקר ומתחיל לעבוד בשש. הוא אוסף ממטרות מכל שטחי החקלאות במשק ומשפץ אותן, ובכך חוסך את הצורך לשלוח אותן לתיקון בעיר הגדולה, או לקנות ממטרות חדשות. סך הכל הוא חוסך בכל חודש כ- 10 אלפים שקלים, שהם כחמשת אלפים דולאר קנדיים. צבי עובד עד אחת בצהריים, כאשר הטמפרטורה בצל היא 42 מעלות ובשמש בערך 65 מעלות. אין בסיפור הזה אולי משהו מיוחד - קיבוצניק עובד למחייתו - מלבד העובדה שצבי ויזל נולד בשנת 1919 והוא ממשיך לעבוד בצורה יצרנית בגיל שבעים ושבע. והוא אינו יחיד. יש כמותו הרבה אנשים בהתיישבות העובדת, שעומדים כל יום להזכיר לישראל החדשה איך ישראל נראתה פעם, לפני שהפכה לסניף גדול של מקדונאלדס ושל הטלביזיה בכבלים.



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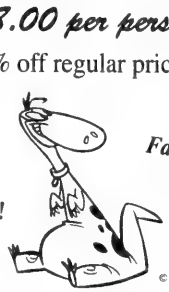

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Matana Judaica, *248 Steeles Ave. W. Unit 6*
Negev Book & Gift Store, *3509 Bathurst Street*

UJA FEDERATION

Tickets valid for Sunday, October 13, 1996 only and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Oct. 3, is deadline for Oct. 17 issue, and Thursday, Oct. 10, is deadline for Oct. 24. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Saturday, Oct. 5

CHABAD TEEN CLUB

CTC, the teen division of Chabad Youth Clubs hosts a Simchat Torah party, open to any Jewish teens in high school, 7:30 p.m., at the new CTC Youth Centre, 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. **Zev** 905-731-3161 or **Mike** 905-764-2933.

Sunday, Oct. 6

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

FEMINIST BOOK GROUP

North York chapter of Older Women's Network book discussion group meets 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd. Older feminists share views and ideas about selected books. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Tuesday, Oct. 8

BETH TZEDEC SISTERHOOD

Beth Tzedec Sisterhood opening meeting and installation features fashion historian **Jonathan Walford** speaking on 20th Century Fashion. Light dinner 7 p.m. Members $20, guests $25. RSVP by Friday, Oct. 4, shul office 781-3511, ext. 10.

ORAH CHAPTER, JWI

Interested in meeting dynamic Jewish women? Orah chapter invites you to hear **Karen Turnbull** talk about Massey Centre for Women, for troubled teenage girls. 7:30 p.m. **Annette** 789-2434.

Wednesday, Oct. 9

THE ART OF CELEBRATING

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue's bridal/bar and bat mitzvah and fashion event, 6-9 p.m. with a fashion show at 8 p.m., DJs live music, refreshments and a chance to meet with party planning specialists. Admission free.

MARKHAM-UNIONVILLE JWI

Jewish Women International Markham-Unionville chapter meeting, 8 p.m. Great speakers, camaraderie, community service. **Eva** 905-472-6139 or **Jill** 905-764-9791.

Thursday, Oct. 10

EDUCATIONAL SERIES

The Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada educational series on Politics and Society in Israel Today features The Religious-Secular Divide with **Rabbi Menachem Gopin**, executive director, Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, and **Eva Goldfinger**, madrichah/spiritual leader, Secular Jewish Association, 7:30 p.m., BB Building, 15 Hove St.

FUNDRAISING TEA

Toronto chapter-Dysautonomia Foundation annual fundraising tea with fashions, music and boutiques, 1-4 p.m. at the home of **Atta and Henry Zieleniec**. 905-882-7725.

JSF, YORK UNIVERSITY

Informal study and discussion with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** every Tuesday at York University: 11:40 a.m., Jewish Ethics and Personal Growth, JSF Chapel, Room 442 Student Centre; 1:40 p.m., Is There Judaism After Hebrew School and CHAT? Exploring Parashat HaShavuah — The Weekly Torah Portion, Student Centre Room 311B; 2:40 p.m. Everything You Wanted To Know About Judaism But Had No One To Ask, Student Centre Room 311B; 3:40 p.m. Jewish Meditation and Spirituality Circle, Student Centre Room 311B.

ADULT HEBREW CLASSES

Temple Sinai Thursday evening adult Hebrew classes (beginners and intermediate) begin 7:30 p.m., Oct. 17 for 10 weeks. Semester fee, members $50, non-members

[Cont'd. on page 27]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription. We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 10 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1.

Mazel tov Jessica Salamon who celebrated her bat mitzvah in Israel in July. Love from Mom (Rachelle), sisters Lisa & Mindy, Bubbie Mollie, Zayde Paul, Bubbie Sarah, Uncle Marvin, Auntie Francine & Uncle Terry and cousins Aaron & Jason.

Mazel tov to Rayna, daughter of Sol and the late Linda Levitt, and Warren, son of Martin and Claire Binstock, on their engagement. Happy grandparents are Nat & Anne Scharf and Bernard & Elizabeth Shooman.

Lisa Fruitman & Dan Belzowski were married on May 17 at the Adath Israel Synagogue.

Mazel tov to Syma & David Forberg on their 52nd wedding anniversary. With love from Honey, Larry, Joe, Gail, Esther, Albert, Bill, Kathy and all the grandchildren.

Ruth & Harvey Borden celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 16 with their children, grandchildren, family and friends. May they continue to share good health and happiness together.

Dolly and Harry Aiken recently celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. Lots of love from Lynda & Jeff, Elka & Les, Patti & Gary, Corrie, Amy, Erin and Katie.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

$75. To reserve, temple office 487-4161.

MDA TORONTO CHAPTER

Magen David Adom now has a Toronto chapter. Prime mover in its formation was **Sylvia Walt**, for many years MDA national president in the Western Province, South Africa, now living in Toronto. The Toronto chapter was established with assistance from **Alan Spector** as president, **Alexander Serota, Yegal Rosen** and another South African **Gerald Berley.**

And What Else Is New...

MIZRACHI BAYIT

Mizrachi Bayit weekend events, Oct. 12-13, at 296 Wilson Ave. upstairs:

Saturday, Oct. 12: Shabbat lunch with **Rabbi Menachem Gopin** speaking on The Future of Religious Zionism and Your Future In It. $15. Reserve 636-6770.

Sunday, Oct. 13, lecture by **Rabbi Yitzchak Feigenbaum** on Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Stricter — the social ramifications of being more *machmir* or *meikil* than your neighbor in a mixed Torah community, 8 p.m., $5 for those not attending the lunch.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah programs at Aish HaTorah Dan Family Community Centre, 949 Clark Ave. W.

Continuity: The Myths and the Reality, public lecture, author/historian **Rabbi Berel Wein** Monday, Oct. 7, 8 p.m.

Discovery, an exploration of Judaism's relevance, Saturday night Oct. 19 through Sunday, Oct. 20. Limited space. Information/reservation 905-764-1818.

JEWS OF TORONTO

Temple Sinai's three-part series, Jews of Toronto: Past, Present and Furure with **Prof. Harold Troper** of the University of Toronto, 8 p.m.Tuesdays: Oct. 8, The Toronto of Our Parents and Grandparents; Oct. 15,The "Whiting" of the Toronto Jews; Oct. 22, A Community Still Unfolding. Series fee: members $30, non-members $45. For reservations, temple office 487-4161.

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association events:

Oct. 4, 7 p.m. — Intertalk Support Group for Intercultural Couples pot-luck dinner and meeting, 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill, non-members $8. RSVP 905-889-7450.

Sunday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m. — Adult education series: Comparative Religions, lecture by **Peter Gilbert**, SJA Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. non-members $8.

Friday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. — Shabbat ceremony and program (Oneg Shabbat) pot-luck dinner. Bring dish to share, 1 Overland Dr. RSVP 489-5759.

FREE LOAN CASSA

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa G'milath Chasodim Association annual meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 6:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., Room 421. Speaker **Bernie Farber**, national director Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress. Dinner served $15. RSVP **Helen Kastner** 635-1217.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Israeli folkdancing new beginners course, Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

POSITIVE PARENTING

Jewish Family & Child Service Positive Parenting Groups: The Self-Confident Women (stress management, self-esteem, effective communication) begins Oct. 24; Positive Parenting begins Oct. 9; Single Parenting begins Oct. 9. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800,

BOYS TEFILLIN CLUB

Sunday morning *t'fillin* club, for boys from two months before bar mitzvah to 14 years, resumes Oct. 13. Program runs 8:30-11:30 a.m. beginning with an educational learning minyan, followed by breakfast, fun Torah learning, concluding with sports activity. If you don't have *t'fillin*, they will be supplied. Program held every Sunday. 55 Guardsman Rd., Thornhill. **Mike** 905-764-2933.

For Seniors

A Time For Me is a personal growth workshop for seniors over 55. Co-sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, Senior Care, Bernard Betel Centre, Baycrest Centre, with support from Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Begins Oct. 10 for eight weeks at 4600 Bathurst St. **Anne Gleberzon** 638-7830, ext. 799.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 3 art exhibition. Sunday, Oct. 6, Simchat Torah party, 7:30 p.m., live music. refreshments. members $8, non-members $10. Oct. 10, Israeli film *Aba-Ganob* with Israeli actor **Yehuda Barkan**. Call **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Opening luncheon, Monday, Oct. 7, 12:30 p.m., entertainment; Sunday, Oct. 20, shopping in Buffalo and musical *Cabaret*; Nov. 4-25 vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat; alternative to Miami is Arizona. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dance Oct. 12, 7-10 p.m.; Sunday dance Oct. 13, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 10, Hillroy factory; Oct. 13-15, Frankenmuth, Mich., Flint, Crossroads Village, Casino Windsor; Tuesday, Oct. 22, Buffalo shopping at factory outlets; Oct. 27-31, Atlantic City and New York City; Nov. 21, Casino Rama; Nov. 24-28, Las Vegas, 395-7881.

Young at Heart Florida trip to Sagamore Hotel, one month $1650, two months $2705 including plane and entertainment, and three months. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Simchat Torah dance, Thursday, Oct. 10, 7-10 p.m., dancing, entertainment with **Edward Rubin** and **Rachel Kastoryano**, light supper, members $7, non-members $9.

Ways and Means Committee presents Fashion Fantasia and violinist **Michael Zushkin**, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1 p.m., members $3, non-members $4.

Healthy Cooking, dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler**, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1:15 p.m.

Exercise Is Fun, consultant and therapy staff of the Arthritis Society, Thursday, Oct. 10, 1:30 p.m.

Music Appreciation, Gershwin Classics, **Rachel Kastoryano** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, Monday, Oct. 7, 1 p.m. members $1, non-members $3.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Lecture on Oct. 9. **Anna**.

at the JCC/BJC

New Playwrights Work-In-Progress Reading series at Bloor JCC, a new comedy by **David Rubinoff** about moving down in the world. Directed by **Michael Walker**, Thursday, Oct. 3, 8 p.m.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club presents The Jewish Concept of Love, lecture and discussion with **Lance Davis**, program director, Jewish Students' Union, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Painting course and Israeli/international folkdancing lessons start the week of Oct. 7, BJC Senior Adult Services. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Fires in the Mirror — Crown Heights, Brooklyn and Other Identities, theatrical event at Berkeley Theatre deals with riots between Jewish and Black communities in New York in 1991. Discussion with cast follows show. Wednesday, Oct. 23. BJC members $15, non-members $17. Price includes transportation from BJC. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

BJC Squash Open begins Oct. 15, two levels, competitive, recreational. **Grant** 636-1880, ext. 374.

About People

TV PERSONALITY

Susan Stern, a motivational consultant who practises a holistic lifestyle and truly believes what she lives, has her own program, *Healthy alternatives* on Roger's Community Chanel 10, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. There will be several practitioners of holistic lifestyles featured weekly.

MEMORIAL WREATH PLACED

Laying the Beth Tzedec wreath at the Holocaust Memorial Ceremony in Earl Bales Park are (from left) Buddy Stone, president, Beth Tzedec Men's Club; Roslyn Verny, president Beth Tzedec Sisterhood; Marylyn Light, chair, Holocaust Memorial Committee; and Jack M. Grossman, president, Beth Tzedec Congregation.

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CORRECTION

The correct telephone number for Information concerning the Conference is:

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Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.**

For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1130** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** wks. 398-7068.

Metro Toronto Singles Presents our 1st Annual Washington Trip. Featuring visits to the Holocaust Memorial, Oct. 23rd-26th, almost sold out! For further info. 222-7111.

METRO TORONTO SINGLES presents our **3rd Annual Co-ed Volleyball** season,from November-March. Limited space. $65.00. Call 222-7111.

W.O.W. Widows & Widowers, (45-60) Presents a Day of Fun & Excitement at **CASINO RAMA**, Sunday, Oct. 27th, 1996. For further info. and other programs planned, call Bev 905-737-8393, Eunice 416-229-1467, Norm 905-770-0478.

Come Join the Mix & Match Jewish 5 Pin Bowling League, Sunday evenings. Have fun, meet new people. For more info. Call 416-588-7202.

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Report urges courses in multiculturalism

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Mandatory courses on multiculturalism and cultural sensitivity as part of law schools' curricula are recommended in a report made to provincial court judges.

The report is by members of ethnic and multicultural community organizations and those associated with British Columbia's justice system.

The report, submitted to judges on Sept. 23 by Judge Donna Martinson, chair of the equity committee of the Provincial Court, is under consideration.

The report says there should be more minorities among B.C. lawyers, which "will lead to a greater cultural diversity in the ranks of judges."

The report also calls for "improved identification of judges whose judgments may be influenced by negative biases towards certain groups. They [judges] should be removed from cases where those biases may influence their decisions."

The religious significance of swearing on the Bible is often not understood by all people, says the report, particularly if they practise a religion other than Christianity or Judaism. Individuals should be made aware of the option of swearing an affirmation rather than taking the oath when testifying.

The report notes that hate motivated crimes can carry additional sentences, "but prosecutors have not traditionally presented evidence of hate bias. If it's apparent that a crime was motivated by racism and hate, judges are encouraged to apply the maximum sentences available to them."

The report also recommended having better court interpreters to ensure that all proceedings are clearly understood.

Legislation to be tested

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Legislation under the Human Rights Act of British Columbia that says published material that discriminates against Jewish persons exposes all Jews to hatred and contempt will be tested at a B.C Council of Human Rights hearing to be held shortly.

The legislation was passed more than two years ago and Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, has been pressing for action since May 26, 1994, when it filed a complaint against North Shore News columnist Doug Collins, alleging that one of his columns violated the legislation.

Following a 24-month investigation by the Human Rights Council, Congress has just been informed that the complaint has been designated to be heard by a member of the Council under section 14(1)(d) of the Human Rights Act. The hearing date has not yet been set. It's the first case to be heard under the legislation.

The Congress complaint relates to a column written by Collins entitled Hollywood Propaganda, published in the *North Shore News* on March 9, 1994. Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of the region, said at the time that "with this column Doug Collins has written an item which will, in our view, expose the Jewish community to hatred and contempt."

Winnipeg shul hires former Toronto cantor

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – Cantor Hesh Mayersdorf has been named the new chazzan of the Rosh Pina Congregation here.

The city's second largest congregation with 750 members, the Rosh Pina has been functioning without a full-time chazzan since the retirement of Cantor Judah Smolack a little over a year ago.

Mayersdorf is described in a Rosh Pina news release as an outstanding lyric tenor who has performed in concerts worldwide. Before coming to Winnipeg, he most recently served as chazzan at Toronto's Beth Radom Congregation and before that at the Beth David-B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation there. He has also served congregations in his native New York City.

Mayersdorf was first trained by his father, Cantor Morris Mayersdorf of New York. He graduated from Yeshiva Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn and from Brooklyn College and studied music and voice at the Julliard School of Music and with world famous chazzanim such as the late David Kousevitsky and Moshe Stern.

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Kosher cookbook offers healthy, appealing recipes

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Food can be healthy, appealing and kosher all at the same time, assert Thelma Barer-Stein, Esther Schwartz and Risa Vandersluis.

They should know. The three women have recently produced a new cookbook, *To Life*, published by Culture Concepts, which is chockful of recipes that have all of those qualities.

Their credentials are impressive. Barer-Stein is a dietician, writer, educator and publisher; Vandershuis, also a dietician, has been involved in diabetic and pregnancy nutrition counselling and clinics at Baycrest Centre, at Womens' College Hospital, in Israel and privately; and Schwartz, formerly a cooking teacher, is the kosher food consultant with the Orthodox Division, Canadian Jewish Congress, and a founder of the Jewish diabetes chapter of the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Schwartz started the ball rolling some 10 years ago.

"When I became diabetic, I felt there was a need for a kosher diabetic cookbook. I contacted Tridec (Women's College Hospital diabetic clinic) dietician Marjorie Holland, and she got me and Risa together."

They soon joined forces with Barer-Stein, who had already produced a healthy eating cookbook, *You Are What You Eat*.

"At one point, we put together a proposal [for a kosher diabetic cookbook], but publishers felt the focus was too narrow."

They expanded the scope of the book to "a kosher cookbook for the widest audience, subtle about Judaism, and with nutrient analyses," said Barer-Stein.

In any event, diabetics should eat the same food as anyone else, Vandersluis stressed, "just with controlled portions."

The cookbook offers a variety of foods, with lots of grains and vegetables, some fish, but very little meat, in keeping with today's nutritional standards.

Recipes are arranged not by food type, but by meal. "It answers the question, 'What do we serve with that recipe?' " Barer-Stein explained. "We offer a combination of flavor, color, texture and nutrition — a well-balanced combination of everything."

"We even offer suggestions for simplifying recipes and menus, as we are aware how busy people are today."

The three laughed as they described how they tested the recipes "on a lot of people who didn't even realize they were testing," as Vandersluis said. "We wanted a natural response."

"We wanted the book to be a heritage treasure," Schwartz added; so they included descriptions of the holidays and of different food customs from both Ashkenazi and Sephardi traditions.

"We want to try to unify and bring together what is beautiful in tradition and what we should be sharing."

"What Jews have always done," said Schwartz, "is to take what food is locally available, like spices and vegetables, and adapt it to kashrut."

While they groaned thinking of all the effort they had to put in to get the book to fruition, they share a twinkle in their eyes.

"Vandersluis summed it up. "We had a lot of fun doing it."

From left, Thelma Barer-Stein, Risa Vandersluis and Esther Schwartz look over their new cookbook. [Leila Speisman photo]

Balance lacking in *It's a Boy*

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Is ritual circumcision really necessary? That's the implicit and pointed question Victor Schonfeld poses in his provocative documentary, *It's a Boy!*

Scheduled to be broadcast on TVOntario on Oct. 9 at 10 p.m. and again on Oct. 11 at 12:25 a.m., *It's a Boy!* explores a surgical procedure intrinsic to Jews and Muslims, as well as some Africans.

The 40-minute British film, though acknowledging that circumcision is an inextricable and sacrosanct component of Judaism and Islam, is skeptical about this ancient rite.

Claiming that circumcision is the only medical procedure routinely carried out without anesthetic, *It's a Boy* builds its case by suggesting that it is needlessly painful and promotes neither cleanliness nor good health.

As might be expected, the film is not entirely balanced. True, Schonfeld presents Jewish and Muslim clerics who favor circumcision. But their comments are offset by interviews with men and women who, for one reason or another, are not well disposed toward circumcision.

Regrettably, Schonfeld makes what can only be described as a limp attempt to achieve a measure of even-handedness. The exponents of circumcision, be they Jews or Muslims, come across as neither compelling nor persuasive, in contrast to the critics who are articulate and seemingly reasonable.

It's a Boy, therefore, is a point of view rather than an impassioned or enlightening examination of circumcision.

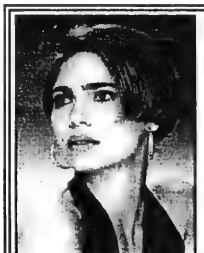
Run for cure

TORONTO — Thousands are expected to gather Oct. 27 at the Royal Ontario Museum for the 1996 Honda — Run For The Cure, a major fundraising event for breast cancer research.

The first run was organized in 1992 in Toronto by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Organizers had expected about 300 people to attend the five-kilometre run/one-km walk, but were surprised by a turnout of 1,500. Since then, the run has grown to include 10 cities across Canada and 25,000 participants.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to increase public understanding of the disease, Mayor Barbara Hall has declared Oct. 16 to be Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Registration forms for the run are available at Running Room locations throughout the city, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation at 790 Bay St., suite 1000, various hospitals and gyms, Druxy's Famous Deli locations in Metro Toronto and starting Oct. 1, at all Metro LCBO outlets. Or call the Run for the Cure Hotline 416-599-7779, to receive a brochure by mail.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Kids' news

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Celebrating
Simchat Torah

The Torah cycle ends and begins again.

Things to do during the Chag

By DEENA RESNICKOFF

These activities will help you to celebrate Simchat Torah.

PICTURING THE TORAH

The Jewish religion is based on the Torah, which we read in the synagogue. We can also learn about it at home or at school.

Think about some of the wonderful stories from the Torah that you have heard at synagogue. Draw a picture of one of your favorite stories.

Show your picture to a younger child. Try to retell that story to him or her by using your picture. Perhaps they will enjoy it, too.

WAVE YOUR FLAG

At Simchat Torah, many of our family and friends carry and wave flags in synagogue. Why not make your own flag?

You or an adult will need to cut a piece of plain, white fabric into a large rectangle. Create your special flag with different shades of blue fabric paint (easily found at a craft store), by painting symbols that show why Simchat Torah is so special to you and your family.

Let your flag dry overnight and then glue it to a stick. Don't forget to take it with you to synagogue and wave it proudly!

SIMCHAT TORAH WORD SCRAMBLE

Try to unscramble these words that have special meaning at Simchat Torah and all throughout the year.

1. S L A R Y I E
2. H O S H N E C
3. A Y D
4. E R M I T E K
5. E E T H S R B I I

SHOWING RESPECT FOR ONE AND ALL

Just as we must show respect to the people we love, we must show respect to our Torah. One way for us to show it respect is to try and follow its teachings.

Create a booklet that illustrates ways people can show the Torah respect. You could also illustrate some ways people should treat our beloved Torah.

Read and discuss your booklet with your family and friends before you go to synagogue together.

ANSWERS TO THE SIMCHAT TORAH WORD SCRAMBLE:

1. YISRAEL: The very last word of our Torah.
2. CHOSHEN: The Hebrew word for the breastplate on the Torah.
3. YAD: The Hebrew word for the pointer we use to read the Torah.
4. KETERIM: The Hebrew word for the ornamental crowns on the Torah.
5. BERESHIT: The very first word of our Torah.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The CJN enjoyed all of the color Jenn & Josh cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Sheri Herblum, of Thornhill, Deborah Lipszyc, of Thornhill and Tamara Selinger, of Westmount. Each will receive a cheque for $20.

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Kids' news

Book Review & cartoon too

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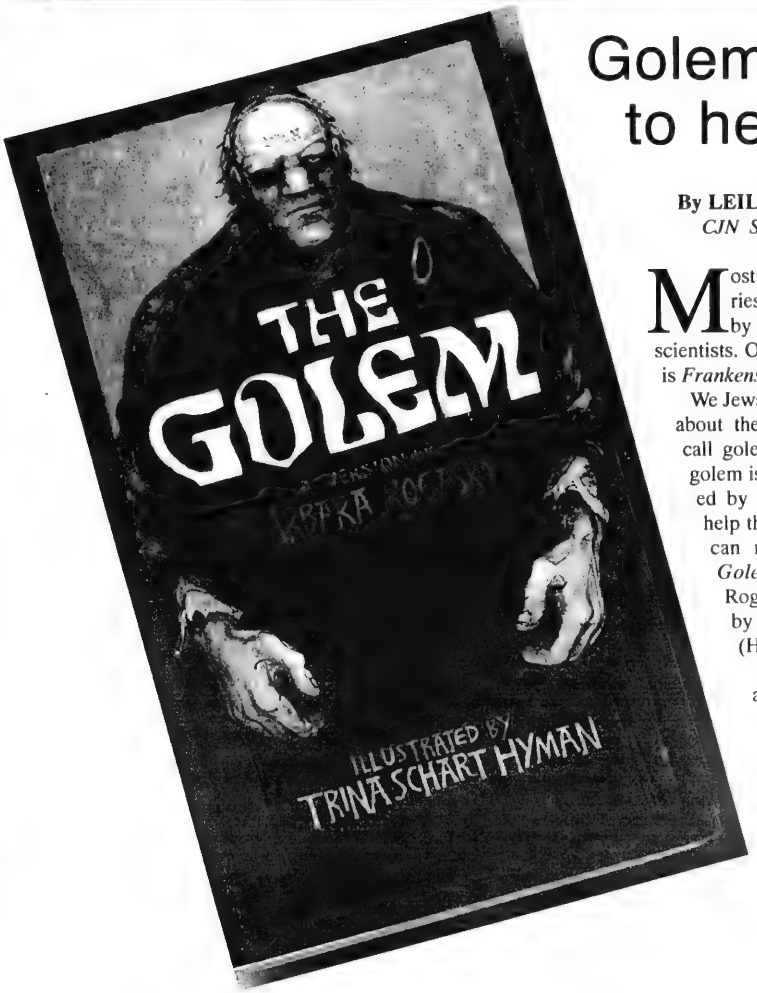


Golem created out of clay to help Jews of Prague

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Most of us like to read stories about beings created by people, usually by mad scientists. One of the most famous is *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley.

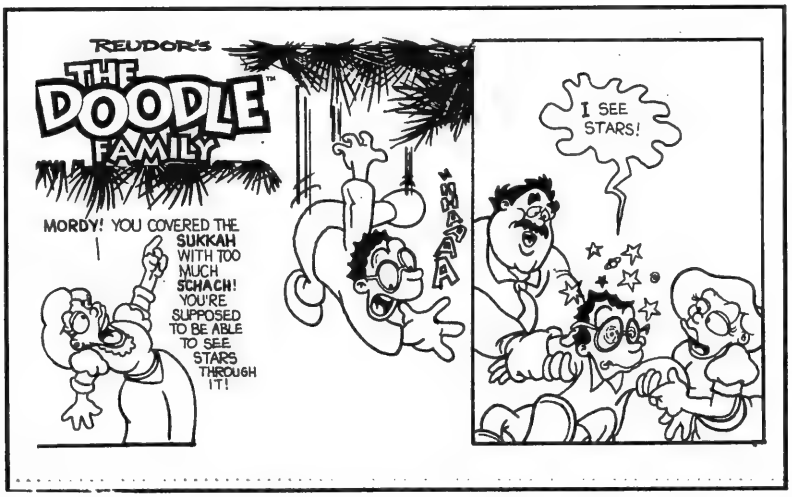
We Jews have our own legends about these creatures, who we call golems. The most famous golem is one supposedly created by Rabbi Judah Loew to help the Jews of Prague. You can read about it in *The Golem* by Barbara Rogasky, with illustrations by Trina Schart Hyman (Holiday House, 1996).

Several hundred years ago, according to the story, the Jews of Prague, as in many other places, were being badly persecuted. They had to pay special taxes, their neighbors felt they could attack them any time they wanted, and many Christians accused them of using the blood of Christian children to make matzah.

Out of clay, Rabbi Loew created the golem, a huge man-like figure, and used the secret name of G-d to bring it to life. *The Golem* tells several stories about how the creature saved the Jews from persecution, using its superhuman strength.

Some of the stories are even funny, since the golem, even though it was very big and strong, couldn't think intelligently. For instance, when the rabbi's wife asked it to bring water, it kept bringing water until it caused a flood, because she hadn't told it when to stop.

According to legend, the golem still exists, wrapped in newspapers in the attic of the Altencushul in Prague. Some people even say that some day, if things get really bad for the Jews, it will come back to life to help us.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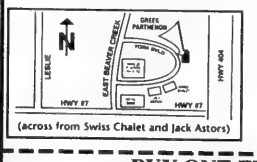

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Old passions unleashed as walls opened

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The tunnel that this week delineated the explosive fault line between Jews and Arabs in Jerusalem had no archeological purpose when its excavation was begun some 25 years ago. The fault line it then defined was between Jews alone.

TUNNEL TURMOIL

The tunnel was initiated by the Religious Affairs Ministry after the Six Day War, in order to expose the subterranean courses of the Temple Mount north of the Western Wall, an area it saw as suffused with holiness.

By law, excavations in archeological areas are the exclusive province of professional archeologists licensed by the government. In a deft act of turfmanship, however, the archeological authorities agreed to let the Religious Affairs Ministry have its dig, as long as its functionaries did not attempt to interfere with the major excavation being conducted at the southern foot of the Temple Mount by Prof. Binyamin Mazar.

The ministry had previously attempted to declare the Temple Mount wall being exposed south of the Western Wall as a prayer area and to oust the archeologists. Mazar's assistant, archeologist Meir Ben-Dov, was assigned to oversee the ministry dig on a part-time basis in order to legitimize it, but the effort was more of a mining operation than an archeological dig.

The Muslim authorities were concerned about the ministry tunnel along the Temple Mount wall, and not without cause. Two incidents during the Mazar dig along the southern wall had sounded alarm bells. Technion engineers had already measured a slight movement in part of the southern wall during the excavations.

Ben-Dov says the finding was based on an instrument misreading, but concrete buttresses were nevertheless put in place to support the wall.

The Wakf (Muslim religious authority) was dismayed when Ben-Dov, working on the Mazar dig, probed two ancient tunnels dating from the Second Temple period at the southern foot of the Temple Mount beneath Al-Aksa Mosque in the area of the Hulda and Single gates, and penetrated five metres into one and 30 metres into another.

The Muslim authorities prevailed on the government to call off Ben-Dov and the tunnels were resealed. They have remain so ever since.

Apart from their concerns about possible structural damage on the Mount itself, the Muslim authorities were offended by the notion of non-Muslims digging under, or even on the fringes of, a Muslim holy place; the fact that it was also a Jewish holy place was not a mitigating factor to them.

The Arabs were no less upset at the political implications of large-scale excavations in the Old City that underlined the extent of Israeli control in Jerusalem.

Although the ministry tunnel was a sideshow compared to the prodigious and enormously rewarding Mazar dig, the Wakf's fears were later realized there, both in the physical and political-religious spheres.

The first stage of the ministry operation in the early 1970s, consisted of clearing dirt from huge arched spaces just north of the Western Wall. These arches, according to archeologist Dan Bahat, had been built in the 13th to 15th centuries by the Mamelukes.

North of these arches, the ministry's engineers drove a narrow tunnel alongside the Temple Mount – the one involved in the current controversy – revealing the enormous stones in its lower courses.

Large cracks appeared

There was no penetration of the Mount itself or danger to holy places, but midway through the work on the tunnel, large cracks appeared in one of the residential buildings in the Muslim Quarter, 12 metres above the excavation. The dig was halted until steel buttresses secured the building.

In 1982, one of the most dramatic Jewish-Arab confrontations in post-Six Day War Jerusalem occurred in the tunnel. It involved the late Rabbi Yehuda Meir Getz, the rabbi of the Western Wall, a colorful personality who would pray alone each morning inside the tunnel, at a point opposite what he presumed to have been the Holy of Holies on the Temple Mount.

One day, Arabs on the Mount heard banging from one of its cisterns. When they entered it, they found that Jewish workers under Rabbi Getz's supervision had partially broken through an ancient gateway, dubbed Warren's Gate, between the ministry tunnel and the innards of the Temple Mount itself.

In a subterranean scene witnessed by reporters, police separated the two sides, who were on the verge of blows.

Government officials, alert to the explosiveness of the situation, hastily ordered the opening resealed and it remains closed today.

This gate and the steps which had apparently led up from it had played an important role in Jewish life in the medieval period, according to some scholars.

After the Muslim conquest in the seventh century, Jews were permitted to return to Jerusalem, from which they had been barred by Roman and Byzantine rulers. However, they were not permitted back on the Mount.

The closest they could come to it, according to Bahat, was the covered staircase inside the gateway, which came to be known as *hame'ara*, or the cave.

Some believe this was the principal Jewish prayer area in Jerusalem for more than three centuries, until the arrival of the Crusaders.

After the Crusaders were defeated, the gateway was blocked by buildings. It was only then, in the 13th century, that Jews began praying at what came to be known as the Western Wall.

Work on the Religious Affairs Ministry tunnel continued intermittently under the supervision of safety engineers over the years, to avoid further danger to surface structures.

As it progressed, it proved to be of increasing archeological interest. A few years ago, the tunnel, which had been called the "Western Wall Tunnel," was linked up with a water tunnel cut through the rock to the north, apparently in the Hasmonean period. This would lead to its becoming known as the "Hasmonean Tunnel." The water had been required in antiquity to clean the altar area on the Mount, where priests carried out sacrifices.

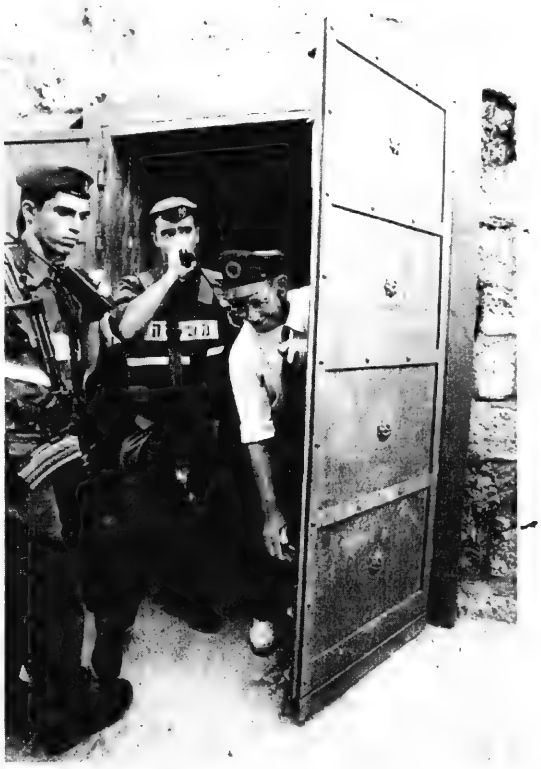
Bahat, formerly in charge of the Jerusalem District for the Antiquities Authority, contends that the finds here change conventional thinking about the history of the Temple Mount.

The Mount, built around 970 BCE by King Solomon as a platform for the First Temple, was roundish, conforming to the shape of the original hill.

This temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE. Returnees from Babylonian exile half a century later built a new temple – the original Second Temple – maintaining the roundish shape of the Mount.

King Herod in the first century BCE rebuilt the Temple and doubled the size of the Mount, now near-rectangular.

According to Bahat, it has become apparent from the tunnel excavation that there was still another Temple Mount built, in squarish shape, by the Hasmoneans a century before Herod.



The controversial tunnel leading onto the Via Dolorosa in the Muslim Quarter has its door open Sept. 29 by border police after it was closed for the Jewish Sabbath. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Despite Muslim displeasure at the tunnel's existence, it has aroused little public protest in the Arab sector until now, because it was out of sight. Several years ago, the tunnel was opened to visitors entering from the Western Wall plaza.

The authorities sought ways of opening an exit at the northern end of the narrow tunnel so that visitors would not have to double back some 380 metres to the entranceway.

The Sisters of Zion, whose convent on the Via Dolorosa lies near the tunnel's northern end, were approached, but they understandably declined to become involved in a politically sensitive issue. The Arab owner of a souvenir shop on the Via Dolorosa agreed to the opening of a tunnel exit on his property, according to Israeli sources, but he backed down for fear of Arab retaliation.

Preparations were then made to exit onto a public space on the street itself, but then-Likud prime minister Yitzhak Shamir was persuaded that it was not worth it to stir up a hornet's nest.

Finally, a staircase was built up from the tunnel to a point alongside the Omariya School on the Via Dolorosa, where only a nondescript stone wall separated it from the street.

This week, with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert wielding one of the sledgehammers, the wall was pierced and a doorway fitted into the opening.

Ben-Dov says the mistake in opening the exit was not merely in the timing, but in the essence, since, in the political circumstances, it was clearly unacceptable to the Arabs to have the tunnel disgorge its visitors, many of them Israeli, into the heart of the Muslim Quarter.

"The Wakf was right in asking back then that I stop my dig under Al-Aksa, and the government was right in supporting them," said Ben-Dov this week. "I think that opening the tunnel exit was very unwise."

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Clinton calls summit to defuse Mideast crisis

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, however, said that no prior understandings had been reached.

Clinton spoke by telephone last Sunday afternoon with Arafat, Netanyahu, Mubarak and King Hussein. White House spokesperson Mike McCurry said Clinton particularly wanted to thank Netanyahu and Arafat for accepting his invitation and to "encourage them to come to Washington in a frame of mind that allows progress to be made."

The Palestinians were hoping that Mubarak would attend.

"Egypt's role is important and we don't like to think of being there without President Mubarak," Nabil Shaath, the Palestinian minister of planning, said on CBS television.

Arafat was trying to convince Mubarak to attend, PLO officials said, since he wants Egypt as a counterweight to the United States.

Mubarak had tentatively sent word of a scheduling conflict.

But Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said on CBS that a Mubarak no-show could be blamed on Israeli behavior in recent weeks.

Mubarak is annoyed that the situation in Israel "reached that level of insensitivity to the Arab people and the Arab feelings," Moussa said. "President Mubarak is definitely upset at the negative developments that have occurred and that the peace process, as it is, is really teetering. It is not in good shape at all."

In announcing the summit, Clinton acknowledged he was calling it because previous U.S. efforts had produced "not enough" progress toward calming the situation. He said he was prepared "to do everything in my power" to help end the violence and restart talks.

Immediately after Clinton's invitation to the White House summit, Netanyahu said for the first time that Israel was willing to "accelerate" the pace of the peace talks.

Some officials in the Prime Minister's Office have conveyed to the United States that they are not opposed to holding round-the-clock talks until an agreement on implementing the Oslo 2 accord is reached, but deny that Israel has formally consented to any such arrangement.

Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold met with top Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas last Sunday night to prepare for the two-day summit.

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Israeli, Palestinian joint patrols halted in West Bank

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – All joint patrols in the West Bank have been put on hold, as the army is deploying more tanks around Palestinian-controlled areas and is steadily increasing the pressure on the Palestinians to stabilize the situation.

The Palestinian police appear to have gotten the message, but senior IDF officers say the situation could still erupt at any time.

Sunday was markedly more quiet than the previous days, as Palestinian police quickly stepped in to quell any sparks of unrest.

Two IDF soldiers were lightly wounded in stone-throwing incidents along the Israel-Egypt-Gaza border. The demonstrators also hurled fire bombs at the IDF position, but no damage was done, the army said, as the Palestinian police quickly dispersed the rioters.

In the Gaza Strip, joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols have resumed, but those in the West Bank have not. Senior IDF officers said there has been a total breakdown of confidence in the Palestinian police, who in some cases reportedly turned their guns on Israeli soldiers with whom they had patrolled only the day before.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak has said that he was doubtful if the situation which existed before the crisis could be restored.

"The situation in which it is not clear when there is cooperation and when they are shooting at our soldiers is impossible and unacceptable," Shahak said.

Palestinian reports said more tanks were deployed over the weekend. In Nablus, for example, witnesses counted 36 tanks and armored vehicles dug in behind earthen ramparts a few hundred metres from the city limits. In Jericho, two dozen tanks and armored personnel carriers were sighted.

Even in Jerusalem, army lorries toting heavy APCs were seen moving up the road outside the Jaffa Gate.

Under the third stage of the IDF's "Field of Thorns" contingency plan, the army is prepared to reoccupy Palestinian-controlled areas should the situation deteriorate.

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Axworthy critical of Israel's actions

OTTAWA — Israel's actions in the lastest round of Mideast violence have been "unhelpful," Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said in a statement last week.

Also "unhelpful" to the peace process has been Israel's decision to expand Jewish settlements, Axworthy added.

The minister expressed "deep concern" over the rioting in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza. Senior representatives from Foreign Affairs conveyed the government's views to Israel's charge d'affaires and the Palestinian delegate general in Ottawa.

"I urge Israeli and Palestinian leaders to take immediate steps to restore calm," Axworthy said. "We are very anxious that the situation not deteriorate further."

Axworthy appealed to both sides to resume direct negotiations.

Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), said he is "deeply saddened" by the death toll in the Mideast.

"While this should be a time for healing and not for recriminations, it must be pointed out that it is intolerable that many Palestinian policemen, who were armed under the terms of the [Oslo] peace accord to preserve order and enhance security, have turned those weapons on Israeli soldiers and civilians.

"[Palestinian leader] Yasser Arafat must bring his police under control and restore discipline among all his security forces."

The Week in Israel

Sept. 23

• Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan announced he was postponing a visit to Israel that was scheduled for next month.

Sept. 24

• The Lebanese army dispatched troops to positions near the south Lebanon security zone.

• A 30-year-old immigrant required emergency surgery for a fractured skull after her car was hit by stones while she was driving on Yom Kippur on the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway. Each year such incidents are reported on Yom Kippur. They generally involve non-religious youths.

Sept. 25

• Nahum Admoni, former head of the Mossad, and Uri Saguy, former head of military intelligence, announced that they had set up a company to provide potential investors in Israel with "information, advice and analysis" about Israel and its neighbors.

Sept. 26

• Stock prices dropped sharply on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange as reports came in about the violence in the West Bank and Gaza. Israeli shares on Wall Street also began to tumble.

Sept. 27

• The identities of 11 soldiers killed yesterday were released to the public: *Avraham Maimon*, 23, of Givatayim; *Nir Barzasky*, 21, of Zichron Ya'acov; *Benny Biton*, 22, of Rishon Lezion; *Michael Dadosh*, 22, of Moshav Alma; *Chen Koren*, 20, from Ma'aleh Ephraim; *Itamar Soudai*, 21, of Kfar Adumim; *Erez Sharabi*, 20, of Tel Aviv; *Uri Ben-Tov*, 21, of Bat Yam; *Yehuda Levy*, 20, of Kiryat Ata; *Amikam Amior*, 21, of Ephrat; and *Dimitry Grazhdinsky*, 23, of Kibbutz Barka'i.

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Labor Party girds for leadership battle

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The battle for the leadership of Israel's Labor party has begun.

Last month, after sending a series of mixed signals about his intentions, Shimon Peres finally announced that he would not be a candidate for prime minister in the general election scheduled for the year 2000.

Peres, who led his party to defeat in the May 29 election, disclosed that he would remain as leader until internal elections are held in July 1997.

Five individuals are scrambling to succeed him. They are Ehud Barak, Haim Ramon, Uzi Baram, Ephraim Sneh and Shlomo Ben-Ami, nearly all of whom have been cabinet ministers.

Barak, who declared his candidacy a good 10 days before Peres' recent disclosure, appears to be the frontrunner. Barak — the former chief of staff and Israel's most decorated soldier — was brought into government by the late Yitzhak Rabin and was successively the minister of interior and the minister of foreign affairs.

Barak's chief rival, Ramon, was the minister of the interior in the last Labor administration, and previously headed the Histadrut labor federation and served as the minister of health.

Baram, a seasoned politician who was secretary-general of the Labor party, was once the minister of tourism. In the party primaries last March, he finished first, ahead of Barak.

Sneh, who retired from the regular army as a brigadier-general, was the minister of health.

Ben-Ami, the least politically experienced of the lot, is a former ambassador to Spain.

So far, Peres has not endorsed any of his putative successors. "Barak has the qualifications to be prime minister," he allowed recently. But then he added this caveat: "There are a few other [party] members who have the talent to be prime minister. I don't rule out anyone."

As a result of Peres' disinclination to designate a hand-picked successor, the race is theoretically wide open.

And not surprisingly, the struggle for the heart and soul of the party has set off indecorous displays of mud-slinging, mainly between the chief contenders.

The recriminations turn on the last election. The Labor party won more Knesset seats than the Likud bloc (34 to 32), and under the old electoral system, Peres would have been called upon to form a government. But in the direct election for the prime ministership, Benjamin Netanyahu edged out Peres by a margin of 1,501,023 to 1,471,566, or one percentage point, and thus claimed the glittering prize.

In the runup to the election, Barak, 54, and Ramon, 46, played critical roles. Barak took charge of Peres' prime ministerial bid, while Ramon handled the party's media campaign in the separate Knesset contest.

In the bitter aftermath, Ramon, among others, was widely blamed for the party's failure to win re-election. Labor had defeated the Likud in 1992, and the majority of pundits were certain that Peres would defeat Netanyahu in 1996.

A report issued by the Labor party on Sept. 17 found no fault with its basic policy and message. However, Shevah Weiss, the author of the study, said that Ramon should have better exploited Yitzhak Rabin's assasssination and, furthermore, should have responded more forcefully to Likud's fanciful claims that the Labor party was soft on Jerusalem.

In defending himself of charges that he let the party down, Ramon has come out swinging.

Shortly after the election, he accused Barak and the party's pollster, Yossi Vadana, of sabotaging the party's election campaign by withholding vital information from him.

Around the same time, he attacked Barak for having tried to undermine Peres' position.

After Barak announced his candidacy, Ramon was particularly bitter, saying that "only a political novice and a rank amateur can so pompously declare that only he can save the party, and that he and he alone can beat [Netanyahu]."

Barak has exercised restraint in the face of these accusations, and called Ramon "one of the most important people in our party." This suggests that a deal may be in the making: In exchange for his support, Barak would give Ramon a leading role in the party.

If, as expected, Barak succeeds Peres, he will doubtless push the party to the right.

Barak, who has described himself as a hawk on existential problems and a dove on moral ones," believes that it must establish itself as a centrist party, shed its anti-religious image (fostered by its alliance with the left-of-centre Meretz party) and stop its movement "further and further to the leftist fringes."

Barak, who often speaks of peace with security, has assumed the mantle of Yitzhak Rabin, and is superbly positioned to steal Likud's thunder. No wonder he will probably be chosen as the Labor party's next leader.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Let's give Middle Israel its voice

By AMOTZ ASA-EL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

In spring 1967, an Israel far more besieged, perplexed and demoralized than the current one was led by a hastily assembled national unity government to one of history's most remarkable military victories.

During numerous periods of national angst in subsequent years – and in light of the 1985 broad coalition's impressive defeat of hyperinflation – the national unity

TUNNEL TURMOIL
Analysis

formula became a near-panacea to many Israelis.

Was last week's example of tunnel vision a critical moment? Clearly it was. And is that old political option still out there? Politically speaking, it isn't.

But does the time-honored consensus that has worked so well in the past to break deadlock still exist? It certainly does.

And the sooner Natan Sharansky and Avigdor Kahalani – the two men destined to unearth Middle Israel – realize the full scope of the opportunity that has fallen into their laps, the better our chances will be of restoring regional sanity, cultural harmony and economic order to an increasingly chaotic landscape.

The gravity of the moment hardly needs elaboration.

Last week's bloody events threaten to rip apart those delicate cooperation mechanisms which, saved from ill-conceived provocation and allowed to mature quietly, could help generate Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation.

No less grimly, the chain of events that culminated in this mayhem looms ominously as a reminder that Benjamin Netanyahu assumed office nakedly devoid of contingency plans and oblivious to the Middle Israeli inclinations that helped bring him to power.

The original sin behind the unrest was not the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel, but Netanyahu's foolishly delayed meeting with Yasser Arafat and the failure to quickly carry out the Hebron arrangement.

All this would have been avoided had Netanyahu immediately understood that his election, while reflecting widespread disenchantment with some of his predecessors' policies, was by no means a license for machismo games.

Had Middle Israel wanted to destroy – rather than improve on – what Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres had achieved, it would have voted en masse for the National Religious Party or Moledet. Conversely, had Middle Israel thought too little had been conceded, it would have voted Meretz.

But Middle Israel – i.e. the three out of four citizens who voted Labor, Likud, The Third Way and Yisrael Ba'aliyah – opted for neither extreme.

We Middle Israelis may differ on whether a Greater Israel is desirable, but we agree it isn't viable; we may differ on whether Arafat passes for a freedom fighter, but we agree that dealing with him is inevitable. We may differ on the magnitude and character of Palestinian self-declaration, but we agree it is imperative; we may differ on the future of the Israeli presence beyond the Green Line, but we agree that some settlements should stay put, that others should relocate and that all settlers should be treated with respect.

On the cultural front, we of the middle abhor the sight of the haredi fringe of society attempting to impose their will on us by force no less than we despise the sound of Shulamit Aloni besmirching biblical figures and inciting against rabbis.

In short, a broad Israeli consensus does exist, somewhere within that Bermuda Triangle of Yossi "Let's-give'em-everything-now" Sarid, Benny "We'll-never-give'em-anything" Begin, and Avraham "Get-me-Rehov Bar-Ilan" Ravitz.

Still, a national unity government as we have previously known it isn't an imminent option.

Unlike the cabinets of the Six Day War and 1985, which managed to put aside partisan considerations and concentrate on the issues, the two national unity cabinets of 1987 to 1990 failed to do so, primarily because the two major parties had grown into huge patronage machines whose hacks' insatiable appetite for public-sector jobs could no longer tolerate broad-based political partnerships.

Beyond that, under the new electoral system, it is much more difficult for the Knesset to force a change in the composition of his coalition on Netanyahu.

Which brings us back to the Sharansky-Kahalani trump card.

These two politicians complement one another, not so much because of their heroic stature in their previous lives, but because ideologically they embody Middle Israel and politically they stood up to the old establishment's systems of patronage.

Sharansky's blunt statement earlier this month in Hebron that concessions must be made was the voice of Middle Israel. Kahalani's insistence earlier that Netanyahu meet with Arafat was the voice of Middle Israel.

Sharansky's refusal to grant industrialists the easy-money subsidies they used to get from his predecessors is the voice of Middle Israel. And Kahalani's secular but humane attitude regarding the clashes over Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan was also the voice of Middle Israel.

Armed with their combined 12 Knesset seats, the stocky and balding Russian and Yemenite should in the near future together prevent Netanyahu from abandoning Middle Israel, as he has in his initial mistreatment of the Palestinian Authority. As regards the more distant future, they would provide that long-overdue Archimedean leverage that would return our decision-making process to where it belongs, in the broad mainstream.

This country isn't as divided as its politicians make it seem. There is a broad consensus here; it simply needs dusting off – not because it is sacred and not because it has been etched in stone, but simply because it is what the vast majority of Israelis dearly want and sorely need.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post *editorial staff.*

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NOTICE is hereby given that the annual, special and general meeting of the members of the Bathurst Jewish Centre will be held at 4588 Bathurst Street, Jerusalem Room, North York, on the 4th day of November, 1996, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the evening, to:

(a) accept as Members of the Corporation those Members listed in good standing tabled and delivered by the Secretary of the Corporation;

(b) approve the new constitution regulating the organization and the office of the Corporation;

(c) election of Directors;

(d) approve the Financial Statements for the Corporation for the year ended June 30, 1996;

(e) appoint auditors and authorize the directors to fix their remuneration; and

(f) transact such further and other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Copies of the Financial Statements and Auditors Report together with copies of the Constitution and the slate of nominated directors, may be obtained from the Business Office of the Corporation between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm until the day of the annual meeting.

Dated the 1st day of October, 1996

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
"Phil Daniels," Secretary

France toughens anti-hate laws

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS – The French government has drafted a bill that would toughen the country's hate-speech laws and make anyone who utters a racist statement subject to one year in prison.

Justice Minister Jacques Toubon hopes to present the bill to Parliament at the start of its autumn session next month.

But he has first asked the opinion of the National Consultative Human Rights Commission, which is headed by Jean Kahn who also serves as president of the Consistoire, the organization responsible for the religious needs of France's 600,000-member Jewish community.

Kahn said in an interview that the commission is "in the process of reflection and study," adding that it would present Toubon with its opinion of the bill after it meets later this week.

TAB news
Travel Arts Business

Loose-lipped laughmonger a Borscht Belt legend

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Jackie Mason, who performs his one-man Broadway show here on Oct. 7, says he was ordained as a rabbi but was laughed out of his first synagogue in Weldon, N.C., in the 1950s.

"As far back as you can go, they were all rabbis in my family," the celebrated stand-up comic said recently by phone from his home in New York, explaining that his father, three brothers and many ancestors were all rabbis.

"The furniture, the cats, the dogs, the horses...once you were in my family, you had to become a rabbi whether you liked it or not."

Mason, 62, was born Jacob Maza in Sheboygan, Wisc. He quit the rabbinate after one too many congregants told him he should be telling jokes instead of giving sermons. He followed their advice and took his show on the road.

Today, the loose-lipped laughmonger commands a top dollar on Broadway, where he has mounted several long-running shows over the past decade. Next month he is scheduled to give his fourth royal command performance for Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace.

"The queen is obviously in love with me," he quips. "She can't live without me."

The show he's bringing here is called Jackie Mason: Politically Incorrect. In it, he supposedly pokes fun at everything from sexual harassment to racism to the Clinton White House.

"This is an all-new show," he says. "I make it a religion or ritual never to repeat jokes from other shows. It's offensive to tell people the same jokes that they paid for on a previous occasion. For me, it's a religious taboo more important than Yom Kippur: not to eat on Yom Kippur, and not to tell yesterday's jokes."

Styling himself as an enemy of hypocrisy, sham and social pretension, Mason says he avoids "aimless, pointless" insults that belittle for no purpose. "I insult what I think are the nonsense and the lies that people go for. People tell their children not to lie, while they lie in business every day. People tell their children not to cheat, while they commit adultery every day.

"Everybody's so busy social-climbing, they make fools of themselves. That's why people buy a boat they can't use, just to show it off, and that's why they buy a house with 300 rooms. There's a new trend in exercise machines. Everyone has one, but nobody uses it. All they use it for is to hang clothes on.

"And lots of people are buying saunas. Where did you here of a Jew that wants to sweat? They spend a fortune buying an air-conditioner, and then 10 minutes later they buy a sauna."

Mason admits he's been called a bigot more than once and says there are certain subjects, including racial discrimination and segregation, that are for him untouchable in these politically correct times.

The former Borscht Belt legend, whose voice carries a Yiddish undertone, likes to satirize Jews in particular, but he's also a staunch supporter of Israel and the Jewish world. During the Persian Gulf War, he cancelled performances of his Broadway show so he could fly immediately to Israel.

"I feel a great concern and compassion with what the Jews are going through in Israel," he says. "I lost half my family in the Holocaust and I have many friends in Israel. When a war breaks out, I find I can't sit still in New York."

The show is at the Pantages Theatre, 244 Victoria St., Toronto, Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. For tickets, visit the Pantages box office or the Ford Centre, 5040 Yonge St. or call the Livent Line at 416-872-2222. Tickets are $25 to $60.

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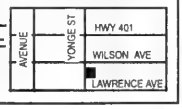

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Playwright Gives Reading: *Tomorrow I'll Be Dead* is the sunny title of a new work-in-progress by playwright **David Rubinoff**. It is scheduled for a workshop presentation at the Bloor JCC, Oct. 3 at 8 p.m.

The comedy is apparently about a family that is coming down in the world. Rubinoff is the author of several previous works, including *Marriage of Convenience*, *Tiny Addictions* and *Stuck*. 416-922-6211.

* * *

Alternative Health TV Series: Motivational speaker **Susan Stern** is host of *Healthy Alternatives*, a new 12-part TV series on health issues set to begin this month on Rogers Community Channel 10. The series examines acupuncture, aromatherapy, attunement, chiropractic science, homeopathy, new approaches in dentistry, iridology, naturopathy, vegetarianism, vitamins and yoga.

Guests include **Rochelle Stern**, actress and breast cancer survivor, **Helen Goldstein**, director of *The Yoga Studio*, and **Dr. George Freedman.**

* * *

Woody Allen Verbatim: *The London Jewish Chronicle* recently scored an exclusive interview with the king of cinematic comedy, **Woody Allen**, at the deluxe Dorchester Hotel. The interviewer began by asking if it were true that Allen's mother was a profoundly funny person.

"I don't know where you read that, but it isn't true," Allen replied. "If she's funny, it's because she's a funny character, you know, she's amusing. She does not make witty remarks. Nor does my father."

Admitting that his family on his mother's side have a physical resemblance to **Groucho Marx**, Allen said his parents are happy with his show-business success.

"My family were very delighted with the good fortune I had. At first they didn't know anything about show business, or they just couldn't imagine what I was doing.

"They were not discouraging, but they had no feeling about it one way or the other. Then, when things started to succeed, they got a great deal of pleasure out of it."

Are his parents ever critical of his work? "They don't know enough about film or literature to be critical," Allen replied.

* * *

For Creative Writers: From Sept. 3 to Dec. 31, writers may receive professional counselling on novels and scripts at no charge from filmmaker and novelist **Allan Wargon**, the Fredelle Maynard writer-in-residence at the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library.

The Fredelle Maynard Writer-in-Residence Program was established to assist unpublished writers realize their dreams, and to commemorate author, television personality and teacher **Fredelle Maynard**, who passed away in 1989. The program has been made possible through the generaous support of her husband, **Sydney Bacon.**

Several free lectures and seminars are scheduled. For more information, call Brenda Holz, 416-393-7014.

* * *

Guilt-Free Jewish Comedy: The Borscht belt arrives in Toronto this week as Yuk Yuk's Superclub unveils Yids In The Hall, a new monthly evening of "guilt-free" Jewish humor.

Hosted by **Lou Eisen**, the first show features **Larry Horowitz**, **Lawrence Morgenstern**, **Kandi Abelson** and **Ian Sirota**. "Yids in the Hall promises to be a night that's different from all other nights," says Eisen.

Yuk Yuk's Superclub, 2335 Yonge St., Oct. 6, 8:30 p.m. Admission is $10 for adults, $7 for students and seniors ("Bubbies & Zaydes"). Upcoming shows Nov. 24 and Dec. 25. Reservations, 416-967-6425.

* * *

Fires In The Mirror: Starting today, Oct.3, for a very limited run, WUM and Theatre Passe Muraille are presenting the Canadian premiere of *Fires In The Mirror.* Written by **Anna Deavere Smith**, this award-winning play, focuses on the Crown Heights rioting in August 1991 when a Jewish student was killed after a young black boy was run over by a car in a rabbi's motorcade. The Canadian Stage Theatre 26 Berkeley St. Toronto. 416-368-3110.

In Brief: Painter **Charles Katz** uses acrylic, oil and mixed media such as sand, marble dust and miscellaneous objects in his paintings. An exhibition of his work is on view through Oct. 14 at Gallery 104, at 104 Scollard St., Toronto. 416-927-0709.

• The Jewish Students Union (JSU) and the University of Toronto are offering Artistic Reflections of the Holocaust, featuring singer **Jenny Eisenstein** and poets **Donia Clenman** and **Simcha Simchovitch**. Oct. 9, 7 p.m. Earth Sciences, Room 149 (133 Willcocks at Huron). For details, call the JSU at 416-978-0422 or Rachel at 905-738-6055.

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TAB news

Wall Street backs Israeli markets

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES – Wall Street is bullish on Israel. Regardless of recent political changes, all the indexes are up, according to the heads of nine of the top publicly traded Israeli companies on Wall Street.

• Stocks of 83 Israeli companies are now traded in U.S. markets, primarily on NASDAQ, more than those of any foreign country, except Canada. The combined market value of these companies tops $32 billion (US), and by the end of 1996, about 100 Israeli companies will be listed.

• Venture capitalists are now investing more money in Israeli companies than those of Britain, France and Germany combined. In 1995, foreign investments in Israel increased by more than 140 percent.

• Israel's gross national product per capita stands at $15, 600 (US) making Israel one of the world's wealthiest nations.

•Stocks in Israeli companies actually perform better on American exchanges than on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Correction

In the story "Ketubah company linked to the Net" (*CJN* Sept. 19 page 38) a few things need to be clarified or corrected.

The story implied Laya Crust and Ted Labow are living in Israel when in fact they live and work in Toronto.

The correct address for Ketubah Ketubah is http://www.ketubah.com

GONE HOLLYWOOD

York Universtiy graduate Josh Chaiton, along with co-producer/director Marni Banack, won the Jay Scott Award for Best Overall Production for their 17-minute drama *Cornerboys* at the TVO's Telefest'96. *Cornerboys* also won in Telefest's long drama category, and craft awards for Best Script and Best Editing. Chaiton also won a second-place award in Telefest's Corporate Video Category. Chaiton's *Animal Crackers* won last year's Jay Scott Award, making him the first student to win top honors two years in a row. Chaiton and Banack are currently enrolled in a Master's program at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles.

Telefest is one of Canada's top student broadcasting competitions. This year 166 film and television works were submitted from students across Ontario. The winners will be honored at the Telefest gala, co-hosted by comedians Sandra Shamas and Rick Green on Tuesday, Oct. 15 in Toronto. For tickets call the Telefest Hotline at 416-484-2860.

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CANADIAN GREY PANTHERS
Age & Youth Working Together

TAB news

Show looks at child sex slavery

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB News editor

TORONTO — Fresh from winning an Emmy and a Gemini for *The Plague Monkeys* , Simcha Jacobovici and Elliot Halpern of Associated Producers bring another provoking documentary to television.

The Selling of Innocents, airing on CBC TV's Witness series Oct. 8, is a moving, disturbing and stark investigation into child sex slavery.

Despite being told numerous times this documentary couldn't be done, Jacobovici, Halpern and director William Cobban take their cameras deep inside the brothels of child-prostitution rings in Bombay, India.

In one of the highlights, the film crew captures a vigilante human right's group raid in progress as the group tries to rescue some of the girls from the brothel. The group scours the brothel finding girls hidden away by the madams – who were probably tipped off by the police – in literally every nook and cranny of the labyrinthian brothel.

A disturbing sequence shows a hidden camera capturing a father selling his young daughter to one of the procurers. The innocence on the child's face is obvious – she has no idea what she's being sold into. Another man talks proudly to the camera about the profits he makes from selling girls to the brothels.

We realize as we watch this film that few of these girls- some barely teenagers – can escape from this lifestyle and when their body is used up – by the time they're in their 20s – they will be discarded onto the road left alone to die of AIDS.

Jacobovoci and Halpern whose previous documentaries also include *Expulsion and Memory: Descendants of the Hidden Jews* and *Deadly Currents* have produced another excellent documentary bravely taking the viewer into a world few of us believe can really exist.

***The Selling Of The Innocents* is a stark depiction of child prostitution.**

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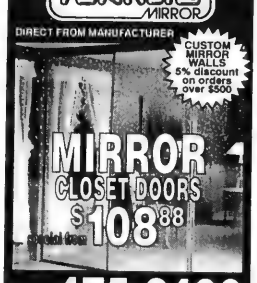

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Business Profile

David Nitkin, president of EthicScan

Corporate ethicist tries to make the world better

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — David Nitkin, president of EthicScan Canada does not dream of a better world — he tries to do something about it.

As a corporate ethicist, and co-author of two books, *The Ethical Shoppers Guide* (Broadview Press) and *Shopping With a Conscience* (John Wiley & Sons Canada, Limited), he spends his time reporting on the social, environmental and labor performance of up to 1,500 Canadian companies using such indicators as affirmative action and job-creation programs, day care policy, environmental abuse, labor relations and charitable donations.

Nitkin, 51, formerly a strategic planner with the Ontario government, relied on the advice of two rabbis, Rabbi Avraham Feder, rabbi emeritus of Beth Tikvah Synagogue, and Rabbi Meir Tamari, head of the business ethics institute at the University of Jerusalem, before launching his business in 1987.

"I wanted guidance as to whether they thought it was feasible to make a career change, but I also wanted to find out if there is teaching in the Torah that would enable me to set ethical standards in place. I discovered that there are many Jewish principles in the business world. The basic notions of responsible behavior and respecting truth, property, democratic institutions and human life are found in the Chumash and in secular teachings. Judaism was very helpful in clarifying the difference between ethics, values, morality and the law.

"Values or mores, such as attitudes towards homosexuality or sex, change in the course of a generation. What is right at one point in time, may be wrong at another. Ethics, however, do not change and Judaism understands the difference between mores and ethics."

An interest in business ethics has resurged, Nitkin says, because "a lot of companies have discovered that they are not performing up to their own standards. In an attempt to downsize, a lot of middle management, often the knowledge base of the company, is being eliminated. This streamlining of companies has resulted in what we call corporate anorexia. Employees are overworked, underpaid, and are making wrong decisions. Companies are becoming afraid of their public image. There has never been such a demand for ethics.

David Nitkin launched his business in 1987. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

"Ethics is fundamental to the well-being of a company. It affects the top line and the bottom line. An unethical firm harbors demoralized workers and as well, if a company cannot demonstrate that it wants to be socially responsible, then it will be vulnerable to competition. Many companies face enormous problems because they do not have their ethics together. Typically, companies approach us when they are already facing problems such as a lawsuit or media investigation."

In one case, Nitkin says, an advertising agency asked for an audit after a senior employee was found to be routinely padding the expenses collected from clients. In another, EthicScan was called in when a company discovered its branch manager was falsely billing clients. What we do, says Nitkin is try to enforce a code of ethics — try to set things right.

"Another of our services is to provide data for mutual and investment funds who want to invest in companies that meet the needs of socially responsible investors. We also do partnership screening, in which we take sensitive information that could affect a specific company if it were to partner up with another company."

An ethical audit, says Nitkin, is the social parallel of a financial audit. "It involves an examination of its workers, its customers and its competitors. Basically, we are trying to discover if a company is solid in its ethical performance — if it is walking its talk.

"We developed the 'sniff test,' in order to encourage employees to ask themselves such questions as how comfortable would they be if the reasons behind a particular decision were printed on the front page of the newspaper or whether this decision is fair, honest and reputable. If alarm bells ring, then the decision should be rethought. Each employee receives training through courses, mannuals or videos and they are given case studies to review. This way, each employee becomes ethically empowered."

Nitkin is president of the 22-member Ethics Practitioners Association of Canada, all of whom offer ethics consulting and code development work, but he is the first to do the work full time, and with three researchers and three associates working out of his home-office, his firm is one of the biggest.

"I have no desire to play G-d. I merely assemble experienced people who determine ethical standards and measure companies in terms of performance. Before any information is released, we assemble all the data and show the company what we have learned, in order to give them a chance to rebut and criticise. Our mandate is to provide information and let the public make its decisions. We are also trying to empower the public."

The Ethical Shopper's Guide, written with Joan Helson, Kelly Green, Amy Stein and the staff of EthicScan Canada, is typical of Nitkin's attempt to empower the public. The almost 300-page book is brimming with information about Canada's leading grocery and consumer products companies arranged under such headings as progressive staff policies, management practices, consumer relations, charitable giving and women's issues. Top companies in each category are placed on the honor roll.

In woman's issues, for example, Kraft General Foods Canada Inc. was placed on the honor roll, because nearly 40 percent of its workforce is women, as are nearly one-third of its managers, a figure Nitkin says is impressive compared to other companies.

Women at Coca Cola Beverages, according to his book, make up only 11 percent of its staff and seven percent of its management. No women are in senior management and only one sits on the 10-person board of directors. The company did get a place on the honor roll, however, for charitable giving and community involvement.

His second book, *Shopping With a Conscience*, includes sections on banks and trust companies, travel and transportation, entertainment, courier services, department stores, gas stations, hardware stores and drugstore chains. A third, entitled *Ethics in the Grocery Cart* is in the works and involves an examination of food, beverage, cosmetics and household products.

"It is written with the same philosophy — we ask questions and gather data. Unfortunately, some people do get upset. I was threatened three times before the second book was published," Nitkin says.

"I feel fortunate because few people get to do something they enjoy and make a positive contribution as well," says the husband and father of two daughters. "My PhD thesis was on utopian communities and since it was written, I've focused all my activities on making the world a better place. I get a great deal of satisfaction out of giving the people the power to choose."

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Teen takes trio of gold medals at Maccabi event

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For six days a week, Elizabeth Ben-Ishai loves to pound the pavement, grind out the miles and prepare for the running competitions that give her an adrenaline boost.

This past summer, Ben-Ishai's rigorous training regimen paid off with a trio of gold medals at the JCC Maccabi Youth Games in West Orange, N.J. The Toronto teen won the 400-metre, 800-m and mile events with relative ease, finishing a few seconds ahead of the next best runner in each race.

A 15-year-old Grade 12 student at the University of Toronto Schools, Ben-Ishai says she faces tougher competition at Metro Toronto and Ontario level games. But participating in the junior Maccabi was especially satisfying to her since she got to meet other young Jewish athletes and enjoy the social activities that are part and parcel of Maccabi events.

Camaraderie and competition are two of the qualities that attracted the Toronto-area teen to running. That and the ability to hit the road and "get away from school work and all hectic things," she said.

Elizabeth Ben-Ishai

Ben-Ishai has been running competitively at the U of T track club for only about one year, but in that time she's managed to win championships in 400-m, 800-m and 1,500-m races sponsord by the Toronto Secondary Athletic Association.

At the Metro level, she's won 800-m and 1500-m races while in an Ontario-level competition held in Kitchener, she was second in the 800 (her best event) and third in the 1500.

With summer over, Ben-Ishai has shifted to Toronto's ravines for the cross-country season, running four-kilometre races through the city's park system.

When that's done, she'll move inside for winter's indoor track season. Her goal is to shave off two seconds from her 800-m time to qualify for the Canadian junior championship. In the meantime, she's also looking ahead to continuing her running career in university.

* * *

Anthony Daniels, 16, blew away the competition in the shotput event at the Youth Maccabi, hurling the shot 33 feet, three inches. The silver medalist was more than two feet behind.

A Grade 11 student at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), Daniels is an all-round athlete who competed in nine different track and field events in Jersey: 100-m, 200-m,400-m, three relays, high jump (finishing fourth), long jump (also fourth) and shotput.

At CHAT he also throws the discuss and javelin and has represented the school in the Toronto District Collegiate Athletic Association finals.

He shoulda' gone to shul

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Special to The CJN

WASHINGTON —Faced with a Yom Kippur dilemma, Milwaukee Brewers reserve catcher Jesse Levis decided to swing for the fences but he came up empty.

The Jewish holiday was originally slated as an off-day, but Levis found himself caught in a bind when a twice-postponed game between the Brewers and the Baltimore Orioles was rescheduled.

Levis, carrying a .243 batting average, elected to play rather than atone for his sins.

"It's not like I'm Sandy Koufax," Levis told reporters after the game in Baltimore, referring to the former Dodgers pitcher who missed a world series game in 1965 because of Yom Kippur. "I don't have that kind of leverage. I hope God forgives me."

Levis went 0 for 3, striking out once and leaving three runners in scoring position.

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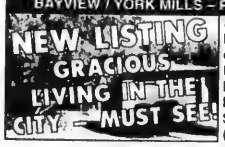


Spacious & gracious! Ranch bung., 3+2 bdrms., fam. rm., office, large principal rooms. Ideal for entertaining, gorgeous landscaped garden, 65x145 ft. lot, a MUST SEE at only $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

LYTTON BLVD. — CLOSE TO EVERYTHING
Prestigious location! 50x134 ft. lot, spacious bungalow, close to all amenities. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE RENTAL – REDUCED
Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., 70x150 ft. lot. Big rooms, fin. bsmt. Asking $1995/month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION BUILDERS! LOTS FOR SALE

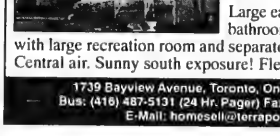
AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN
- 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.
- 50x134 ft. lot in prime location, only $369,000.

GLENGROVE
- 40x132 i SOLD 249,000.

CLANTON PARK
- 58x150 ft., fabulous lot, only $239,000.

These terrific lots are ready for hand picking. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712 and get a head start on a dream home.

SPACIOUS CONDO — 3000 BATHURST



2 bdrms. + den, shows to perfection! Huge LR+DR combination, ideal for entertaining, gorgeous west view. A MUST SEE at only $219,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

HILDA / CLARK — THORNHILL GEM

4 + 1 bdrms., 2 storey, 4 baths, large principal rooms, approx 2300 sq. ft., shows well, only $319,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA – SPACIOUS AND REDUCED!
3+2 bdrm. bung. Fam. size kit., ren. bsmt., sep. entry to self-contained apt., $269,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – LOTS OF HOME, LOW PRICE!
New reno + addition, 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, jacuzzi, finished basement, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON — SHOWS WELL!
3 bdrm. home on 40 x 125 ft. lot, only $199,000. Double garage, new windows, finished basement. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!

4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, stone fireplace. Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

1ST AD — PRIME ANNEX 4-PLEX!!
$699,000 Reno'd & restored, great loc! J. Bleiweis* 226-1987

BEST LOCATION WESTGATE BLVD. 6/RMS
New/furn/roof/CAC 51x157, gar. Goldie Kay* 226-1987

1ST AD! — UPPER VILLAGE — RENOVATED!
Best value! Sumptuous mstr suite!+++ Celine Joel* 488-2875

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Freestanding bldg w/7 car parking. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

AVENUE/LAWRENCE JUST $299K
Incredibly renovated! 3 bdrms, fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

HURRY! WON'T LAST! YONGE/EGLINTON
Totally renovated semi, 3 bdrms. J. Wagman**/F. Sversky** 488-2875

DON MILLS/LAWRENCE JUST REDUCED!
Lovely 3 bdrm townhome, end unit. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD!! 25[illegible] SOLD LY HOME!
Sold in 2 days!! For action r[illegible]ease call M. Gherson* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

YORK MILLS/OLD YONGE $1,295,000
Custom home to be built. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

FOREST HILL R.E. INC. PRESENTS ...
6 Top quality custom homes by Destiny Rose. F. Sversky** 488-2875

A DREAM COME TRUE — NOW $749,000
Custom blt, contemp. design. David Wagman* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - ST. ANDREWS
Lovely 4,200 sq. ft. home, renovated. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

YONGE/UPLANDS — RAVINE/GOLFCRSE!
$1.3M Incred. setting 6,000'. J. Bleiweis* 226-1987

MASTERPIECE! BAYVIEW/16TH
Magnificent 4,095 sq. ft. home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16 — 5,500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/STEELES JUST $249,888
Immaculate 3 bdrm home. Mn. flr. family rm. F. Sversky** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

GREAT WESTERN [illegible] SOLD RE! LANDMARK!
1,509 Sq. ft. 2 bd, 2 baths. [illegible] in. Jay Bleiweis* 226-1987

423 AVENUE RD. LUXURY CONDO
Reno'd 2 BR+SOL. David Wagman* 488-2875

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

RE/MAX Ultimate Realty Inc., Realtor

Stephen T. Frazee
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WANTED: One Happy Family!

$229,000. Immaculate 3 bedroom bungalow near Bathurst, south of Wilson. Large eat-in kitchen. Updated bathroom. Finished basement with large recreation room and separate office. Gas furnace. Central air. Sunny south exposure! Flexible possession!

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E-Mail: homesell@terraport.net

LARNELL REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

BATHURST-STEELES CONDO. $227,900
Just listed! Townsgate II. Go[illegible] SOLD , 6th flr., SW exposure. 1,320 sq. ft. + balc. 5 appls., 2 bths. Must sell!

LAWRENCE/BATHURST
2nd Block East of Bathurst
Rare opportunity to acquire 2200 sq. ft. Office Building with 3 Bdrm. Bsmt. Apartment. Large lot with 6+ on site parking. Vacant possession. Listed at $499,000. Please call:
Focus Point Realty
at (416) 968-1314 *and ask for:*
Neil Warshafsky Ext. 22 *or* Robert Escoe Ext. 28

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED/REALTOR
633-7373

COMMERCIAL ZONING
Sheppard Wilmington 6 rms, fin bsmnt, lge lot, ideal for professional use, great buy & location.

SHEPPARD BATHURST
4 bdrm, 4 bths, liv & din comb, fam rm, fin. bsmnt, lge lot, dble gar.

BATHURST FINCH
Spac. 3 bdrm, liv & din comb, eat-in kit, fam. rm., w/out, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

BATHURST FINCH $99,500
2 bdrm condo, L-shape liv & din, parquet flrs, lndry ens., balc, don't miss!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $569,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View.

BATHURST/CLARK
$175,000.00 Large 2 bedroom condo + enclosed solarium, 4 & 5 piece bath, move in condition.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

31 Timberlane Dr., lge. 3 bdrm. sidesplit or magnificent ravine lot - 80'x 210'. 416-633-8903.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

NORTH YORK & THORNHILL
Promenade approx. 1,400 s.f. 2 br. Balc. 5 appl. $1,450/mo.
- North York, semi $179,900
- N.Y. Townhouse $180,000
- 171 Torresdale $269,900
- Thornhill 3,100 ft. $369,900
- North York custom $595,000

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Luxury 1 bdrm. at Bath./Lawr., Dec. 1st, 5 appls., pkg., cable, air,Shabbat elev., $1050./mo. 905-780-0685, leave msg.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Clark/Dufferin,2 bdrm.,suitable for single mother, 660-1278.

Mature female, n/smoker, Bayview/Steeles, furn. room, pkg., a/c, lux.bldg., secur. 221-4439.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Downsview, bsmt. apt., reas., 2 bdrm., sep. entr., 635-8212.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, new renov. lge. 1 bdrm.bsmt.apt.,single,n/smoker, priv. entr., 636-2199, evg.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Art Shoppe furnished, 1 bdrm., adult bldg., Nov.1 - March 31, 50 yds. to subway, St.Clair/Bath., $800., 651-0740.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart Waterfront
$229,000 Executive yr. round beauty w/fantastic view. All the bells and whistles!
Anne van Wieringen
Homelife Kempenfelt Kelly
416-350-2366
705-436-5111

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, Century Village, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, CAC, new furnishings. Call 416-663-2433.

North Miami Beach, beautifully furn., 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 baths, balc., priced for quick sale, $26,900.00 U.S. 416-222-9272.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ALEXANDER TOWERS:
Toronto's Winter Home
Beautiful oceanfront luxury highrise. Studio, 1 bed, and 2 bed units available for monthly + rentals. Full furnished with amenities.
Toll-Free 1-800-808-0848.
Seasonal Rentals and Sales.

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 mos. min., beginning Jan. '97. Call 416-496-2900.

Miami Beach, oceanfront, 14th flr., lge. 1 bdrm. condo at 63rd St. & Ocean. Modern, furn., heat & a/c, 24 hr. sec., underground pkg., cable TV, 1 1/2 bath, $4500. U.S. for full season. Call Allen 416-964-7437.

C.V. West, Boca Raton, spotless, 1 bdrm., 1 bath, main flr., fully furn. & equip. 905-625-3189.

Ft. Lauderdale, Inverrary, The Manors, 2/2, corner apt., ground flr., cable, tennis, pool, secur., close to shopping, 4 mos. min. or longer, $1550/mo. U.S., 718-474-1866, after 6pm.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hallandale Condo. avail. Jan.20-March 6. 905-737-6200.

Hallandale, Jan.-March, 1997, on intercoastal, across the St. from ocean, highrise bldg., gorgeous view, fully furn. & equip., $1500/mo. U.S., 908-247-6744.

Lake Worth, Poinciana, 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., pool, on golf course, shopping, 3 mos. min., $1,600 mo./U.S., (evg.) 905-731-7406.

North Miami Beach, Arlen House East, luxurious 1 bdrm., 2 bath condo., for the season, $1,400/mo. U.S. 416-636-3463.

Singer Island, luxury condo on the beach, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, to rent for season, min. 4 mos., $2,500.00 mo./U.S., close to Palm Beach, high secur. bldg. Call 905-856-1851 (evg.).

South Miami Beach, art deco area, 1 bdrm., pkg., near ammen., $1100/mo. U.S., Call Bernice 667-8045, after 3 pm.

Three Islands, condo., 1 1/2 bdrms.,for Nov./Dec., 635-8212.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
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(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Century, West Palm, req., well maintained lower unit or with elevator, for 3 mos. 782-7400.

Hollybrook, 2 full bdrms., 2 bath, Jan.-March. 785-5420 or 783-4010.

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Jewish Sr. lady share apt. Miami Beach on ocean. 782-8247.

Lady wishes to share large apt. in Hallandale,Fla.near ocean &pool.All conv. 498-7221

Miami Beach, Sr. lady looking for same to share a house, cent. located on bus route, own room, pool. Details to be arranged, 416-789-3007 (evg).

147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION

Four Oceanfront Resort Hotels with regular rooms, efficiencies & suites avail. For your special rate, call Tony Rogers 305-866-8965.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

3 rooms, penthouse, in Tel Aviv, 1 blk. from the sea & all hotels, fully furn., for Sale $300,000. U.S., negotiable, Call 416-667-0291.

178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION

Single ticket, EL AL T.O. - Tel Aviv return, must complete travel by Dec. 31st. $800.00 Call 416-783-6185

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

City of Vaughan

THE CITY *ABOVE* TORONTO

Located in the Greater Toronto area, the Municipality of Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing urban communities, with a population of 135,000.

PART-TIME TRANSIT OPERATORS

Working up to 24 hrs. per week, you will be responsible for the safe & efficient operation of multi-passenger transit vehicles, including "mobility" buses. Duties will include completing records & logs, assisting physically disabled persons as they board & disembark, taking appropriate action in emergency situations, inspecting the vehicle, & performing minor maintenance/repairs. Along with Grade 10 & at least 1 yr. of related experience in vehicle equipment operation, you must have a valid Class F driver's licence in good standing and be willing to obtain a Class C driver's licence at the request & expense of the Corporation. You hold current C.P.R. Certification, have completed a Basic First-Aid Training Course, and are able to deal courteously and effectively with staff and the public, particularly "mobility" bus transit users. Availability to work shifts & weekends, as assigned, is essential. **Please forward your resumé, quoting File #PT-10, by October 11, 1996, to: City of Vaughan, Human Resources Dept., 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1. Fax (905) 832-8575.**

We offer a smoke-free environment.

KORRY'S
MEN'S FASHION SALESPERSON
If you're retired or semi-retired from the men's fashion wars but still want to keep your hand in the game, fax your résumé to 463-1880 and tell us why we're right for each other.

City of Vaughan

THE CITY *ABOVE* TORONTO

Located in the Greater Toronto area, the Municipality of Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing urban communities, with a population of 135,000.

PART-TIME

CONTROL DESK ATTENDANTS

Working up to 24 hrs. per week, in a Community Centre, you will be responsible for providing a range of administrative services, including control desk duties, registration functions, fitness membership processing, cashiering and reception. These positions will be of interest to individuals who possess excellent customer relations abilities and keyboarding, data-entry and WordPerfect 6.1 skills. You must be available to work flexible hours (daytime, evenings, weekends and statutory holidays) in our various Community Centres. Access to the use of a vehicle is essential. **Salary: *$7.40 per hr.*** **Please forward your resumé, quoting File #PT-009, by October 11, 1996, to: City of Vaughan, Human Resources Dept., 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1. Fax (905) 832-8575.** ***We offer a smoke-free environment.***

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Fashion Maven?
If you have energy and a flair for dressing men, Korry's has an opening for you in our shirt department. Call 463-1115 to arrange a personal interview. Design students welcome.

HOMEWORKS
BUILDERS AND RENOVATORS
Seeking experienced
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$200 - $500 WEEKLY
Assemble products at home, Easy! No Selling! You are paid direct, fully guaranteed.
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.
1-504-641-7778
Ext. 0328H38

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, Israeli Organization seeks full time person to join a fast paced office environment. Requirements: excellent **verbal & written English communication** skills, strong organizational skills, excellent inter-personal skills, judgement & initiative, **computer knowledge**- prof. in a Windows environment,basic bookkeeping (Lotus 123 for Windows),**University degree**, exper. in Public Relations or Marketing are advantageous. Interested applicants, please fax resumé to:416-961-3962. Only suitable candidates will be contacted.

Part-time Shammas for Beth Jacob Synagogue, corner of Overbrook & Wilmington, avail. immediately, should live within walking distance.416-635-9694, Joseph.

SECRETARY - CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP, Mon.-Fri., 2-5pm in Toronto business office. During summer-July & Aug.: Full-time office work, living in residence up at camp in Algonquin Park, 3 hrs. north of T.O. Experience: computer (WP 6.1 & Works database), telephone, mailings, filing, errands, etc. Off-season: $12./hr. Summer: Rm. & Bd. + $ negotiable. 924-7433.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS required by Orthodox Day School; Hebrew, general studies & preschool. Send resumé c/o Hiring Committee, CJN Box 6825.

ISRAEL, Chefs, Restaurant Chef, Chef De Partie, Pastry Chef, qualified, experienced personnel required. Air fares paid. Call June Waldman, 364-8325, Fax 364-4924.

247 DAY CARE

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

Quality Day Care in my home, nutritious meals,activities,ages 2-6 yrs. from 8-6pm, Yonge/Steeles/Hilda area. 223-0457.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out housekeepers for seniors, home/hospital support. Honey Hecker. 416-665-4229.**

Exper. cleaning lady avail., Mon.,Wed. & Fri. refs.653-2429.

Exper. housekeeper avail., fluent in English/Polish. 696-8074.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I can clean your home, experienced. Please call 286-5830.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
*** No Fee to Employer**
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127.

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. for Mon. & Wed., 905-306-9026 or 416-231-3028.

Exquisite Cook/Housekeeper/Nanny,live-out.416-493-1356

Mature woman with many yrs. exper. & good refs. is looking for a position to take care of elderly or disabled, nursing home or retirement home, live out. 663-8120.

PERFECTIONIST will clean one day a week, reliable. Carla 747-5384.

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper., 266-7208.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

***Golden Care is looking for Yiddish speaking people, any age, to work for seniors. Call Honey Hecker, 665-4229.**

Housekeeper/Cook, Mon.-Thurs., 5pm-8:30pm (flex.), Bath./Eglinton, 322-5701.

Nanny needed 2 half days/wk., in Richmond Hill, 905-770-1132

Nanny wanted for 13 mo. old, in Thornhill, some housework, good refs. req. Call Michelle 905-764-9951.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA seeks PT work, cleaning/homemaker, 242-8424

Exper. woman seeks position with elderly. Has Homemaking Certificate, good cook. Call 416-650-1363 any time.

HCA avail., exper. with refs., PT/FT, 667-0819, pgr.378-4026

RN's or RPN's, homecare or institution, any shift, 256-0086.

259 SENIORS

Are you a mother bothered by the empty nest syndrome? If so, join a support group, 55+, who has empathy & make new friends. Phone Thelma (former student of Harbord Collegiate & Ryerson College). 636-0266, 7-10pm.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B.P.T., See photos & bios, let me help you. Ruth 731-5204.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appt's. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Happy Sukkot! Come View our Photos & Biographies at **A NEW CHANCE**, Toronto's most affordable Jewish dating service. Ontario-wide. 416-398-3991.

Jewish Connections. We have the right *connection* for you! Photos. 905-889-3900.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1130** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***SOULMATES** is proud to announce that we are now advertising world wide on our own internet website. We are at www.soulmates.net We are joining people from all over the world to better serve our clients! Evelyn 905-709-3868.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

If you are 60+, you still didn't find your soulmate, call Via, I might find you one, 663-1494.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

DO YOU RECOGNIZE ANYONE IN THESE PICTURES?

Trying to locate lost brother, Teyvel Feferman

Wolf Feferman trying to locate his brother **Teyvel Feferman**, father's name Moshe, Born in 1905 in Ukraine, arrived to Montreal, Canada, around 1929. The picture above was taken in 1940's of **Teyvel Feferman**, his wife (maiden name **Shamos** (?), and their two children in Montreal (?). **It is possible that Mr. Feferman's family has changed their name.** Please contact Yasha Gofman at 1-415-326-8853 or 1-415-981-1710 with any possible information on the whereabouts of any family members.

270 PERSONALS

Interested in an overseas adventure? Between 25-35? Need a travelling companion? Please reply CJN Box 6828.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I am a 47 yr. old male, fit, multilingual Sephardic, 158 lbs., 5'10". I have integrity & honesty, and wish to meet the same for serious relationship. Please send photo. CJN Box 6826.

If you are a beautiful woman who would like to meet a serious 30 yr. old, young, attr. marriage-minded male, Gemini, with parents that will pamper you, please leave us a message. 785-5946.

Jewish female, 36, petite, n/smoker, never married, old-fashioned values, down to earth & good hearted, seeks life partner, 34-39. CJN Box 6829.

Love or Triple Word Score! Tennis playing, scrabble enthusiast, SJM, mid 40's with offbeat sense of humour & large reading menu, financially secure, seeks a SJF, 35-42 for eclectic conversation, intense scrabble and ultimately committed relationship. CJN Box 6818.

Old fashion romantic male, 40's, with no children, friendly & nice, would like to meet similar younger lady for serious relationship. CJN Box 6827.

Successful, Toronto businessman, 51 yrs. old, 5'5" tall, very cute, charismatic, bright, good hearted, is searching for his **Princess.** If you are a petite, very attractive lady, with a good figure, (only women who love music will be compatible), give us a call! Evelyn, Soul Mates Intro. Service, 905-709-3868.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Sexy Sr., young at heart, recently widowed with no children,would like to meet the same.Looking for attr. lady over 65 to share my home in Florida & in Toronto. So let's have a Happy New Year together for long lasting life. CJN Box 6824.

SJF, redhead, mid 40's, looking for a tall, estab. SJM, 48-52, no married men or Svitchers need respond. CJN Box 6822.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

1985 Pontiac Parisienne Stn. Wagon, 8 cyl., 305, fully loaded, $3,500 or best offer. 223-6405.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Exceptional Ladies Wear required for consignment store. Garb's 'n Things, 489-8876.

330 OBITUARIES

Schlesinger, Ida, Peacefully passed away on Wednesday, September 18, 1996 in North York General Hospital. Beloved wife of the late Max Schlesinger, loving mother of Harold and Albert, and daughter in-law Sharon, proud Bubby of Mandi & Shane. She will be sadly missed by her brother Oscar & sister Rose. Her love, devotion & deeds will be remembered by all who knew her. A funeral service was held on Thursday, September 19, 1996 at Steeles Memorial Chapel, interment Warsaw-Lodzer section of Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park. Shiva, 23 Westminister Drive, Richmond Hill. Memorial Donations may be made to the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center at 416-864-9735.

330 OBITUARIES

Ben Stocker on September 12, 1996, late of 90 Fairview Avenue
Sam Goldhar on September 14, 1996, late of 455 Sentinel Road #813
Helen Iancu on September 15, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Ruth Wilansky on September 13, 1996, late of 80 Inverlochy Blvd. #102
Frances Olin on September 13, 1996, late of 2000 South Ocean Blvd. #1001
Joseph Sadowski on September 15, 1996, late of 525 Lawrence Avenue West #501
Ethyle Levine on September 16, 1996, late of 625 Avenue Road #1602
Alexander Gordon on September 16, 1996, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd. #509
Mark Shterenberg on September 18, 1996, late of 15 Torresdale Avenue #607
Frida Moll on September 18, 1996, late of 55 Ameer #1005
Ruth Osdyczer on September 18, 1996, late of 35 Shoreham Drive
Eleanor Shenfield on September 19, 1996, late of 7440 Bathurst Street #410

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The Inside Back

THE TRAVEL NETWORK PRESENTS...

An Inspirational Weekend in Washington DC
Nov. 22-24/96
Escorted by Pnina Zilberman
Director of the Holocaust Education Memorial Centre of Toronto

Includes: US Holocaust Museum Tour, Oneg Shabbat and discussion, full day escorted City Tour, deluxe accommodation in Georgetown, breakfast, transfers and return flight as well as donation made in the name of the participant.

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Salman, Abram on September 17, 1996
Bukhanova, Sura on September 17, 1996
Schlesinger, Ida on September 18, 1996, late of 23 Westminister Dr.
Simmons, Isak on September 19, 1996
Wagner, Mary on September 19, 1996
Shifman, Mendel on September 21, 1996
Furlet, Morris on September 21, 1996
Fergus, Arnold on September 20, 1996
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RED PEPPER SOUP

- 3 tblsp butter
- 1 large red onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/8-1/4 tsp. hot red chili flakes
- 6-8 large red peppers, seeded and cut up
- 2 1/2—3 cups pareve chicken broth
- 1/4 tsp. fresh ground pepper
- salt to taste
- 2 cups tomatoes, diced, strewed
- 3/4 cup skim milk goat cheese
- chopped, fresh basil to garnish (optional)

Melt butter. Add onion, garlic and chili flakes and sauté until soft. Add red peppers and cook for 5 minutes. Add stock, salt, pepper, and tomatoes. Boil and reduce, cover and simmer for 25 minutes. Cool and purée. Return to pot and add milk. Garnish each bowl as it is served. Yield: 6 servings. *This soup is delicious served hot or cold.*

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am 77 years old, healthy, have many friends but still I have a problem. Most people have worse problems, but mine is mine.

My driver's licence limits me to driving in daylight. How can I continue to do all the things I love to do in the evening. I'm afraid to use public transportation at night because I have to walk two blocks. My friends are in the same position. Is there a solution?

MK

Dear MK,

You and your friends can form a group to organize a taxi pool or possibly hire a driver who would be available on specific evenings. It could be a student, who might want to earn some spending money or someone's grandchild or your postman. It will take effort to make it work but it will enable you to continue your activities and enjoy life.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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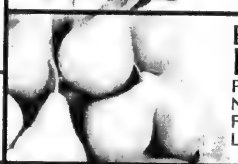

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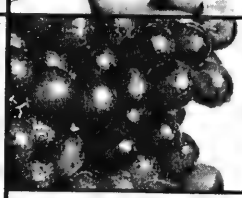

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

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Konrads Kalejs scrambles to keep his story straight. **Page 6**

Riverdale now home to a Reform congregation. **Page 8**

Jewish literary journal *Parchment* gets a new editor, Adam Fuerstenberg. **Page 18**

Coast to Coast

CJC lawyers say there is sufficient evidence for case against Raymond Villeneuve. **Page 26**

TAB news

Brundibar: Children's Holocaust opera, originally performed at Terezin, offers uplifting spiritual message. **Page 44**

Nathan Garnick builds a musical around the good-natured people of Chelm. **Page 48**

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Negotiations resume in Erez

Parties will talk until solutions are found

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

EREZ CHECKPOINT, Gaza — The much publicized talks at the Erez checkpoint convened last week with the understanding that they will be virtually continuous until solutions are found.

Both sides brought radically different agendas to the talks, with Israel focusing on the Hebron redeployment and adjustments to security arrangements, and the Palestinians aiming to implement the entire agreement without changes.

"Today, we started the talks of the steering committee, after a difficult crisis which perhaps harmed the basis of the Oslo agreement and the peace process itself, and that is the base of faith and a sense of partnership. We will have to rehabilitate it through gestures of good will in order to renew this network of faith," said former chief of general staff Dan Shomron, head of the Israeli delegation last Sunday at the start of the meetings.

It was decided to immediately convene committees that will deal with Hebron redeployment, the economy and military and civilian matters.

"We intend to work at a hasty pace to reach an agreement in all these areas, so that we can continue with the Oslo agreement. Understandably, these committees have a need to see non-violence and reciprocity so that the process can continue and solutions can be found," Shomron said.

His sentiments were echoed by Saeb Erekat, the head of the Palestinian delegation.

"We have witnessed events in the past few days which show how important the peace process is, and we are determined to preserve the peace process and to give it every

Continued on page 39

STRUMMING HOPEFUL CHORDS

A soldier plays the guitar while on duty in Hebron. His colleagues sing along. Israel lifted the curfew over Hebron last week. ***[Reuter/RNS photo]***

In Kfar Darom, life goes on behind barbed wire fences

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

KFAR DAROM, Gaza Strip – With its barbed wire fences and concrete barricades, sandbags and stockpile of grenades, newly erected sentry stations and hastily built embankments, Kfar Darom looked this week like a well-fortified army base. But to the 42 religious families who dwell in this isolated settlement in the heart of the Gaza Strip, Kfar Darom is just home.

A place with a great quality of life, wonderful neighbors, sandy beaches, nature and quiet, according to its residents who seem fiercely determined to convince visitors – and perhaps themselves – that life here is normal.

Feature

Shoshana Har Habayit, an American immigrant, and her husband Shaul joined the settlement just two months ago. "A nice, little house in a special community where I could learn Hebrew, raise a family and bake cakes," is what Shoshana says she found at Kfar Darom. Indeed, two weeks ago, as bullets ricocheted off the walls of her home, Har HaBayit baked furiously.

"It was a lucky thing too," she says. "There were so many hungry soldiers to feed when the firing finally stopped. And here I was with all these fresh brownies."

The firing stopped after a five-hour battle, in which IDF soldiers and armed settlers fended off an assault by an angry mob of Palestinians who quickly surrounded the isolated Jewish community. Unlike during the intifadah, the attackers didn't merely throw stones. Some were armed and fired directly at the settlement, many from adjacent rooftops. Families living in trailers were quickly evacuated to stone houses. But the bullets penetrated even the better-built homes like that

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INSIDE

Look for our special 20-page Bridal advertising supplement. Please see pages B1 – B20.

IDF's biggest concern is Arafat's next move — please see page 39

The News in Brief

CANADA

New Rabbi in Town

TORONTO – Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum has joined Beth Tzedec Congregation as rabbi.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl continues as the Conservative synagogue's senior spiritual leader.

Rabbi Tanenbaum has served congregations in Ottawa, Chicago and Calgary.

Lottery Conference

VANCOUVER – Israel is one of 68 countries represented at the World Meet '96 conference of lottery corporations. The Israelis are representatives of the Israel Sports Betting Board and Mifal Hapayis, the Israel lottery.

Israel's share of lottery ticket sales last year contributed contributed to an estimated worldwide sales total of $114 billion (US).

ISRAEL

Lion of Judah Conference

JERUSALEM – The Lion of Judah conference, a prestigious women's event for major UJA contributors, will take place in Israel for the first time, later this month.

It will also be the first time that Keren Hayesod and the UJA have jointly hosted the event.

Rabbi Soloveitchik Dies

JERUSALEM – Rabbi Raphael Soloveitchik, the leader of the Brisk community of Lithuanian Haredim, died last month at the age of 70.

Rabbi Soloveitchik came to the public's attention in the 1970s, when he led the battle against widespread autopsies here and succeeded in sparking a worldwide campaign to pressure the government on the issue.

New Campus To Open

JERUSALEM – The Shalom Hartman Institute will dedicate a new campus in the cultural centre of Jerusalem on Oct. 23.

Amir's Home Bombed

JERUSALEM – A firebomb was thrown last week at the home of Yitzhak Rabin's convicted assassin.

The bomb attack started a fire in the part of the house used by Yigal Amir's mother, Geula, to run a kindergarten.

No one was hurt in the incident, but the attack caused severe damage.

Shedding New Light

REHOVOT – Prehistoric ashes can now be recognized and analysed with percision for the first time, thanks to a discovery made by a Weizmann Institute of Science researcher.

Cancer Researcher

JERUSALEM – Prof. Leoachs, a renowned Weizmann Institute geneticist who has made a major contribution to the understanding of cancer was recently presented with the Ot Hanagid award of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital.

The 72-year-old scientist was the guest of honor at the hospital's 25th gala dinner.

His research led to the discovery of proteins, called colony-producing factors, that control the development of normal blood cells.

WORLD

Olympiyeda '97

NEW YORK – The popular international science contest, Olympiyeda '97, is returning for its eighth year.

The competition is open to ninth and 10th graders. Twenty teens who score the highest on a series of exams will be selected from among the applicants to receive all-expense paid, three-week stays in Israel next summer.

For more information call 416-633-7770 in Toronto.

Nazi Gold in U.S. Bank

NEW YORK – Millions of dollars in gold bars looted by the Nazis – possibly including gold fillings pulled from the corpses of Jews murdered in the Holocaust – are sitting in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York vaults, according to recently declassified documents.

ECA Convention

NEW YORK – The Educators Council of America will examine issues affecting Orthodox education and explore the Jewish perspective on human values at its 19th convention, to be held at Homowack Lodge, New York, later this month.

Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, executive director of the Toronto Board of Jewish Education and dean of the Toronto Jewish Seminary, will give the sermon at the convention's Shabbat service. Among other Canadians wo will give *shiurim* are Rabbi Marvin Pachino, headmaster at CHAT.

Congress' Last Bill

WASHINGTON – As the 104th Congress concluded its major business last week, Jewish activists celebrated several last-minute legislative achievements.

The catch-all spending bill signed by President Clinton includes $3 billion in U.S. aid to Israel and a measure that eases admission standards for Jewish refugees fleeing persecution in the former Soviet Union.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday October 8, 1971

ISRAEL SEEKS DIALOGUE WITH ARABS

"Israel's highest aim is peace for all peoples in the Middle East," Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban told 4,500 people in Montreal.

"But peace continues to be denied and she'll not sit down and weep behind the river and wilt away but prosper and flourish even without peace and in spite of the Arab states' refusal to grant her recognition."

Eban reiterated Israel's preparedness to engage in "a complete dialogue" with her Arab neighbors as a necessary preamble to the solution of the intricate Middle East problems.

******

PROTEST TO GREET KOSYGIN

A major rally and demonstration protesting the treatment of Soviet Jewry has been planned for Monday Oct. 25 in Nathan Phillips Square to coincide with Soviet Premier Kosygin's visit to Toronto.

Planned and coordinated by the Action Committee for Soviet Jewry – an arm of the Canadian Jewish Congress – the rally will be one of many demonstrations and marches across Canada by both Jewish groups and concerned Gentiles.

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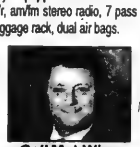

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Vol. XXXVII, No. 24 (2,820)

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Half of Montreal's Jews will stay: survey

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Half of Montreal Jews surveyed this summer figure they will still be living in Quebec in five years' time, according to preliminary data.

The survey, to be released later this fall by FEDERATION CJA, asked "If you had to guess, where will you be five years from now?" as part of a lengthy questionnaire on the community's profile and attitudes.

The response from just over 500 households was: 50.7 percent think they will be in Quebec; 12.1 percent another province; 7.6 percent the United States; three percent Israel; 1.6 percent another country; and 23.5 percent were unsure.

FEDERATION CJA community planning director Maxyne Finkelstein, emphasizing that the numbers are "very preliminary," said she was not surprised by the response and the sense of uncertainty it indicates is not much different than that expressed in a similar 1990 survey.

"Obviously, we would like to see more people committed to staying, but I'm not alarmed; it's basically what we expected. It reflects the general feeling over the past decade," she said.

The sampling is considered representative of the Jewish community according to such factors as age, language and where they live. The survey, which consisted of about 75 questions, was conducted mainly by phone.

Finkelstein noted that there were dire predictions of a drastic drop in the Jewish population through the '80s, yet the 1991 Canadian census found a decrease of only 2,000 between 1981 and '91, when it was just over 101,000.

The census is the only accurate measure of the Jewish population and the next complete one will be taken in 2001. The mid-decade census, carried out this year, will not give a full picture because it asked only ethnicity and not religion, and then only of those minority of household who received the long form.

FEDERATION CJA demographer Charles Shahar said that's likely to underestimate the Jewish total by about 4,000.

Although the anecdotal evidence that Jews are leaving Quebec at an accelerated rate since the referendum last October is strong, there is no solid evidence of a significant net loss from such indicators as Combined Jewish Appeal's roster.

Campaign director Danyael Cantor said the number of names it is canvassing has actually increased this year over last. That's due to a greater effort to reach more potential donors and reactivate dormant cards, which has offset any population loss, he said.

Another important indicator, Jewish day school enrolment, has not yet been confirmed for 1996-97, said Association of Jewish Day Schools director Felix Meloul.

Day school enrolment was up slightly between 1994-95 and '95-96, from 6,986 to 7,054.

Immigration has remained fairly steady for the past four or five years, said Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) director Joel Moss. Between July 1, 1995-June 30, 1996, close to 800 individuals or about 290 families arrived in Quebec, according to JIAS' knowledge. Ninety percent were from the former Soviet Union (FSU). Since June, the number coming has also been consistent with recent years, Moss said.

The great majority of Jewish immigrants are staying. "Ninety-five per cent" of those who came from the FSU over the past three years through the two "100 families" program in cooperation with the Quebec government are still here, he said.

SHANAH TOVAH WHITEHORSE

Jewish residents in Whitehorse, Yukon, held a unique celebration at Rosh Hashanah including a campfire and potluck meal at a local campground. The Jewish community of Whitehorse includes about 10 to 15 members. Seen are some of the local Jewish community and their families. [Peter Long photo]

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From the editor's desk

PA human rights abuses chronicled

Last week in this space, I promised to reproduce excerpts from the testimony of Prof. Irwin Cotler on July 23, to the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights of the U.S. Congressional House Committee on International Relations in Washington. The committee had convened to examine the condition of human rights for the Palestinians living under the governance of Yasser Arafat.

Cotler is known and highly esteemed as one of the world's leading authorities on the subject of human rights. His testimony to the legislators is highly credible.

As I wrote last week, Cotler pulls no punches. His testimony is hard hitting and decisive. He attests to the oppression of Palestinians' human rights living under the Palestinian Authority (PA). His aim is to improve their lot. But it is something more.

The purpose of his submission, which he makes plain, and to which he returns repeatedly, is to prove that "the promotion of democracy and the protection of human rights are indispensable to international peace and security...We shall either have both peace and human rights, or neither." Cotler is one of the very few people anywhere, able to make and to prove this assertion.

His testimony to the committee places the recent bloody clashes in the West Bank and Gaza in a more detailed, more accurate context. It helps us to better understand all of the tensions, not simply the political ones with Israel, suffusing Palestinian society. These internal tensions unavoidably effect relations between Israel and the PA.

Cotler's presentation to the legislators was organized into six themes. Space limitations allow me to reproduce only very brief portions of his testimony. Like stones skipping across the surface of a deep blue lake, the excerpts cannot plumb the full depths of what was said. Nor can they convey the breadth and the sweep of the material put before the committee members. But they can touch upon certain issues and mark them for our readers as being significant and worthy of their attention.

In this column, I will reproduce portions of his testimony concerning the human rights abuses under the PA.

He chronicles 12 different kinds of human rights abuses in his report ranging from extra-judicial punishment, arbitrary arrest and detention, repression of dissent and "humiliation." His first observation sets the tone for the remaining 11.

"A generic concern, and overriding theme in all my discussions with Palestinian students, journalists, NGO activists and human rights monitors, was what Dr. [Eyad] Sarraj called the "corrupt, dictatorial, repressive" Palestinian Authority, with Chairman Arafat regarded as "the Symbol" of this repression.

On the subject of extra-judicial punishment, Cotler concluded: "As Palestinian witness testimony and documentary evidence reveals, and as conveyed to me in my discussions with Palestinians...the condition of human rights under the Palestinian Authority since 1995 has in fact worsened."

On the subject of the denial of rights while in detention, Cotler refers to a statement by Abigail Abrash on behalf of the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights in Gaza City and the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Centre on Human Rights: "This pattern of arbitrary and unlawful arrests underscores the serious and immediate need for the Palestinian Authority to establish and implement appropriate lawful procedures for dealing with individuals under arrest or in detention. *These practices serve only to jeopardize the establishment of stable democratic institutions in the occupied territories, structures that are essential in securing a real peace."* (My emphasis)

With each stroke of his legal presentation, Cotler paints a detailed picture of a grim and grey society, whose people seek freedom from their own leaders, who do battle against a manipulative, untrustworthy Authority intent on ruling by force but not by democracy.

In next week's column, I will excerpt portions of Cotler's testimony in which he examines Palestinian compliance with the Israel-PLO Accords: A Case Study of Human Rights.

As Cotler assiduously and forcefully contends, the degree to which the Palestinians are assured of their human rights by the PA will ultimately have a bearing on the degree to which peace will be secured in the area. *MBD*

BARAK ON THE NET

The man who could replace Shimon Peres as the next leader of Israel's Labor party made cyberspace history during his recent Toronto visit. Former Foreign Minister Ehud Barak was the first visiting Jewish personality to host an on-line Internet chat. Here Barak ponders a question read from the screen by Jay Brodbar, while Rimon Barr waits at the keyboard. Emmanuel Bensimon and Jonathan Grossman (on phone) provide technical assistance.

Greater Toronto Area

Judge's letter meant to be private

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto newspaper columnist launched a "vicious" attack on members of the judiciary in the wake of a decision to stay proceedings in a case involving three alleged Nazi war criminals, according to a Federal Court judge.

The vitriolic tone of the column prompted her to send a letter last July to the columnist and a copy to the federal Minister of Justice, but the letter, quoted last week in the *Toronto Star*, was meant to be private, said Federal Court judge Barbara Reed.

"I considered it a private communication. That may have been naive of me ... In my view, [the columnist] made an incredibly vicious personal attack on members of the judiciary. I reacted because, that doesn't help, let's put it that way," Reed said.

Reed declined to release the letter, saying she would do so only after appeals in the case are completed and after the Canadian Judicial Council completes its investigation of the judges involved.

The issue that led to the column and Reed's response goes back to March 1 when a senior Justice Department official contacted Julius Isaac, chief justice of the Federal Court, about the slow pace of proceedings in the cases involving alleged Nazi war criminals Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck.

Isaac subsequently met with Judge James Jerome, who was presiding over the cases. When that became known to defence lawyers, they successfully argued that the independence of the judiciary was at stake. Judge Cullen granted a stay of proceedings, bringing the cases to a halt. Federal authorities have appealed the stay decision.

In Reed's letter, as quoted by *The Star*, she said the cases against the alleged war criminals were dismissed because of government errors. She also said Cullen had been unjustly criticized for his ruling and that the criticisms affected her personally.

"I have been presiding over a hearing all morning, my concentration wavering, wondering what our system will be like when we as judges are expected to make decisions in certain ways because the government wants them that way, or because the media wages a campaign," Reed stated in her letter.

"I am shaken by the thought of the vitriolic attacks I must expect to endure, if I make a decision unfavorable to the government — or with which members of the media do not find favor."

Cullen's decision was widely criticized by Jewish community spokespersons and other commentators for failing to weigh the issue of judicial independence against the need to bring alleged mass murderers to justice.

Correction

Ehud Barak has not changed his political affiliation. He is running for the leadership of the Labor party, not the Likud party , as was incorrectly printed in a headline last week. *The CJN* apologizes for the error.

Nemsila case going to appeal to examine legal question

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The case of alleged Nazi war criminal Josef Nemsila took another turn last week as a Federal Court judge certified a legal question that will be considered by the court's appeal division.

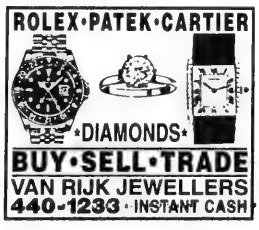
The question concerns the legal concepts of lawful admission and domicile and whether someone can attain domicile if they entered Canada as a result of fraud or deception.

"I am satisfied that this matter raises serious questions of general importance," wrote Judge James Jerome, in certifying the question. "My Reasons for Order represent a significant change in the law through their statement that domicile cannot be obtained if there was misrepresentation upon entry into Canada and may have an impact on a number of potential applicants."

Under Federal Court procedure, a trial court must certify a legal question before it can be heard on appeal. Nemsila's lawyers have suggested that by becoming domiciled in Canada under the 1952 Immigration Act, he was immune from deportation even if he lied about his wartime activities when he entered the country.

An Immigration adjudicator accepted that argument but Jerome overturned it on appeal. Nemsila's lawyers are now appealing Jerome's decision.

Nemsila, 83, was allegedly a member of the Slovak Hlinka Guard from 1933-45 and was a company commander of a unit of the alerted Hlinka Guard. He is also alleged to have been responsible for the arrest, detention, interrogation and execution of civilians during the fall and winter of 1944-45.



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Kalejs scrambles to keep story straight

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Alleged Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs scrambled to reconcile his testimony last week with statements given to U.S. investigators in 1984 in which he suggested the mass shootings of Latvian Jews was an invention of Russian propaganda.

He also attempted to distance himself from remarks recorded by a Canadian Immigration officer in September 1995 in which he suggested it was the Russians, and not the Nazis and their Latvian collaborators, who murdered 27,800 Latvian Jews.

Last week, however, Kalejs told Immigration adjudicator Anthony Iozzo that in December 1941 he heard rumors that Jews had been massacred in the Rumbula Forest near Riga and that the Arajs Kommando (AK) had participated.

"Also, I remember that the Latvian people were disgusted by such mass murdering of thousands of people. Very disgusted," he said.

Those remarks prompted Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh to refer Kalejs to a 1984 interrogation by the U.S. Office of Special Investigations in which Kalejs stated he heard about the shootings at Rumbula and Bikernieki only after the war and that they were products of Russian "propaganda."

Kalejs said that in 1984 he had been given only a week notice to prepare for questioning and he didn't have time to engage a lawyer. He then claimed the transcript from the 1984 interrogation was "wrong. I don't know what they wrote down. Did I sign this?"

MacIntosh then referred Kalejs to a report by Canadian Immigration officer R. Rodriguez in which Kalejs is recorded as blaming the Russians for killing 27,800 Latvian Jews.

Kalejs denied making that statement, questioned Rodriguez's "mental capacity" and pointed out he did not sign the document containing those remarks.

However, Kalejs agreed that other parts of Rodriguez's report accurately reflected his remarks during the interview.

Kalejs, an Australian citizen, was interviewed by Rodriguez on two occasions when he attempted to return to Canada. Immigration authorities are attempting to deport Kalejs due to his alleged involvement in war crimes.

As the hearing entered its seventh month, Kalejs spent three days on the stand last week during which a number of inconsistencies emerged between testimony he gave at the hearing and at other times.

Asked whether in November 1941 he knew that Riga's Jews were confined to a ghetto, Kalejs said he heard "rumors" to that effect. Moments later he said people could see the ghetto when riding by on streetcars. The ghetto was in an Eastern suburb of Riga so sooner or later everyone knew, he said.

Sparred over wartime documents

Kalejs and MacIntosh sparred over wartime documents that place Kalejs in pro-Nazi killing units. Kalejs denied outright the authenticity of a wartime document signed by an SS captain that certified he served as an "oberlieutenant" in the security police and the SD of Einsatzgruppe A from Feb. 18, 1942 to April 26, 1942 and participated in three battles. (Einsatzgruppe A was a special unit assigned to murder Jews and communists in areas of the northern Soviet Union conquered by German forces.)

"I see this for the first time, this kind of document," Kalejs said. "It's coming from Russia or the former Soviet republic of Latvia. I'm very, very suspicious. They're falsified ... It's one of those many, many Russian-produced documents."

While denying the authenticity of that document, Kalejs told the hearing that in November 1941 he had knowingly obtained a false document from a former Latvian army comrade who worked in a police unit. He said he needed the document to show admissions officials at the University of Riga that he'd participated in anti-Communist activities.

Facing a deadline for admission and with another, true, document from a Latvian partisan unit late in coming, he asked a Sgt. Roze for the false document. It turned out, Kalejs said, that Roze's unit was the Arajs Kommando, which murdered Jews.

But MacIntosh pointed out that the AK document was dated Nov. 29, 1941, while the document attesting to anti-Russian, Latvian partisan activities was dated Nov. 21, 1941. Why submit a false document when the other, legitimate, document was available? he asked.

Kalejs said despite the dates, he received the AK document first. However, MacIntosh then read from Kalejs' U.S. 1984 interrogation in which Kalejs stated he received the "partisan" document first and submitted both it and the AK document to the universify at the same time.

He handed in the "false" document "for good measure," Kalejs said.

Later in cross-examination, MacIntosh referred Kalejs to a certificate dated Nov. 5, 1942, and signed by a Captain Ozols, which stated Kalejs had served in the Latvian Security Police (AK) since July 1941 and had also served on the Eastern front in February 1942. The document was submitted to the University of Riga.

Kalejs said the certificate was a pure formality needed because he changed faculties, but MacIntosh suggested he needed it because his AK activities were so extensive in 1941, he barely attended classes and was in the position of a new student applying for admission.

Kalejs denied that suggestion.

The two sparred over yet another document, signed by Dr. Jaunzems of the Latvian Auxiliary Security Police (AK), which certified Kalejs had no diseases preventing him from attending university.

"It's the first time today I hear about such things," Kalejs said.

Another point of contention was the availability of German stamps used to authenticate documents. MacIntosh suggested the Germans exercised tight control over the stamps, which were used on the AK documents Kalejs said were false. His suggestion was that the stamps would only have been used on legitimate documents.

Kalejs said that to help out each other, Latvians could get around the regulations.

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CORRECTION

The Rosh Hashanah opening service at the new Sunnybrook Hospital synagogue was led by volunteer Irving Mudrick. Incorrect information appeared in *The CJN* of Oct. 3.

Greater Toronto Area

CJC lauds black-Jewish cooperation

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Blacks and Jews in Toronto have made a "quantum leap" forward in good relations and there are plans for further cooperation, the executive of the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress was advised at its Oct. 3 meeting.

"We have come a long way," said Ellen Cole, the region's community relations chair.

She noted that the black press did not give "anti-Semitic coverage" to the recent visit to Toronto of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. Just prior to Farrakhan's speech, she said, Congress distributed to black community leaders a package explaining that its opposition to his appearance in Canada was based on the fear that it would encourage hatemongering against all people.

The federal Immigration Department's decision to allow Farrakhan into Canada was "inconsistent" with its previous actions, Cole said, and Congress has sent it copies of anti-Semitic books sold at the meeting.

"There was such tight security by the Nation of Islam that there is no doubt that those materials were permitted in with their approval," she said. It is yet to be determined, she added, whether the anti-Semitic books were brought across the border or were already here.

In discussion, Cole acknowledged that Toronto's black community is fragmented, and no one group or leader speaks for it. However, Congress officers have had "warm and open" meetings with black MPP Alvin Curling, the Black Professional and Business association, Herman Stewart, president of the Canadian Jamaican Association and others.

An "extraordinary" result of these meetings, Cole said, was a request from blacks for help with fundraising tactics for a proposed community centre at Jane and Finch.

In other business, the executive was told that a commitment by the Ontario government to overhaul the entire education system offers an opportunity for Jewish day schools and other religious groups to make a plea for public funding.

"The opportunity is an exciting one and we will be greatly aided if the upcoming Supreme Court decision is positive," said executive director Manuel Prutschi.

A recent meeting with David Lindsay, Premier Mike Harris' principal secretary, on school financing was open and helpful, Prutschi said.

In his report on Israel affairs, Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat realized that he had nothing to gain if the Netanyahu government fell as a result of political turmoil over the Jerusalem tunnel, and that's why he was so silent in Washington.

At the summit, Israel was able to fend off pressure by world opinion and Palestinians got assurances that peace negotiations would begin again immediately, Ronen said.

With CJC president Goldie Hershon, Ronen attended the United Nations meeting in New York, where they met David Levy, Israel's deputy prime minister.

Ronen said Levy was able to avoid a "summit disaster" by shifting the meeting from Cairo to Washington with Netanyahu's agreement.

"One good thing from the summit is that it brought Netanyahu and Levy together and that's good for the Israeli people," Ronen said.

York University has agreed that it will continue its policy of closing on Jewish High Holy Days, executive member David Caplan reported.

Succah program focuses on women

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Succah-By-The-Water proved to be more than just a fundraiser for women's projects in Israel. It was an evening celebrating women's voices in the Jewish community.

"Music is the way women have entered into Jewish cultural liturgy," said Aviva Zuckerman Schure, a member of the program's committee and host of the event.

"We're here to remember the songs and lyrics that Jewish women used to express their lives and Jewish experiences."

The fifth annual Succah-By-The-Water, held recently at the Harbourfront Tent in the Square, was organized by the New Israel Fund of Canada (NIF), which brings together Canadian and Israeli Jews, with a focus on strengthening democracy, equality and pluralism in Israel. It supports women's organizations and projects in Israel, such as shelters, rape crisis centres and the Israel Women's Network.

"We had three objectives when we began planning this evening," said Janet Solberg, vice-president of the NIF of Canada. "One, to raise money for women's projects in Israel. Two, to celebrate the Jewish holiday as feminists. And three, to make the holiday a meaningful experience."

Solberg noted the one rule the committee made about the evening was never to solicit funds during the holiday. This event was the exception, she said, because many women's rights in Israel — such as the right to a civil marriage or a legal abortion — are being challenged by the new government.

In keeping with the theme of the evening — A Harvest of Women's Songs — performers, including the Chai Singers, Batsheva and Phyllis Angel Greenberg, presented Yiddish, Israeli and Ladino music.

Guest performer Adrienne Cooper of New York, who comes from four generations of Yiddish singers, sang Yiddish tunes that were both traditional and modern.

Succah-By-The-Water expanded the tradition of the seven *ushipizim*, or welcoming the mystical seven male guests into the sukkah, by welcoming women, past and present. Participants were asked to line up at a microphone and call out names of female Jewish singers, poets or composers, and they spoke of teachers, artists and family members. One woman welcomed her grandmother — the first woman to graduate from her class.

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Greater Toronto Area

Reform congregation started in Riverdale

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – The east-end neighborhood of Riverdale is now home to a Reform congregation in addition to its 2-year-old Orthodox shul.

High Holy Day services held for the first time this year by the Reform group drew more than 300 local residents.

Tanya Luder, head of the volunteer committee that organized the services, said, "With the high rate of interfaith marriages [in Riverdale], we wanted non-Jewish spouses to feel welcome."

Cantorial services were provided by a volunteer trio of local residents who rehearsed for weeks. It was the first cantorial experience for all three women.

During the summer, a handful of people met with Rabbi Paul Golomb, executive director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, to plan the services. He helped them hire a rabbi — Hank Skirball — for the holidays, while established Reform congregations in the Toronto area assisted by providing a Torah, machzorim, photocopying and art supplies for the daycare offered by the new group.

Riverdale Jewish community's first summer picnic tug of war.

"Their experience with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur exceeded my expectations and theirs too," Rabbi Golomb said in an interview. "I felt that this is something that can really grow."

The Reform congregations are planning to continue to support the Riverdale group – as well as the Annex-based Downtown Reform Minyan – by having their respective directors of education lead programs downtown.

"They're physically not in proximity [to the Reform temples]," Rabbi Golomb said. "Rather than waiting for them to come to us, we're going to them."

This fall, Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning will give an introductory course in Judaism to Riverdale residents.

The seeds of the Riverdale Reform group were sown at a meeting last March. Many of those who attended felt that the existing Orthodox congregation did not reflect the needs of the community.

They decided to hold programs to gauge interest in a liberal egalitarian organization. Support has continued to grow. An impromptu community picnic in July drew 80 people, and most recently 25 families showed up to decorate a sukkah in Luder's backyard.

Luder is enthusiastic about the possibilities for the new group.

"We're going to start Sunday school and adult education. We're building a community here in Riverdale," she said.

Jewish fraternity to mark 50 years

TORONTO — A 50th anniversary reunion is planned for members of Beta Alpha Kappa (BAK), a Jewish fraternity that operated in local high schools from 1947 to the early 1960s.

The reunion will take place at 6:30, Oct. 30, at the Primrose Club. According to organizer Irving Green, a BAK past president, between 80 and 90 "frat brothers" are expected to attend.

At its height, BAK had 35 members who engaged in "fairly good clean fun," Green says.

Among the alumni are former federal solicitor general Robert Kaplan; former Canadian Jewish Congress president Prof. Irving Abella and lawyer Lloyd Fogler.

Activities included parties, outings, charity fundraisers and "smokers," at which new pledged would be met. A highlight was the annual Sweetheart Ball, held in February. Green says BAK sweethearts (dates to the fraternity's parties) are also invited to the reunion "to see what happened to the fellows they didn't marry."

Early BAK members attended Forest Hill, Vaughan, Harbord and Jarvis collegiate institutes. The fraternity later spread to Downsview and Northview Heights.

On display at the reunion will be nostalgia items like old issues of the frat's newsletter, *Bakscratcher*, pledge pins, alumni cups, photos and BAK clothing.

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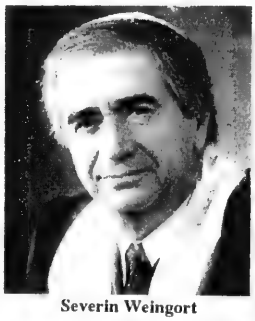
Greater Toronto Area

Temple Sinai cantor retires after 30 years

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter



Severin Weingort

TORONTO — Severin Weingort, Temple Sinai's first full-time cantor, is retiring after 30 years.

In that time, he has often taught two generations their bar and bat mitzvah lessons.

"Once we had a bar mitzvah for a man of 70 and his son was called up for the aliyah, just the reverse of what usually happens," he recalled.

The cantor has many good memories of his years at Temple Sinai, one being an article in the Temple's bulletin with the headline, "Opera's loss is our gain." Weingort left a peripatetic career in opera (his was the first voice ever heard at O'Keefe Centre, as the sergeant in *Carmen*) to take on the Temple job.

He will be honored Saturday Nov. 30 at a havdallah service and reception, followed by a cantorial concert.

Weingort was freelancing when Temple Sinai tried him out. "I was invited for breakfast and stayed for dinner," he laughed.

The 70-year-old cantor, a Holocaust survivor whose grandfather was the rabbi of Radom, came to Toronto at the age of 21 and met his wife Barbara, also a survivor, at Sunnyside pool. They've been married for 43 years.

"My wife is the real singer in our family but she won't sing in public," Weingort said.

Nevertheless, the magic of the stage and performing arts have touched their four daughters: Sharon Ventura of Whitby is an artist and teacher; Lori Cotton of Richmond Hill is a piano teacher; Karen Lower of Los Angeles is a film producer (her latest, *Heaven Before I Die*, was shot in Toronto); and Robin Rosenbaum of Vancouver is a singer and actor. Both Lower and Rosenbaum have taken their father's first name — Severin — as their professional surname.

"I tried my best to get one of my daughters to at least become a doctor or lawyer so we could retire on their income, but no such luck," the cantor said.

Weingort's father, Yaakov, was an actor with Maurice Schwartz in Poland before the tragedian left for the United States.

A lyric baritone, Weingort becomes the cantor emeritus at Temple Sinai and has no intention of retiring completely from singing and teaching.

He is in good health (he credits it to "piety and scotch") and plays tennis regularly at Maple Downs and Mayfair and golf now and then.

"I've never regretted giving up the stage to become a full-time cantor," he said.

The Weingorts have seven grandchildren, four in Richmond Hill, one in Los Angeles and two (twins) in Vancouver.

Conference to focus on Jewish future

TORONTO — How can Jewishness and Judaism thrive in a period of unprecedented changes in North America and around the world? What will the Jewish future be in the 21st century?

These and other questions will be addressed at a conference, Creating the Jewish Future, to be hosted by the Centre for Jewish Studies Oct. 19-21 at York University.

The conference will be chaired by Prof. Irving Abella. York professors on the organizing committee include Michael Brown, Sydney Eisen, Bernie Lightman, and Rachel Schlesinger.

The meeting will bring together prominent international scholars, faculty, student and community leaders, and communal professionals from Canada and abroad.

Expected to attend are Norma Joseph from Montreal, Israeli author Hillel Halkin, Toronto Rabbi Gunther Plaut and Daniel Elazar of Bar-Ilan University.

Presentations and workshops will assess current trends and suggest new strategies, policy guidelines and programs for Jewish continuity.

Approximately 300 people are expected to attend the conference, which aims to encourage dialogue between scholars and community activists and develop policies for the future.

It's being sponsored by Bernie Ghert, a local business executive, philanthropist and past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Session topics include:

- The Centrality of Israel in the Jewish World
- Faith and Religion in a "Secular" Age
- The Future of Jewish Cultures in the Diaspora
- Educating for the Future
- Changing Gender Expectations and Roles in Jewish Communal Life
- Demography and Economics: The Institutional Response.

The conference is open to the public. Cost is $15 per person, or $5 for students. For more information, call the Centre for Jewish Studies at 416-736-5823.

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On behalf of Jerusalem

The meetings last week of leaders in Washington and of negotiators at the Erez checkpoint were an effective and constructive conclusion to the bloody turmoil the preceding week in the West Bank and Gaza. As long as the sides are talking, it is unlikely that they will be shooting.

But not to be forgotten in the relief that accompanied the cessation of the killing and in the guarded optimism that flowed from the images at Erez, is the thorn among the roses. The pretext for the unrest, namely the opening of the tunnel exit in the Old City, was a shot across the bow of Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem.

Among the incendiary statements Yasser Arafat hurled at the government of Israel prior to the disturbances, was the following: "We can't accept the *Judaization of Jerusalem*." (Our emphasis)

Arafat's words are absurd, akin to lamenting that trees fill the forest or that stars fill the heavens. For 3,000 years, Jerusalem has occupied our hearts, filled our prayers and pervaded our dreams. Jerusalem is the concluding call on Yom Kippur and on Pesach. It is the pilgrim's destination, the millennial magnet pulling on the compass of our collective memory. Jerusalem is Judaism's centre. Judaism is Jerusalem's fulfilment.

Some weeks ago on this page, we wrote that there will undoubtedly be a great deal of international pressure brought to bear on Israel to offer up some form of territorial or political compromise on Jerusalem for the sake of Arab honor and Palestinian dignity. Arafat's words should be an alarm sounding in the homes, in the synagogues and in the meeting halls of the Jewish world, a call to action stirring us wherever we live, to unite on behalf of Jerusalem. As we have noted before, only an undivided Jewish world can best withstand the calls for a redivided Jerusalem.

Robert Bourassa

Sixty-three years are too few for life's journey. But that was the extent of the temporal distance which Robert Bourassa, former premier of Quebec, travelled in his days on earth. Last week he died of cancer.

But there are other distances too by which life is measured. And on some of those other roads, one can observe that he travelled a longer way. He was a tenacious politician who devoted the most part of his adult life to service to the people of his province. Ironically, though fittingly, the statements about him in death are a mirror of what he was in life: complex, tentative and ambiguous.

He was very supportive of the Jewish community on matters such as public funding for Jewish education and strong, outspoken opposition to anti-Semitism and racism. He was also considered to be a friend to Israel; he received an honorary doctorate from Tel Aviv University. But on the one key issue which today dominates Canadian national discourse, his ambiguity is really all that we will remember. As Russell Copeman has written elsewhere in these pages: "Whether he was a strong federalist depends on who you talk to, and when. On the day after his death Montreal's *La Presse* ran a story calling Mr. Bourassa a strong federalist. Many English-speaking Quebecers thought he was a closet separatist."

He could not fathom or thus properly judge the depth of the passion that marked the non-francophone community's loyalty to individual rights. Indeed many commentators outside Quebec have noted that it was Bourassa himself who doomed "Meech Lake" to failure when he invoked the notwithstanding powers of the Constitution to override the ruling of the Supreme Court declaring unilingual, French only, signs illegal. That failure subsequently proved to be the turning point in the debate with the separatists.

His undoubted love of Quebec was always stronger than his belief in Canada. That will be the legacy of Robert Bourassa.

THE ONLY THING WRONG WITH MESSIANIC JEWS...
IS THAT THEY CALL THEMSELVES MESSIANIC JEWS.
WHAT SHOULD THEY CALL THEMSELVES?
CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Oct. 10, 1898 Jack Baig was the first Jew to settle in Moncton, N.B. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC, 1995)

Tragic Rabin loss united Montreal Jewry

As we quickly approach Nov. 4, the anniversary of the assassination of then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, I am reminded constantly of the outpouring of emotion and solidarity shown by the members of our Montreal Jewish community.

Within a few hours of hearing the tragic news, a vigil of a few hundred people (mostly students) was organized. They gathered in a park in downtown Montreal, across from the consulate of Israel to mourn the loss of a great statesman and leader. Two days later, over 4,000 people attended a memorial service at the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue.

Many commemorative ceremonies took place to perpetuate the memory of a great leader, a man who devoted his entire life to protecting the security of the State of Israel and wished so ardently to see the peace process continue. Plaques were unveiled, parks were renamed and rededicated, universities set up scholarships in Rabin's name and memorial funds were established, all in order to enshrine forever the memory of the slain prime minister.

I recall as a participant in the February 1996 Mission to Israel that all groups included in their program a step at the murder scene near Kikaer Malchei Square (now named the Yitzhak Rabbi Square) and at his gravesite atop Mount Herzl.

Nov. 4 will come and go like any other day. Still we will all remember where we were and what we were doing when we heard the dreadful news. We will also remember how such a tragic incident brought our community even closer together.

Akiva Gitelman
Montreal

Congress was right on Galganov issue

Bloc Quebecois leader Michel Gauthier is asking Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to disassociate itself from the activities of Howard Galganov.

Whatever you think about the substance of Galganov's political activity, no one can deny that he has been doing his job with consistency, guts and imagination, and these qualities invariably bring respect to their bearer. Galganov stated explicitly that he acts, not on behalf of any particular ethnic group, whether it is Jewish or anglo, but in his capacity as a *Canadian* citizen. None of his opponents can deny him this, his sacred right, as long as we want to stay within the basic rules of a democratic play.

In view of this, Galganov's civil and strictly non-ethnic stand, you can attack him on the substance, but the moment you attack his ethnicity you are out of a civilized politics. That was exactly what the leader of the official opposition in Canada did.

If the CJC had condemned Galganov's political activity, it would have meant two fundamental things. First, a specifically Jewish body would have openly associated itself with the French side in the French-English ethnic dispute. Second, individual Canadians of Jewish ethnicity would have been restricted in their political rights.

Since Galganov, in his capacity as a Canadian citizen, not as a particular ethnic, used the word "bastards," it is up to him alone to apologize or to stick to that definition. No Jewish body bears any responsibility for that.

Second and far more important, reports on the issue were full of referring to Jewishness as to a "religion." Yes, Jewry is associated with a specific religion, but the CJC is not at all a religious body and neither did Galganov's political activity have anything to do with any religion.

Uri Ortov
Montreal

Another view on closing Bar Ilan Street

The article by Viva Press in the Opinions section (*CJN*, Sept. 12) about the closing of Bar Ilan Street needs some response, since her observations are obviously very biased.

I am part of a family of Orthodox Jews, a teacher and psychotherapist by profession, and I object to the one-sided viewpoint which seems to reveal a biased attitude.

I, too, was at the demonstrations and had a "hands-on" view of what occurred.

Unfortunately, I saw haredi Jews being beaten with clubs. So as not to speak *lashon hora*, I will not expand more on what I witnessed, but I will say, for the sake of fairness and clarification, there is another side to the picture than what was written in the article.

The 120,000 Orthodox Jews demonstrated to honor the Holy Shabbat in a respectful, peaceful and organized way, in accordance with the direction of their leaders who warned them to be careful not to desecrate the Sabbath or profane G-d through undesirable actions.

When the demonstration ended, a small group of irresponsible individuals reacted in violation of their leaders' direction. They were provoked by the Meretz party who were deliberately trying to incense and interfere with peaceful demonstration by cruising around in convoys.

The Haredim are not trying to impose their beliefs on others. They just don't want to be prevented from following them. And where else should they be able to follow their right to observe the Shabbat than in their own country?

Phyllis Weinberg
Toronto

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"It is not so good to have money, as it is very bad to have none."
(Yiddish Proverb)

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Prime Minister Netanyahu's first 100 days

From the left...

By DAVID NEWMAN

New governments are normally allowed 100 days of grace in which to sort themselves out and get their new administration smoothly functioning. The 100 days of the Netanyahu government are now up and the first evaluations are not good.

There is, of course, no logical reason why the Netanyahu government should have continued to implement a policy to which it is opposed. It was elected on a different platform from that of the previous Labor government, and it was to be expected that it would undertake a different course from that of its predecessors. There would have been little point in holding elections were that not the case.

But since coming to power, the Likud, and Benjamin Netanyahu in particular, often seem unaware they have left the election campaign behind, and that they must now transform their deeds into action. Their oft-repeated slogans, some of which helped them in their narrow victory at the polls, continue to emphasize their commitment to the continuation of the peace process, while their actions demonstrate the opposite.

When Netanyahu came to power at the end of May, it was not clear what direction his new government would take. The new administration is composed of parties with contrasting views and policies. At least three of the major coalition partners — the Third Way, the Russian immigrants party and Shas — support the active continuation of the peace process. All of these parties could, and probably would, have equally entered a coalition government headed by the Labor party had those 15,000 votes fallen the other way.

Providing a counterweight to the "centrists," the National Religious Party, together with many members of the Likud itself, are not in favor of continuing the process, certainly not in its Oslo format, support the widespread expansion of West Bank settlements and vehemently oppose any form of Israeli redeployment in Hebron. These groups had been the most active opponents of the previous government and had provided the activist support for the Netanyahu victory.

The 100 days have passed and with them, our hopes. The violence that took place two weeks ago, leaving 14 Israelis and 60 Palestinians dead, has put an end to any lingering hopes we may have had. The government is accused of incompetence, of having deliberately brought the peace process to a halt by its refusal to honor agreements signed by the previous government. The government is accused of having adopted a dismissive tone towards the Palestinians, a tone which no longer represents a dialogue between equals.

For its part, the government accuses the left of having allowed the Palestinians to become armed in the first place, ignoring the fact that there had not been a single incident of a Palestinian armed policeman using the weapons against an Israeli soldier or settler in the previous two years.

Peace processes are not simply about the technical arrangements agreed to by the two sides. They are equally, and perhaps even more so, about the mutual dignity, honor and respect which is painstakingly built up between people and groups who, for decades, have hated each other. The symbolic actions, such as the handshakes, and simply getting to know the people with whom you are negotiating, are central to any drawn out process of negotiation. These have been thrown aside during the past three months, causing a renewed and even more intense resentment than had existed prior to the commencement of the peace process. To have never had anything, as was the case for the Palestinians during the intifadah years and prior to the Oslo II accords, was for them bad enough. To have had something tangible and to see it beginning to slip away, was much worse. It was only a question of time before such violence would break out.

The government still has a few weeks of grace left. This will come to an end when the American presidential elections are held. Prior to the elections, neither candidate will make any statements which may alienate their Jewish support. But once a president is elected, we can expect to see far greater pressure being exerted on Israel.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with U.S. President Bill Clinton during their first meeting together last July. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Can the Netanyahu government bring about the next stage of conflict resolution in the Middle East? Can it return to the days of a Likud government which made the most important of all peace agreements, that with Egypt at Camp David? Or will it go down in history as the government which was handed a peace process on a silver platter and which, either through determined opposition or simply bad tactics, threw the opportunity away? The government should not make the mistake of assuming that the cessation of the Oslo peace process will simply return the situation to that which existed some years previously. New realities create new facts, something which has been brought painfully home to those families who have lost loved ones during the past few weeks. The alternative to conflict resolution is conflict and all the violence and bloodshed which accompanies it. However painful the process, Israel had commenced the difficult road towards conflict resolution. It is a chance which, if it is not already too late, must not be thrown away.

David Newman is professor of political geography and the director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University in Israel.

...and the right

By MEYRAV and DAVID WURMSER

In late February and early March 1996, a series of bombs ripped through Israel, topping off what had become the worst year of terrorism since Israel's earliest days. The key assumption of the peace process, a "land for peace" barter, was on trial. Israel had fulfilled its part of the bargain and ceded land, but the peace they were to have received in return eluded them.

The Netanyahu government came to power with a mandate from the electorate, not necessarily to reverse the 1993 and 1995 Oslo agreements, but to slow down or freeze their implementation until Arafat proved he could handle the responsibility he had been given and develop the territories over which he ruled, before he was granted more land.

These narrow parameters confined the Likud government. On one level, this posed an ideological challenge to Likud. Oslo changed the circumstances on the ground; a new government would have to deal with these new circumstances. It had to deliver security to Israelis, but it was not free to operate outside the framework of the Oslo agreement-based peace process.

After a rancorous and still simmering internal debate, the Likud party decided not to reject Oslo categorically, but instead accept the agreements conditionally. As Likud's party platform stated, it would "carry out negotiations with the Palestinian Authority to achieve a permanent peace agreement, on the condition that the Palestinians fully honor all their obligations." Most important among these were that the PLO fulfil two basic conditions: annul its charter, which still called for the destruction of Israel; and prevent terror and incitements against Israel.

Immediately after taking office, the Likud government faced the difficulty of upholding Israel's side of the Oslo bargain — the withdrawal — without seeing progress in PLO compliance. PLO incitement to violence continues, though the first Oslo agreement of 1993 specifically and clearly prohibited this. The PLO continued to balk at changing its covenant, setting up a committee to study the issue instead. Major Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem, such as Orient House, continued to function, and new ones, such as a land registry, opened up (although the minor Palestinian sports and recreation offices were closed). And the thug-like operations in Jerusalem of the PLO's Jericho head, Jibril Rujoub, continued. All along, the verbal blackmail, wherein the PLO threatened an armed uprising the moment Israel's concessions stopped, hung over the new government like a sword of Damocles.

The Likud government was trapped. Likud either had to enforce PLO compliance unilaterally, which would have ended the Oslo experiment, or abandon the one key principle which had informed its creation: tie adherence to Oslo with PLO compliance. The former was unthinkable politically until now because of the certainty that war with the PLO would ensue. The latter ensured a further deterioration of the situation.

As a result, the Likud had to spend its first 100 days soothing the international community and Israelis about its reasonability. The more active policy implied by its guidelines, tie adherence to the Oslo agreements with the PLO's behavior, had in the short term to yield to a passive, reactive policy of freezing but upholding Oslo despite PLO violations.

Politically, this was also problematic: demanding compliance while engaging the PLO, without linking the two, created the impression of a government adrift. It seemed as if 100 days after its formation, the Netanyahu government was still searching for its way, unsure whether it would uphold the Oslo agreements despite the Palestinians' failure to comply with their obligations.

But the riots that erupted on Sept. 24 have presented the Likud with a new political reality. The key assumptions of Oslo agreements were shattered by the events of the last few weeks. The PLO, which was committed under Oslo to abandon violence against Israel, for months verbally threatened an armed explosion. Last week, it became a reality. Troops from every division of the Palestine Authority's police, which Israel helped create and arm, went to war with Israeli soldiers.

Israel finds itself now with less peace than before Oslo. Four years of Labor have placed Israel opposite an army, where before it faced rag-tag gangs of stone throwers and knife wielders. Along with Israel, Likud now finds itself at a crossroads. The Likud government now faces its first real test. The current crisis over Jerusalem frees the Israeli government from insurmountable problems which Labor's Oslo process had brought to Israel. Israel can now make a clean break, because the Palestinians have once again seized "an opportunity to miss an opportunity."

Israel, and the Likud, now have an opportunity to return to the beginning and implement the policy the Likud party originally called for: abandon Oslo — which had been built on faith in the PLO's and Arafat's reformed nature — in consonance with the PLO's violations of the terms of its probation.

Meyrav Wurmer is an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University's School of Continuing Studies. David Wurmer is the director of the Washington office of the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies.

Opinions

Making sense of the chagim

By Viva Press

Apples and honey symbolize the celebration of our new year in September. Ten days later we abstain from eating and drinking. Then, after an interim of a few days, we sit and eat our meals outside in huts. And finally on the ninth day, we dance around holding scrolls with crowns on top.

For a Jewish person, these four weeks follow a traditional pattern. But, for a number of my non-Jewish friends, many of whom are also non-religious and not familiar with the Hebrew Bible, these events seem random and bizarre.

Rosh Hashanah was the first Jewish holiday of this new school semester. Most of my friends had remembered from previous years that I celebrated my new year at this time. But, when they overheard me saying to my Jewish friends, "May you be inscribed in the Book of Life," puzzled looks were again directed at me.

My non-Jewish friends who had just begun to understand that we pray and repent so that we may have a good year, were mystified when they learned I was going to be fasting 10 days later. Over and over again I had to field the obvious question: "Why do you fast?"

My friends were shocked to find out that not only was I going to forgo eating for 27 hours, but that I was also not going to drink! Their experience of fasting, whether for health reasons or as part of a demonstration, included the abstention from food, but not from water.

I explained that we fast so that we are freed from all material concerns, that we enter into a state of exaltation and can devote the whole day to prayers. *But not drink?* They were still confused.

At this point, I'd like to thank TV mogul Aaron Spelling. His popular show *Beverley Hill 90210,* saved me having to try to explain myself many more times. During the 10 days of repentance, Spelling's show aired an episode in keeping with the Jewish holidays. A Jewish character was seen coming out of a synagogue and telling his friends that it was up to G-d whether or not he would be written in the Book of Life. After seeing this episode, everything I had said up to this point in reference to our customs was clear to my non-Jewish friends. They understood that I was not going to wither away from my fast. Thanks, Mr. Spelling.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are holidays that are celebrated in one's home and in the synagogue. But Sukkot poses another question. What are those huts doing in people's backyards? Ahhh, yes. The huts.

Because I live above a store, I don't actually have my own sukkah. I do however visit other people's sukkot and I go to the congregational sukkot at the two shuls here in Halifax. My friends are equally curious about the sukkah itself and about the Four Kinds — lulav, etrog, myrtle and willow — that are a part of this holiday. Each of the Four Kinds is said to represent a different type of Jew. And so, by waving them together we are showing our oneness as a people.

My roommate remembered last year when I waved the lulav and etrog in all directions signifying that G-d is everywhere. And so, explaining that the sukkah is a place in which we are completely surrounded by G-d's presence, was easy. I informed them that to commemorate G-d's love and protection, we are commanded: "In sukkot you shall dwell, seven days" (Lev. 23:42).

From celebrating the creation of the world all over again at Rosh Hashanah, to being forgiven and cleansed by G-d's mercy at Yom Kippur, to being united with G-d at Sukkot, the only thing I had left to explain was why we rejoice with the Torah at Simchat Torah.

My friends are already familiar with the fact that we read a portion of the Torah each week. And so they understood that when we reach the end of the Torah, we immediately begin again. The dancing and singing reflects our happiness, the happiness that we derive from the continuation of studying G-d's Torah.

I'm happy that I have made some sense of our customs to my friends. While I look forward to our next *chag,* Chanukah, I have a sneaky feeling my friends have already started a list of questions to ask me.

Peace process faces new challenges

By Ilan Gewurz

There is a stong consensus within Israel that the violent confrontation that occurred between Israeli and Palestinian forces was not merely a reaction to the opening of the tunnel in the Old City of Jerusalem. Rather, it reflects fundamental flaws which currently plague the Oslo peace process and the pace with which it is moving. Unfortunately for the leadership of the State of Israel, that is where the consensus ends.

Israelis from all parts of the spectrum have taken to the streets over the course of the last week, and it seems as though both sides have managed to interpret the recent events in a manner supportive of their respective political points of view. Every public bus has been turned into a forum for political debate, revealing a very nervous society unsure of what lies ahead.

The political right in Israel emphasizes the fact that Palestinian police opened fire on Israeli soldiers with guns that had been given to them by the Labor government. They blame former prime minister Shimon Peres for having advanced the peace process too fast, creating an untrustworthy armed Palestinian force.

Members of the political left criticize Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government for stalling on the peace process. They argue that the depressed economic reality in the Palestinian self-rule areas and the view among Palestinians that the Likud government is not serious about the peace process have resulted in a sense of frustration among local Palestinians who no longer see their best interests served through their "peace partnership" with Israel.

While the former group concludes that Israeli security should remain exclusively in the hands of Israelis, the latter emphasizes the need to increase the pace at which the peace process is implemented. Upon examining the nature of the peace agreement however, it becomes apparent that both arguments are seriously flawed.

One of the central visions behind the Oslo process was the creation of an alliance of moderate Palestinians and Israelis that would be able to overcome radical opposition on both sides. The agreement called for a high level of cooperation between the IDF and what has since become the Palestinian police. The two forces conduct joint patrols and share information regarding a number of security issues, including the movement of suspected terrorists. The peace process brought with it a new reality in which Israeli security was no longer exclusively in the hands of Israelis.

Essentially, the call to keep Israeli security in the hands of the Israeli army is a rejection of the peace process. It would require the re-entry of the IDF into the Palestinian self-rule areas to physically disarm the Palestinian police, which besides bringing about international condemnation, would put Israel at war with the Palestinians.

The flip side of the coin, which argues that only tangible benefits of peace will enable people to truly identify with the process, requires the government to embrace the peace process and move forward with its implementation. That entails more than only verbal commitment accompanied by the continued building of settlements. It entails concessions which will show that the Likud government is serious about peace.

This argument, that moving forward with the peace process is Israel's most effective way of responding to obstacles to peace, is less credible now. Unlike past challenges to the peace process, the most recent confrontation was not an act of extremists but rather one that included the Palestinian police themselves. Thus, the argument that Israel must continue to strengthen the alliance with the moderates to overcome extremist opposition does not hold as true. How can Israeli troops be expected to conduct joint patrols or rely on information given to them by a police force that was so quick to turn around and fire on them?

The fact that the Palestinian police force was willing to turn against Israel as soon as they felt their best interests were not served through cooperation has had a tremendous impact on the way Israelis view their Palestinian partners. The peace process now faces a new challenge, not from extremist opposition, but rather from the damaged perceptions among the moderates.

Ilan Gewurz graduated from McGill University last summer and is now pursuing his studies at the London School of Economics.

Life on Mars?

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Bug-eyed Martians have flitted through science fiction for many years, and any number of films have used the invasion of extra-terrestial beings as their main theme, the latest being *Independence Day.* The perennial (or perhaps it is "increasing") preoccupation with such phenomena testifies to an underlying conviction: There are a billion stars in the universe and from a scientific point of view it appears reasonable (if not likely) to conclude that some forms of life exist out there, and not just on our little planet Earth.

I will not devote this column either to science fiction or to a scientific examination of the statistical likelihood of extra-terrestial existence, but the latest revelation of traces of microscopic life forms on Mars has occasioned a flurry of enquiries. The writers want to know how such a revelation squares with the biblical creation account, which we are about to read from the Torah when the new cycle of weekly readings recommences. Coincidentally, a recent issue of the *Jerusalem Report* has a two-page essay entitled: *Mars and the Jewish question.*

None of the religious and scientific authorities asked by the *Jerusalem Report* whether the recent scientific finds have any impact on Torah and the faith, felt that there was a problem, and neither do I.

To begin with, the Torah is not a scientific textbook and does not teach astronomy. Its theme is God's creative power and the centre of its concerns is the earth, culminating in the creation of humanity. Extra-terrestial existence is thus not dealt with in the Torah's tale of creation: it is neither surmised nor rejected.

The essential difference between a theistic and non-theistic view of creation is simply that in the latter, the development of life is based on random physical occurrences, while the theist (and of course the Torah) proceeds from the belief that God, the supreme architect, created this world, this earth, this humanity. The non-theistic position excludes purpose, the theist takes the opposite view.

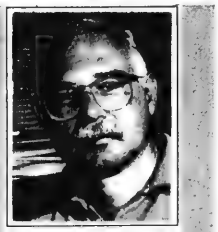
I like the brief formulation by the head of U.S. Space Agency (NASA), Daniel Goldin:

"I don't believe that with what we have found so far, Judaism needs to take stock. I think the fact that we might have found an ancient form of fossilized single-cell life does not check any of the foundations of Judaism and I believe that it is in the Jewish tradition to explore and understand and not to jump to conclusions."

In my view, living forms are likely to exist elsewhere. That contemplation is neither threatening my faith nor does it detract me from concentrating on my responsibilities towards God and creation. Speculation is of course part of being human, but I venture to say that we are not likely to meet intelligent extra-terrestrials in the flesh. If they do exist, we might be able to communicate with one another and exchange video views. But the adventures of *Star Trek* will have to remain where they are: on film.

The Kirshner File

The Soviet role in the Yom Kippur War



By Sheldon Kirshner

There has been an avalanche of books about the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the 23rd anniversary of which was marked this week. But to the best of my knowledge, *Inside the Kremlin During the Yom Kippur War* (Penn State Press, $29.95 US) is the first insider's account of the Soviet decision-making process during that three-week crisis.

The author, Victor Israelyan, had a bird's eye view of the proceedings, having been a senior Soviet diplomat. Israelyan, who retired from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs four years before the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, was a member of a task force which monitored the war for the ruling Politburo. He reported directly to his boss, then foreign minister Andrei Gromyko.

Neither Gromkyo nor Leonid Brezhnev — the general secretary of the Communist party — supported the joint decision by Egypt and Syria to attack Israel on Oct. 6, Israelyan writes in this candid memoir. Indeed, the Soviet leadership did its best to talk Anwar Sadat and Hafez al-Assad out of launching their offensive in the Sinai Peninsula and on the Golan Heights.

Once the war started, he relates, Brezhnev expressed disappointment, saying it would whip up international tensions and complicate Moscow's ties with the United States. What is more, Brezhnev predicted a speedy Arab defeat.

According to the Soviet Union's ambassador in Damascus, Syria's objective was the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. Syria believed that Israel would sue for a ceasefire, on terms favorable to the Arabs, after the first shattering Arab blows. Assad, naively, was of the opinion that Syria and Egypt could complete the military phase of the campaign within two days. He certainly underestimated Israel.

As Israelyan indicates, the Soviet Union did not share Syria's optimistic assessment. Moscow thought that without the broad assistance and participation of Soviet advisors, Egypt would not breach Israel's defence line along the Suez Canal, nor would Syria recapture the Golan.

Despite initial Arab battlefield successes, Victor Kulikov, chief of the general staff, was skeptical about Egypt's and Syria's military doctrine. He criticized them for not attacking Israel's rear flank. He took them to task for not trying to gain air superiority. And he belittled their ability to sustain a coordinated offensive.

Perhaps, as Israelyan suggests, this was a case of sour grapes, the Kremlin having been miffed that neither Syria nor Egypt had officially consulted with Moscow on either military or political strategy before Oct. 6.

"The relationship between the Soviet, Egyptian and Syrian leaders on the eve of the war was far from open and trusting," Israelyan admits.

This admission will not surprise observers who followed the Soviet Union's sometimes fractious relations with the Arab world in the 1970s. From Sadat's ouster of Soviet military advisors in 1972 to Moscow's sharp disagreements with Syria over its armed intervention in Lebanon's civil war, the Soviets and the Arabs did not always see eye to eye.

And yet, Moscow never wavered in its support of Syria and Egypt during the 1973 conflagration, particularly after the Israeli Air Force bombed the Soviet cultural centre in Damascus and sunk a Soviet merchant ship in the Syrian port of Tartus.

Following these events, Israelyan discloses, several agitated members of the Politburo called for retaliatory measures against Israel. But Brezhnev, among others, demurred. Instead, Moscow dispatched a strongly-worded message to then U.S. president Richard Nixon protesting Israeli "criminal acts," and instructed its United Nations ambassador to lambast Israel.

The envoy, Yakov Malik, went overboard, equating the Israeli bombings to Nazi crimes. Gromyko was not impressed, calling his performance "a cheap show" and ordering Israelyan to advise the Soviet press to play down these stories.

In this connection, Israelyan notes that the public protests orchestrated by the Kremlin against Israel during the Yom Kippur War were not as "spectacular" or as "stunning" as similar campaigns in the past. "The attitude toward Israel had changed slightly. Israel did not become popular, of course, but (Israeli) victories over the Arabs created a certain respect for Israel."

Israelyan, of course, deals with the U.S. nuclear alert during the last days of the war.

The alert was considered a flagrant challenge to the Soviet Union which required a response. But in the Politburo, opinions differed as to what course of action would be appropriate. Hawks like the defence minister wanted to send troops to bolster the presence of Soviet advisors on the Golan. The idea was rejected out of hand, the leadership fearing that it would trigger a nuclear confrontation with the United States. Gromyko, speaking for the majority, reined in the hotheads. "Remember our principal policy," Israelyan quotes him as having said. "We want peace restored in the Middle East and detente preserved."

Peace restored

Israelyan adds that while it opposed the use of force to settle the war, the Soviet Union was not above issuing dire threats. When Israel surrounded Egypt's Third Army, Moscow threatened unilateral action against Israel unless it lifted its siege. Moscow's goal, he observes, was "to dramatize the situation" in order to end the conflict speedily and to save Egypt from "a humiliating surrender."

Nevertheless, the outcome of the war was hardly a triumph for Soviet diplomacy.

In its aftermath, Egypt forged a rapprochement with the United States at the expense of the Soviet Union, while Syria sulked, accusing Moscow of not having worked for an early ceasefire which might have preserved its initial military gains.

Furthermore, as Israelyan correctly points out, the Middle East peace process shifted from Moscow to Washington.

In closing, Israelyan writes that the Cold War delayed the Mideast peace process for decades. This is absolutely true. But I disagree with his conclusion that the Yom Kippur War did *not* open up great opportunities for establishing "a genuine peace in the Middle East."

Lest we forget, the Yom Kippur War — which essentially ended in a stalemate — sowed the seeds of an historic accommodation between Israel and Egypt. Within four years of the truce, Sadat visited Jerusalem, breaking the Arab boycott of Israel. And in 1979, Israel and Egypt, surmounting the greatest of procedural and substantive difficulties, signed a peace treaty. It did not persuade other Arab states to make peace with Israel, but it did usher in a new era fraught with possibilities.

Hilberg and Hollywood . . .

Worth reading . . .

Raul Hilberg is one of the greatest scholars of the Holocaust. His latest work, *Perpetrators, Victims and Bystanders* (HarperCollins, $17.50), stands as a tribute to his enviable skills as a historian.

The film industry in Hollywood, founded and consolidated by European-born Jews, generates billions of dollars of wealth for the U.S. economy annually.

But Hollywood is not just an enormous cash cow. More often than not, its films are a barometer of American society and a source of endless fascination to millions of moviegoers. From this perspective, *Chronicle of the Cinema: 100 Years of the Movies* (General, $79.95) is an excellent reference book, ideal for almost any library. Lavishly illustrated and authoritatively written by a committee of experts, *Chronicle of the Cinema* is hard to put down.

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Jewish Life

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Defining continuity

By RABBI MORTON GREEN

There are two major themes that flow from the Torah through the millenia of Jewish history into our daily lives — the story of creation and the exodus from Egypt.

These two historic events are dynamic themes being constantly renewed and revitalized.

The perennial significance of Genesis is creation. According to our sacred tradition, creation is a continuous recurrence. HaShem willed the world and it came into being. He wills it and it is sustained. Our tradition has taught us that we must learn to emulate HaShem. If we will it, we can also be a *borei* — a creator. This attribute of will — creation, is part of our *zelem Elokim*, the image of G-d with which we were endowed.

When this vital "will" increases in the individual and/or group, extraordinary feats can be achieved.

Moshe's reluctance to take on the divine mission of *geula* (redemption from Egypt) arose from his lack of confidence that he could create a national "will" for independence and freedom. Ezra in his day sparked and led the return from Babylonian captivity. He achieved religious independence and fashioned and formed the religious character of *Am Yisrael*.

Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakai radically changed the national character of *Am Yisrael* to one that continued for over 19 centuries. Living under the sword of the Roman Empire and witnessing the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash, Rabbi Yochanan abandoned the Jerusalem in the Judean Hills and reconstructed the spiritual Jerusalem and the *Beit Hamikdash* in our *siddur*, our order of daily prayers.

Herzl, after almost 2,000 years, galvanized the national "will" of *Am Yisrael*. His unforgettable slogan *Im tirzu ain zu agadah*, "If you will it, it is no dream" was prophetic. After almost half a century and an ocean of blood and rivers of tears, the prophetic dream became reality.

We are being challenged with a catastrophe that can diminish our numbers even more than the unspeakable Holocaust.

A bland, vacuous slogan "continuity" has arisen. A catch word that can mean anything to anyone.

Norbert Wiener once suggested that the world may be viewed as a myriad of "to whom it may concern" messages. To traditionalists, continuity means a greater commitment to Torah and mitzvot. To secularists, commitment is determined to a great extent by the mind-set of the times. Ruth R. Wisse pointed out that when a business goes into bankruptcy, you do not advise continuity.

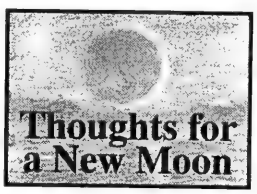
Gertrude Himmelfarb describes some of the mind-set values of our times in her book *The Demoralization of Society: From Victorian Virtues to Modern Values*, such as acceptance of common-law cohabitation, having children outside marriage, acceptance of intermarriages and homosexuality as a legitimate optional lifestyle. She views modern values as the cause of the disintegration of the family.

"For the Victorians," she writes, "these virtues were fixed and certain. The standards were firm even if individuals did not measure up to them. And when conduct fell short of these standards, it was judged in moral terms as bad, wrong or evil — not, as is more often the case today, as misguided, undesirable or inappropriate."

We have exchanged virtues for values. Values bring with them "the assumption that all moral ideals are subjective! As we now understand the word, values do not have to be virtues; they can be beliefs, opinions, attitudes, feelings, habits, conventions, prejudices, even idiosyncrasies — whatever any individual, group or society happens to value, at any time, for any reason."

The exodus from Egypt reached its objective at the foot of Mount Sinai. The declaration of the children of Israel *Naaseh v'nishma* proclaimed their unconditional acceptance of Torah and mitzvot. If history teaches us anything, it teaches us that continuity is dependent upon the commitment to the Sinaitic Covenant. The leadership of the Jewish community must find the courage to define continuity if it is to be meaningful and productive.

Rabbi Green is the spiritual leader of Adas Israel Congregation of Hamilton.



Shaping Israel's destiny

By RACHEL TURKIENICZ

This month, the Torah introduces us to Rebecca. She is unique among the matriarchs in that she alone agrees to leave her homeland and enter a family sight unseen. She marries Isaac and thus combines her life with that of this very complex man. Within Rebecca there is tremendous strength, independence and gentleness, but there is also a hidden component which fills the rift within Isaac.

As Abraham nears the end of his life, he commissions his manservant Eliezer to find a wife for his son Isaac. Abraham's one condition is that she be a woman from his original clan and that she be brought to Isaac — his son must never return to Abraham's birthplace.

This criterion echoes the journey of Abraham's life. God instructs him to leave his ancestral home to travel to an unknown land. Abraham understands that this is a one-way journey. He must never return to the place of his origin either physically or spiritually. Thus his final demand for his son is defined by his allegiance to God.

Eliezer embarks on this mission and turns to God with his own request. He asks God to identify the woman who embodies empathy and caring, thus choosing the appropriate woman for Isaac.

When Eliezer arrives at the well, Rebecca approaches him and offers him a drink; she then offers water to his camels. This woman's empathy for the traveller and caring for his animals is greater than her fear of a stranger. These qualities are crucial when one considers the man she is destined to wed.

It is Isaac who was led by his father onto a mountain and bound and placed upon an altar ready for sacrifice to God. The Torah portrays Isaac as passive and the experience leaves him scarred. We do not again see direct contact between Isaac and his father, and there is limited contact between Isaac and God. That moment as a child upon the altar defines the life of the man.

The midrash paints Isaac as a willing young man; yet even a willing participant cannot remain untouched. Rebecca must possess the strength to live with such a man, as well as the caring to understand him. Her strength and independence become apparent when she informs her family that she will follow Eliezer and marry a man she has never seen.

When Isaac and Rebecca first meet, they do not exchange formal introductions, they exchange intimacies. Isaac brings Rebecca into his mother's tent and weds her. Isaac understands that she alone can complete him. That which is clear to Isaac is hidden from the reader unless we understand the essence of Rebecca: her name.

The name Rebecca can be connected to the ancient root word *rabak*, which means to tie or to bind. Within her name Rebecca embodies the powerful experience that defines her husband. She can fully understand, empathize and respond to Isaac. Yet she must also rely on her strength and independence to mold the family and shape the future destiny of Israel.

Jewish Life

She finally spoke out against violence

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN

Guest Voices

My friend Miriam (a pseudonym) did what not many religious women dare to do — she spoke out against the domestic violence in her home.

A bright, educated woman and a *baal t'shuvah*, Miriam was truly a religious person, in both the spiritual and personal sense of the word; quite the contrary to her husband then of nine years who was "religious" by a different set of standards. He attended synagogue regularly and observed the laws of kashrut, and was shomer Shabbas; but he was also aggressive and controlling — and physically abusive to his wife.

A little over a year ago, the problem escalated and reached the breaking point, when David (also a pseudonym) forced Miriam to be unwillingly subjected to a tirade of sexual and physical abuse.

The decision to seek help was extremely difficult for Miriam, because like many other Orthodox women, she felt it was her responsibility to ensure that the household stay intact, and for the sake of the children and the family name, to be quiet and keep the horror to herself. Stunned and hurt she confided in a friend, who eventually convinced her that she must report the incident to the authorities.

Fortunately, once charges are laid by the Crown, they are non-negotiable for dismissal — because controlling and shrewd as ever, David tried to use Miriam's *get* as leverage, by demanding she drop the charges against him. She was certainly tempted; the *get* was the thing that mattered most by now, to be free of her awful past and move on with her life.

It is a few weeks into the new year 5757 and she knows she should be happy, but instead Miriam is pensive and somewhat ambivalent as she thinks about the year gone by. Even with a strong network of supportive friends, sympathetic co-workers and agency assistance, it has been a very trying time, filled with coersion, custody hearings, financial worries and physical illness — but a year that would eventually end bittersweet.

In the end, the system did serve justice well. David had his day in court. He was found guilty of rape and is now awaiting sentencing.

There are still a few who will stay *zai shtill*, but Miriam will tell you it just wasn't worth remaining silent.

Phyllis Feldman is a freelance writer in Richmond Hill, Ont.

Jewish lists let your share interests

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Before the holidays, we began our look at Internet mailing lists. As I mentioned, lists are one of the best ways to use the Jewish Highway in order to share, debate and discuss your interests with people around the world. (And as you'll see later, you don't even need full Internet access to take advantage of them.) But in order to the get the most out of lists, you do need to know some basic commands which will allow you to subscribe, unsubscribe and do other functions such as check the names of everyone else who is a member of the list. For those commands, check out Virtual Jerusalem's Crash Course on Lists **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/what.htm]**.

I have come across several hundred mailing lists relating to Jewish and Israeli topics with the numbers growing all the time. You can have access to most of them from three or four central sites. Here are some of the best:

With over 200 topics, Shamash **[gopher://israel.nysernet.org/00/about/SHAMASH-LISTS]** is one of the largest Jewish list providers. There are lists on Jewish amateur radio, eco-Zionism, Jewish genealogy, Jewish free loan agencies and Jewish parenting. In order to make subscribing easier, Shamash has created a form which you can find at **[http://shamash.org/listform.html]**. (By the way, if you are new to a list and you want to catch up the discussion so far, Shamash archives most of its past correspondence at **[gopher://shamash.nysernet.org/hh/lists/]**.)

Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/cat.htm]** operates over 150 lists which give you access to discussions about Jews in sport, intermarriage, Jewish humor, missionaries and forums for members of Betar, Bnei Akiva and other youth groups. The quick subscription form is located at **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/]**.

Jewishnet **[http://www.jewishnet.net/lis.html]** does not operate its own lists. Rather it has assembled a convenient listing of over 230 Jewish lists from all over the Internet. You will find some duplication between its contents and the other Jewish lists.

The Project Genesis Global Learning Network **[http://www.torah.org/learning/index.html]** publishes daily and weekly essays on topics related to Jewish laws and learning, from Jewish ethics to a discussion on the Torah portion of the week. An excellent site that summarizes where to find other Torah-related lists is found at **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/dc/dc001/torahnet.html]**

And finally, the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/subscrib.html]** offers two interesting lists. Israline is a daily summary of the Israeli press prepared by the Israeli Consulate in New York. Isra mid gives you policy papers, press surveys, opinion pieces and editorials.

One of the other best things about lists is that you *don't* need full World Wide Web access to enjoy all its benefits. All you need is an e-mail account. Instead of looking at a website for the Jewish lists that interest you, you can e-mail a message and you will be sent a complete listing via return e-mail. For example, if you want to receive a listing of the current lists at Virtual Jerusalem, send an e-mail to **[listproc@virtual.co.il]**. Leave the SUBJECT line blank and send it off with the message containing only the word LISTS. For the Shamash lists, send an e-mail to **[listproc@shamash.org]** with the message: LISTS. And for the Project Genesis Global Learning Network send an e-mail to **[listproc@torah.org]** with the message: LISTS. Finally, if you want to be e-mailed a document with all the major list commands, send an e-mail to **[listproc@shamash.org]** with the message HELP. Unfortunately, this document can be quite technical.

There are many other lists out there on Jewish and Israeli topics being created all the time. And if what you want just isn't out there, then maybe it's time to start your own! **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/policy.htm]**

So subscribe, have fun and meet people. One minor caution: it can very tempting to sign up for many lists. But if your e-mailbox starts to overflow with messages, you may want to cut down your selections.

On the other hand, who could resist subscribing to Shamash's TREK-COCHAVIM: Star Trek from a Jewish cultural religious perspective? **[trek-cochavim@shamash.org]**

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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John Colomby, Managing Partner of Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby, is pleased to announce that Karyn Lipman has joined the firm's Tax Group.

Karyn has recently relocated to Toronto and brings with her over thirteen years of experience in the profession. During that time, Karyn was a Tax Partner with a Montreal firm and was involved in fiscal planning covering broad-ranging and complex tax issues for corporations, estates and individuals.

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Rabbi Moshe Bensalmon (Left), mashgiach for the kosher section of the Clark-Hilda IGA store, and assistant manager Nick Lucarelli celebrate the outlet's recent renaming. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Food City becomes IGA

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The familiar red and white Food City signs so much a part of Southern Ontario's landscape are being replaced this month with signs saying IGA.

Oshawa Foods spokesperson Tim Carter explained that Food City stores are being moved to the IGA merchandising program. All the stores will be sporting the new signs by the end of October.

The change will have no affect on the extensive kosher department at Food City's Thornhill branch at Clark and Hilda, where the name change took effect formally last week. "There is no risk to that," Carter said, adding that the kosher services are "an important part of the Clark and Hilda store's ability to address the needs of the Jewish community."

Mindful of that market too, Carter said, the Our Compliments line of foods, which is being expanded, will have more kosher products available.

While initially the only changes will be the name and the grocery bags, "the merchandising approach of IGA will be noticable," Carter said.

"Instead of specials and promotions, we will be moving to the EDLP philosophy — Every Day Low Prices."

Promotions are expensive, he said, citing the artificially lowered prices and the labor costs involved in running the specials. The lower operating costs that come from the new policy "will be reflected in lower everyday prices."

They will also be able to have more people in what Carter called the "perishable departments," meat, produce, the deli and the bakery, to "maintain quality, give more service and help the customers."

SCHOOL SUPPORT

In recent years , the federal ministry of multiculturalism, secretary of state, has provided ongoing support for professional development programs mounted by the Board of Jewish Education. The programs are organized to help teachers to upgrade classroom skills and subject knowledge. Shown here is Jim Peterson, (right), M.P. for Willowdale, presenting a cheque to Bernard Shoub, BJE director of school finances.

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The Jewish National Fund of Toronto launched its 48th Annual Negev Dinner Campaign with a "Kick-Off" at the Royal Ontario Museum on September 17, 1996. The 1996 Negev Dinner in tribute to Lieutenant Governor Hal Jackman will be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel on Sunday, December 8th. We hope you enjoy these "Kick-Off photo souvenirs". For further information regarding this year's Negev Dinner, please call JNF Toronto at (416) 638-7200.

JNF

1. Dinner Chair John Turner *2.* Eric Exton, Alan Posluns, Sandy Posluns 3. A view of some guests *4.* Douglas Bassett, Hon. Lincoln Alexander, Bill Lampert *5.* Jay Lefton, Jules Kronis, Frank A. Wilson *6.* Rose and John Ziner *7.* Don Carr and Judy Feld Carr, Belle Weinstein *8.* Louis Silverstein *9.* Ronald Appleby *10.* Murray Koffler, Dr. Gerald Halbert, Joey Tanenbaum *11.* Bluma Appel *12.* Gary Blustein, Mindy Blustein, Nathan Disenhouse *13.* Michael Shapiro and Hetty Nathan *14.* Rabbi Joseph Kelman *15.* Bob Rae, Michael Rosenberg *16.* Elaine Ungar, Bonnie Lefton, Roni Kadmiel, Dubi Dekel, Doron Kadmiel and Jay Lefton *17.* Senator Jerry Graftstein, Carole Graftstein, John Turner *18.* Rose Wolfe, Joey Tanenbaum, Madame Justice Rosalie Abella *19.* Pearl Brooks-Lampert and Barry Ganz *20.* Tom & Elaine Ungar, Lt. Gov. Hal Jackman, Hon. Lincoln Alexander *21.* Marilyn Abram, Sandy Posluns, Brenda Cooper, Marilyn Berg, Marla Back *22.* Isabella and Ralph Snow

Photos by Ronald Jacobson

This page is sponsored by the Jewish National Fund.

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish literary journal gets new editor

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — "For upcoming young writers, it's getting very hard to get published, especially if you're writing on Jewish subjects," laments Adam Fuerstenberg, the new editor of *Parchment*, Canada's only Jewish literary journal.

The professor of literature at Ryerson, who has taken over the helm of the 5-year-old literary annual from founding editor Shel Krakofsky, hopes to expand it into a twice-a-year journal that might eventually reward each of its writers and poets with a humble honorarium.

Featuring some 22 stories and poems, the fifth edition of *Parchment* is set for release during the Toronto Jewish Book Fair. Plans call for the rehearsal space of the Leah Posluns Theatre in North York to be turned into a literary-style cafe called Cafe Kasrilevke, named after Shalom Aleichem's fictitious town.

Morley Torgov, Jack Kuper, Lila Julius, Donia Clenman and Garry Geddes are among the *Parchment* authors scheduled to give readings on Nov. 10, starting at 3:30 p.m.

According to Fuerstenberg, the state of Canadian Jewish letters is basically healthy, even if relatively few names are emerging to rival the likes of established writers like Mordecai Richler, Irving Layton, Miriam Waddington and Matt Cohen. ("There are exceptions, like Ann Michaels," he offers, referring to the author of the recent acclaimed novel *Fugitive Pieces*.)

This year, he says, *Parchment* had to reject considerably more pieces than it accepted, but added, "Our problem is that we haven't been successful in getting more than a few writers from Montreal to send in submissions."

What makes a story or poem Jewish?

"Most obviously, it's Jewish if the subject matter, the narrative, the contents are Jewish," Fuerstenberg says. "They don't necessarily have to be written by Jews. For our purposes, they should have some Canadian-Jewish reflections, but it's not always possible to get that.

"There can also be a Jewishness in the struggle, in the fight to maintain some aspect of the Jewish value system. Admittedly, sometimes the line here is very, very vague."

Along with *Parchment*'s poetry editor Malka Litovitz and fiction editors Barbara Novak, Harriet Kravitz-Morris and Ruby Newman, Fuerstenberg would like to see essays about Canadian Jewish literature included in future issues, especially if the journal goes to twice a year.

"We need some sense of how the Canadian Jewish experience is expressing itself in terms of literature and poetry," he says. "Young and would-be writers need feedback from readers and a sense of where they might fit in."

In recent months, *Parchment* has developed a "special relationship" with the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University, which is now the journal's official home. The centre is helping Fuerstenberg with the search for donors, patrons and new subscribers.

A minimum donation of $50 made out to The Centre for Jewish Studies – Parchment brings a tax receipt and complimentary copies. A one-year subscription is $12; two years, $20. *Parchment*'s address is York University, Centre for Jewish Studies, Vanier College Room 260, 4700 Keele St., North York M3J 1P3.

With an annual circulation of less than 500, *Parchment* is not likely to make the Canadian best-sellers' list. But Parchment's editorial team, including new editorial assistant Sidura Ludwig, are giving their time and energy to their shared dream of a vibrant Jewish literary community in Canada.

"There's a younger generation coming up, and we'd like to give them a place where they can get exposure," says Fuerstenberg, adding that *Parchment*'s editors are seeking relevant submissions of fiction, poetry and a new impressionistic category he calls "images."

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Cooking classes offered

TORONTO — The Kashruth Council of Toronto, affiliated with Vaad Harabonim of Toronto, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Canadian Jewish Congress, has announced its lineup of fall cooking classes.

Three new classes will be offered and another class will be repeated by popular request.

The cooking classes and demonstrations will be given by Vivian Anhang, a teacher and graduate home economist with many years of experience in presenting food-related programs to all segments of the community.

The classes will once again be held at the Shaarei Tefillah Congregation on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. There is ample parking and convenient public transportation. The fee for each class is $15; $10 for students under 18 years of age.

Entrees — The Main Course (V40), on Oct. 22, will feature a variety of main course dishes, including steamed salmon steaks or fillets with basil,

Creative Meatless Snacks and Lunches (V41), on Oct. 29, will present sandwich variations, thermos macaroni and cheese, nutritional granola bars, vegetables with enticing dips and pita pocket surprise.

On Nov. 4, Gourmet Cooking and Entertaining (V5) will be presented. This pareve course will feature sweet and sour whitefish, superb vegetable soup, stuffed boneless veal roast, pasta salad, potato and rice gourmet salad, chocolate roll and cinnamon rolls.

Gourmet Meats and Treats (V42), on Nov. 12, is a new course on different ways to prepare tried and true recipes. This session will include minimum chicken — chicken soup (chicken soup for those who don't want to be left with boiled chicken), couscous medley, crisp baked potatoes, elegant meat loaf a l'oignon, and strawberry rhubarb crisp.

The classes, open to males and females, are limited in enrolment. Registration is first-come first-served.

To register, send your name, address, postal code, phone number (home and work) and a postdated cheque for the day of the class to: Cynthia Gasner, Information and Public Relations, Kashruth Council of Toronto, 4600 Bathurst St., Suite 240, Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V2.

If registering for more than one class, please send a separate cheque for each class and for each participant. For more details, call 416-635-9550.

Primrose Club to close doors

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Primrose Club, a fixture of the Toronto Jewish community's social scene for nearly 90 years, will close this December.

A major decline in membership, from a high of over 700 in the mid-1980s to its current 120, made it impossible to continue, past president Michael Wynston told *The CJN* in a recent interview.

"I believe that the needs of the average Jewish person changed," he mused. "Golf and tennis are a priority now, and the Primrose Club's focus is really as a gentlemen's and ladies' club, with cards and luncheon."

There is a health club in the St. Clair Avenue West building, which offers massages, manicures and pedicures, steam, a "rudimentary" exercise room for men and a steam room for women.

Men come in daily to play cards, and on Sunday mornings, some 30 to 40 men come in for breakfast, maybe a barber and manicurist, and chit-chat, Wynston said.

"We used to have all kinds of parties and functions," Wynston remembered, noting especially the Friday night dinners, where nearly 200 people would pack the dining room "for a traditional Jewish dinner, served in elegant style, with wine for kiddush, challah and food beautifully prepared."

The club began on Beverley Street, but moved to Wilcox Street in 1920, where it remained until 1959. The current facility, at the corner of Russell Hill and St. Clair was an award winning design by prominent architect John Parkin.

Over the years, "it served the Jewish community and the community in general in a variety of functions. We hosted UJA, JNF, hospitals, Rotary and Lions clubs, and Maccabi Canada, Wynston said.

The trouble started in the late 1980s, when developer Ken Rotenberg tried to get permission to build a large condo on the site which would include a new home for the Primrose Club, particularly athletic faciltiies.

Wynston said that "membership escalated, since people wanted to be a party to these new facilities — get in on the ground floor, as it were," and the club was able to pay off its debts.

Unfortunately, "there were too many bureaucratic problems and too much ratepayer opposition; so it wasn't a viable project."

When the plans fell through, membership plummeted and it was felt that the club could not carry on.

Wynston, 60, a chartered accountant who has been in the land development and mortgage syndication business, is one of the younger members.

"I love this place," he said wistfully. "On Tuesday and Thursday nights, we come and play cards and sometimes go out for dinner, and on Sunday mornings we come, have a shvitz and tell lies."

On the board for three years and president for two years, he called it "my home away from home."

There are no plans at the present time for a formal closing function, but the club won't go out completely without a bang, Wynston said.

"On Oct. 30, we are having the 50th reunion of Beta Alpha Kappa high school fraternity here. You would recognize a lot of names of people who are coming — Bob Kaplan, Irving Abella, Lloyd Fogler, Dr. Arnold Noyek — and Michael Wynston."

Organ transplants examined

TORONTO — The first heart transplant astounded the world in 1967, but many of the issues involved in organ transplants have been debated by Torah scholars for more than 2,000 years.

Organ transplants have been considered the domain of modern medicine, but according to Rabbi Chaim Sacknovitz, who has studied the bio-ethical issues of Jewish law for more than 10 years, the ethical pros and cons for such procedures have been examined by rabbinic scholars for hundreds of years.

Rabbi Sacknovitz, director of guidance services at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), and Dr. Bernard Goldman, chief of cardiac surgery at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, will be speaking about "The Myth of Organ Transplants — Taboo or Mitzvah?" at the annual Public Health Forum at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care Oct. 30.

Jewish beliefs about transplants may not have changed for 2,000 years, but the expertise in medical technology has. For Goldman, there are a number of ethical dilemmas which reach into the operating room. For example, does the medical definition of death contradict Jewish beliefs? How do you choose one patient over another to receive an organ transplant? When is it appropriate to ask a patient to consider an organ transplant?

A discussion will follow the presentation at 7:30 p.m. in the Abe Posluns Auditorium at Baycrest Centre, 3560 Bathurst St. Admission is free.

For more information, call 416-785-2500, ext. 2010. The Public Health Forum is a project of Baycrest's Women's Auxiliary.

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Greater Toronto Area

Survivors welcome Polish benefactor's grandson

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Waclaw Balawejder stirred uncomfortably in his chair, a puzzled look on his face — as if he didn't quite know what to make of the unusual question.

He'd never considered his grandmother and her parents as anything but ordinary folk; so, when asked if he thought that by hiding a Jewish family from the Nazis they could be considered heroic, he shrugged a bit and quietly considered the question.

"I think they did it because everybody should do it," he said through an interpreter. "People should help other people when they're in trouble."

Joe Riesenbach, his sister Jennie Wasser, their sister and parents were saved from certain death thanks to that help-thy-neighbor attitude. For two years from 1943 to 1945, Balawejder's grandmother, Janina Czarnota, along with her two parents, Joseph and Julia Bar, risked their lives to save the Riesenbach family.

A few weeks ago, Joe and Jennie met Balawejder for the first time and over the next two months, they plan to give him the royal treatment to show their gratitude for what his grandmother did for them.

Riesenbach and Wasser have been in contact with Czarnota for years, sending her parcels of clothing, cash and medicine, and they'd hoped to bring her to Canada for a reunion. But her age and failing health prevented her from accepting and she suggested one of her grandchildren take her place.

Balawejder, 24, was the one selected. After a short visit in Toronto, he accompanied Riesenbach back to his home in Winnipeg, where the Polish visitor will spend most of his stay.

In Wasser's north Toronto home, Riesenbach explained the chain of events that led to to Balawejder's visit.

In 1939, the Nazis entered the village of Markowa, near the Czech border. For four years, life went on as usual, but then things changed dramatically for the Riesenbachs, as three groups of Germans were billeted at their house.

The first group, ordinary soldiers, caused no trouble, but the second group were Gestapo police who "were rough and abusive."

A few weeks later, a group of SS men moved in. "We had to serve them and they were kicking my father, Jacob, for no reason," Riesenbach recalled.

During the late summer of 1943, the Riesenbachs' lives were turned upside down. Polish friends in the local police tipped them off that the Germans would soon be rounding up the village's Jews. "You'd better leave now," Riesenbach recalls them saying. Within a few minutes, the family had departed for the fields surrounding the village.

Waclaw Balawejder is the centre of attention as Joe Riesenbach and Jennie Wasser host him during a two-month visit to Canada. [Paul Lungen photo]

"We ran and hid in ditches between rows of potatoes," Riesenbach said.

As they hid, their unfortunate neighbors were rounded up and some were summarily shot.

The family stayed in the field for two or three weeks, subsisting on a diet of raw carrots, potatoes and beets, "just to stay alive," Wasser said.

As harvest season approached and the realization dawned that the farmers would soon return to their fields, their mother, Ita, began knocking on doors of local farmers, pleading with them to take them in.

The Bars were the only ones to agree. "The reason was that [Julia] Bar was a very religious person and a true Christian," Riesenbach said.

One night, she came to the field and led the family to their farm. Joseph had constructed a "home" for them that would suffice for the next two years — a shelter with a straw roof where hay and feed were kept, in a sort of attic.

Until the war's end, the family spent all their days in that confined space, speaking in whispers so passers-by could not hear them.

The Bars, who earned a meagre living, provided them with watery soup, potatoes and bread. Janina, who was a teenaged girl at the time, carried the food up to the loft every day and carried down the human waste.

Meanwhile, Joseph, who belonged to the Polish underground, brought them reports on the war's progress.

Time dragged on and during the winter, the family huddled close together with only feather pillows and body heat to keep them warm. Handfuls of lice were their constant companions and "we were crippled after two years. We couldn't walk," Wasser said.

The two years did not pass uneventfully. They narrowly avoided capture after the local priest announced in church that search parties would go house to house to find the Jews who had evaded the roundup.

The Bars hurried home to tell them of the impending disaster and Joseph moved them into a tiny hid-

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Schild launches book in Germany

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Rabbi Erwin Schild, rabbi emeritus of Adath Israel Synagogue in Toronto and author of *World Through My Window*, an anthology of sermons published in 1992, arrives in Germany this week to attend the launch of the German-language edition of his book and to initiate a six-week speaking tour in German.

The book was translated by Dr. Paul Gerhard Aring, a leading German Christian theologian who specializes in Jewish history and Christian-Jewish relations.

The lecture tour, which primarily involves churches, was arranged by the Association of Protestant Churches of Cologne, the city where Rabbi Schild was born in 1920 and where most of his 25 speaking engagements are concentrated. The final lecture, however, is set for Zurich, Switzerland, on Nov. 21.

Offering pungent insight and commentary on religious, political and other issues, the three dozen sermons in *World Through My Window* touch on subjects as diverse as the Holocaust, the decline of the Soviet Empire, the gender of God, and what it means to be a chosen people. Most were written in the 1980s and early 1990s, although at least one dates from 1947, when he first attained the pulpit at Adath Israel.

"This is a book that I addressed primarily to Jews, since most of the contents were first delivered verbally to Jewish audiences," said Rabbi Schild.

"But it has evoked an echo among German Christians, who think it is an excellent sample of what Jews are thinking about at this stage in history."

As a young man, Schild bore witness to the German Kristallnacht in 1938 and was later incarcerated in Dachau concentration camp.

"It seemed like three centuries, but on the calendar it amounted to a little over a month," he said of his time in Dachau. He lost his parents and most of his childhood friends in the Holocaust.

Rabbi Schild did not return to Germany until 1981, after a coalition of German church groups invited him to speak. He has made several subsequent visits, including one in November 1988, when he spoke at an annual Christian rally coinciding with the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

His current lecture circuit includes a high-profile "Sermon to the City," known as the *Stadtpredigt* in German, in a historic church in Cologne, on the anniversary of Kristallnacht. That engagement holds a certain amount of irony for Rabbi Schild, since the locale is not far from his childhood home.

"Coming back now as an honored guest and seeing my book published in Germany gives me a certain amount of satisfaction," he said. But he also admits to "an ambivalent feeling" about the present book launch and tour.

"If my parents had gone to sleep in 1933 or 1934 and had not been killed in the Holocaust, and if they were to wake up now at my book launching, I suppose they wouldn't have been surprised to see that I had written a book," he commented.

Survivor 'felt like a bird flying in the air'

[Cont'd. from page 20]

ing place he'd dug out in a cold storage cellar behind a screen of potatoes. The cellar was searched by local peasants, but Bar distracted them with talk about his homebrew liquor and they left, unaware that five Jews were hiding a few feet away.

Finally, in April 1945, they were liberated by Russian troops. When Joseph told them the happy news, "we hugged and celebrated," Riesenbach said.

The next day, barely able to walk, they returned home.

"When we were freed and had to go outside, I felt like a bird flying in the air," Wasser said. "I couldn't walk straight."

They knocked on the door of their home and when the Polish family inside saw them, they gathered their belongings and left in a rush.

The Riesenbachs stayed for two or three months. They'd heard about anti-Jewish pogroms in other Polish communities and got their own taste of post-war life when a man brandishing a gun banged on their door past midnight. The intimidation worked and shortly afterward the family fled. After a lengthy oddyssey during which they narrowly avoided being victims in a pogrom in the town of Rzeschov, they made it to Austria. From there they came to Canada.

Despite the intervening years, they've never forgotten their Polish benefactors and were eager to host Janina or someone from her family.

In the short time he's been in Canada, Balawejder has come to appreciate the hospitality he's been shown.

"They're nice people," he said of his Canadian hosts. "Until now I saw them in pictures, but now I've seen them. I feel like a son to them."

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

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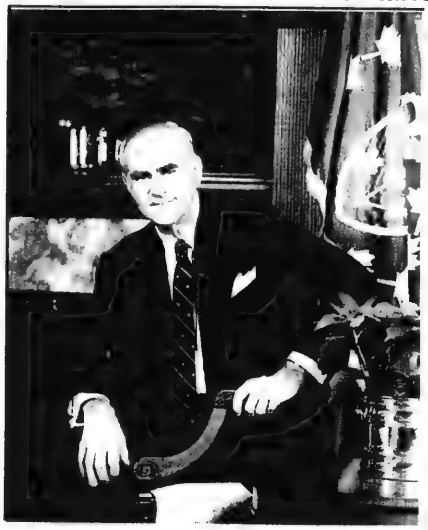

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A special project will be initiated on the occasion of Toronto's 1996 Negev Dinner Tribute saluting Colonel The Honourable Henry N.R. Jackman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. To be known as **JACKMAN GARDENS** and consisting of two areas, **THE TRILLIUM TERRACES** and **THE ONTARIO GROVES**, this project will form a major portion of the larger entity known as JNF PARK JERUSALEM 3000, a gift to the city and people of Jerusalem marking the historic 3000th Anniversary of King David's proclamation of Israel's political and spiritual capital.

JACKMAN GARDENS will contain picnic sites, hiking trails, scenic routes and lookout points, an urban promenade, playgrounds and other amenities - developed to enhance the quality of life for the people of Jerusalem and visitors to the city. **JACKMAN GARDENS** will be located in the southwestern part of the city, a rapidly-growing urban area. A major project of which Torontonians can be justly proud and which will demonstrate our affection and respect for Ontario's distinguished Lieutenant Governor - businessman, philanthropist, community leader!

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO
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PHONE: (416) 638-7200 FAX: (416) 638-7345

Greater Toronto Area

Associated honors Weisfeld for his years of dedication

Louis Weisfeld and his wife Gabi show the picture presented to him on his 90th birthday by Associated Hebrew Schools.

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The management committee of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto recently paid tribute to Louis Weisfeld on his 90th birthday, for a lifetime of dedication to the school.

A special presentation was made in honor of his 52 years of volunteer service.

"Louis represents the type of leader we all aspire to be. He gave freely of his time and of his money to Associated Hebrew Schools on behalf of the entire community," said Sheldon Goodman, president of Associated.

Randy Spiegel, Associated's coordinator of capital projects and public relations, said Weisfeld had been a key motivator in getting the building campaign for the Thornhill campus started, adding that Weisfeld was one of the single largest donors for that project.

Since joining the board in 1944, Weisfeld has served in almost every capacity. He was chairman of the board for 18 years. Today he chairs the scholarship committee that allocates income from the endowment funds for internships and scholarships for the pursuit of Jewish studies in post secondary education.

When his son, Moshe Yosef (now deceased) began attending the school at the age of four in 1944, Weisfeld became involved.

"I felt that if I sent my son, then I should be giving all the help I could," he said in an interview. "It was really an honor to be a member of the board."

At that time, the Hebrew teachers were all "local talent," he said. "We had the finest teachers on the continent." He also praised the retired Toronto Board of Education teachers who, for the most part, taught the general studies program.

Although the school — now one of the world's largest day schools with 2,500 students at three campuses — has grown dramatically in the last 50 years, some things haven't changed, Weisfeld said. "We were always short of money."

No child refused

However, he pointed out that in the early years, money was needed for operating expenses rather than building campaigns. The board sometimes had to approach parents at the end of the year "for a few more dollars," he said.

No child was ever refused admission to the school because parents couldn't pay the tuition, Weisfeld said. A child was once sent home for financial reasons and "within hours, someone went to that child's home to bring that person back to the school," he recalled.

The school moved to Neptune Drive in 1956. "The campus was built on a shoestring," Weisfeld said. "We sold the rooms" to raise money.

Weisfeld is devoted to Jewish scholarship. In 1992, he spent six weeks studying Talmud at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan.

He said attending graduation ceremonies — he attended every year until 1995 — has always given him "the most joy" of all his activities at Associated.

Reflecting on his 50-plus years on the board, Weisfeld said, "We did the best we could do. We were strictly interested in giving kids a good Jewish education and we're still doing it today."

Craft & Gift Sale
MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1996
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Your family will feel like they are at summer camp in the middle of Autumn at our Family Fun Fair! We'll have entertainment by Marcus, games, crafts, bouncers and a batting cage, plus lots of yummy things to eat - snow cones, cotton candy - you name it. You'll also have a fun filled opportunity to find out all about the Greater Toronto Area's most family spirited day camp and to meet our own special "family" - the staff that makes all the fun possible.
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Temple Sinai Adult Education Presents:
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$25 million and counting!

Chapter two for UJA Federation Campaign '97

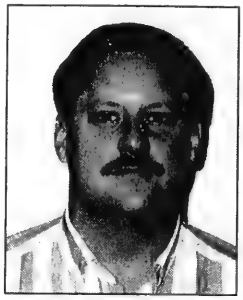
UJA Federation is shifting its focus toward new contributors as the 1997 campaign heads into its second phase.

To date, the campaign has raised close to $25 million, from over 20,000 donors to date.

Last year, nearly 9,000 donors supported The Three Year Vision, giving UJA Federation volunteers more time to contact people who have never contributed before.

"We should see some very good results," predicts Gary Grundman, who is co-chairing the new gifts effort with Rosanne Ain. "Our campaigners can now devote their energies to further developing our donor base."

A special emphasis is being placed on reaching people living in York region, with 40% of the Jewish population in the Greater Toronto area. "A lot of Jews living north of Steeles would like to become more connected with the Jewish community," explains Alan Lechem, who has played a large role in planning outreach to the area.



Brian Schachter believes younger Jews living in York region crave more community involvement.

The official phase two kickoff begins with New Gifts telethons, October 20, from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Promenade shopping centre, and all day at the Lipa Green Building. "A telethon at the Promenade can really help create a UJA Federation presence and do a lot for building community spirit," explains Brian Schachter, the event co- chair with Lechem.

A series of parlour meetings throughout the city is also being planned to discuss the UJA Federation role in, among other things, Jewish education and the rescue of Jews in danger around the world.

Rene Birnbaum, who is hosting her own parlour meeting, hopes to create "a greater sense of community awareness through discussion of common interests."

"The meetings are about getting people who are interested in becoming more involved together in an intimate setting," observes Lechem.

If you would like to become more involved in outreach to new contributors, please call Ronit Climan at (416) 631- 5738.

UJA Federation Community Partners

BIG RESPONSIBILITIES...BIG COMMITMENT

Barbara Bank and Peter Waxman, co-chairs of UJA Federation's Business Cabinet, are excited about being at the helm of the organization's largest division. Their reward is seeing so many millions of dollars raised through their hard work and long hours.

Barbara Bank

Waxman, who runs his own independent insurance and financial services business, began his volunteer career at UJA Federation four years ago as a canvasser. Although he was reluctant at first to rise within the UJA Federation ranks, Waxman became co-chair of the Insurance Division where he helped to significantly increase the number of contributors.

"It's my way of giving something back to the community which is where I earn my living," he explains. "I learned about charity from my parents and I followed their example."

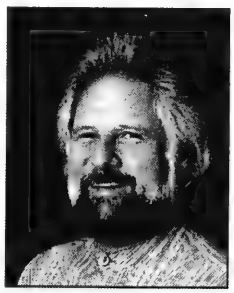
As a father, Waxman sets his own example. His son Mark, who became involved in UJA Federation's Insurance Division a couple of years ago, is now Vice Chair of Financial Services. His youngest son Sam attends Hebrew day school and is a member of Junior UJA.

Barbara Bank has distinguished herself within UJA Federation for 15 years. She's a former Women's Campaign Chair and a recipient of UJA Federation's prestigious Leadership Development Award.

Bank, originally from Boston, has a particular affinity for outreach work because she often felt like an outsider to the Jewish community when she was growing up.

After moving to Toronto, she became involved with UJA Federation and found what she calls "a real connection." "The more I did," recalls Bank, "the more connected I felt until UJA Federation became like my extended family."

As co-chair of the Business Cabinet, Bank is pleased to see "all the strides being made in leadership education and the growing number of young adults within the divisions."



Peter Waxman

Like her co-chair, Bank is determined to hand her children a "legacy they will understand; that in this community they will never feel like outsiders."

"In the end," she says, "I get to give back more than I receive."

UJA WonderFun at Wonderland

Paramount Canada's Wonderland and UJA Federation are inviting the community to the first ever Jewish WonderFun Day on Sunday, October 13.

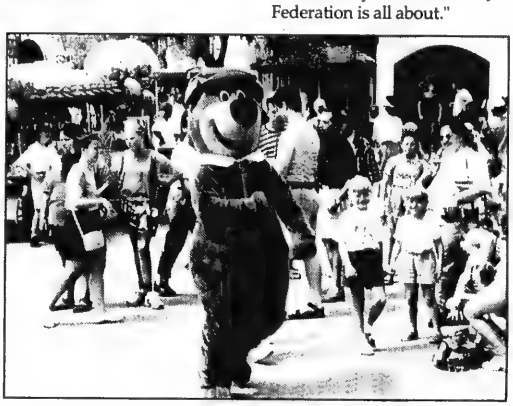
Although it's the first time Wonderland has dedicated a day to the Jewish community, park officials are certain it won't be the last. "I would like to see this as the beginning of many Jewish Community WonderFun Days," says Wonderland corporate sales representative Margot Somerville.

Tickets for WonderFun Day are $18 per person - half the regular price. They're available by calling UJA Federation's WonderFun Day Hotline at (416) 631-5700 or from Israel's The Judaica Centre, 897 Eglinton Ave. West and 441 Clark Ave., Beit Halochem, 2145 Avenue Rd., Matana Judaica, 248 Steeles Ave. West (Toys R Us plaza) and Negev Book and Gift Store, 3509 Bathurst St.

In addition to the park's 50 rides and more than 160 attractions, the King's Courtyard will be turned into a Kosher Food Fair with sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs from Marky's and sweet treats from Kosher Food Warehouse.

From 12:30 to 1:30 pm, the International Showcase Theatre will feature a free concert including performances by acclaimed Canadian recording artist Liberty Silver, Israeli singer Shlomo Haviv and Peter May, accompanied by Mandell Entertainment's Group Dancers. WonderFun participants can also enjoy Jewish music all day long, courtesy of The Radio Show with Phil Kravetsky.

"WonderFun Day is a superb way to bring the community together in a relaxing, family oriented atmosphere," says UJA Federation President Sandra Brown. "Connecting the community is what UJA Federation is all about."



Anyone for a hug? Yogi Bear and his furry friends always attract a crowd at Paramount Canada's Wonderland.

Jewish Book Fair celebrates 20th anniversary

Whether you're a fan of Jewish poetry, the art of yoga, thriller novels or the latest in vegetarian cuisine, The 20th Annual Jewish Book Fair has what you're looking for.

This special anniversary edition of the Book Fair (November 9 - 17) will be opened by celebrated author Bel Kaufman (*Up the Down Staircase*), who will offer a light hearted account of her grandfather, the revered Yiddish writer Sholem Aleichem.

Authors David Frum (*What's Right: The New Conservatism and What It Means to Canada*) and Hugh Segal (*Hugh Segal: Reflections of a Happy Warrior in the Tory Crusade*) will respond to the question "What are two nice Jewish boys doing in the right wing?" and American feminist Anne Roiphe (*Fruitful - A Real Mother in the Modern World*) will discuss the conflict between family values and the feminist vision.

Other speakers include Hirsh Goodman, Editor-in-Chief of *The Jerusalem Report*, Linda Frum, with a memoir of her late mother, broadcaster Barbara Frum, thriller writer, Steven Hartov, acclaimed novelist Anne Michaels (*Fugitive Pieces*), poets Seymour Mayne, Gary Geddes, Sam Simchovitch and Shula Robin.

Technology will be making its debut this year as Jay Brodbar demonstrates *Surfing Jewish Cyberspace* and Henry Campbell explores *Having Fun with Jewish Technology*. There are also special programs for children and students,

Bel Kaufman

including puppet shows and sing-a-longs.

"The Book Fair is for book lovers," notes event chair, Margie Posluns. "Each year we strive to bring the highest quality speakers and programs to the community."

The Fair is financially supported by UJA Federation and run by close to 150 volunteers. Director Helen Redner says the purpose of the 10 day event is "to sell Jewish books and get them into as many Jewish homes as possible." With an extensively diverse menu of programs, speakers and topics, Redner is certain "the Fair has something for everyone."

All programs take place at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street. Morning programs and entrance to the Fair are free. Afternoon and evening programs are from $3-$12. For information or tickets, please call 636-1880 ext. 368.

16th Annual
Holocaust Education Week
November 7-17, 1996

Watch for your program supplement in next week's *Canadian Jewish News*.

CLINTON AND DOLE UNCOVERED

What will the results of the U.S. election mean to Canada?

The UJA Federation Marketing Division invites you
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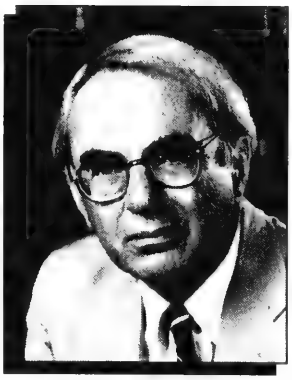
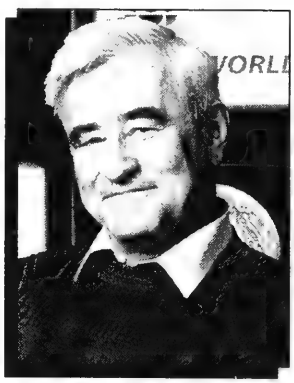


Allan Gotlieb, C.C.
Former Canadian Ambassador to the U.S.

Sondra Gotlieb
Globe & Mail Columnist



Joe Schlesinger
Former Washington Correspondent ~ CBC-TV

Peter Kent
Global TV News Anchor

Thursday, October 17, 1996 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street

UJA FEDERATION

Admission: $18 in advance $25 at the door • Light refreshments (Kashruth observed)
• For tickets call Cindy Bogach at (416) 635~2883 ext. 190 •

EHUD BARAK MEETS TORONTO

The man considered by many observers to be the leading contender for the leadership of Israel's Labor Party recently undertook a breathless 24 hour visit to Toronto. Ehud Barak, the former Israel Defence Forces Chief of Staff and Foreign Minister, lunched with UJA Federation leadership, spoke with members of Toronto's downtown Jewish community, gave a major address to more than 1,000 people at Holy Blossom Temple and participated in his first cyber-conference...all in one day.

~

Ehud Barak (left) with UJA Campaign Chairman David Goldstein (centre) and Allan Offman at the leadership luncheon.

Barak signs autographs for students at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

Israeli Consul General Jehudi Kinar (left) and Rabbi Dov Marmur share a laugh with Barak at a special pre-address reception.

Wendy and Elliott Eisen were part of a captivated audience of 1,000 at Holy Blossom Temple.

(above) Family ties. Barak meets second cousins Yehoash and Charlottle Cheifetz for the first time.

(right) Rabbi John Moscowitz moderates the question and answer session following Barak's address.

UJA Federation presents "the business of show business"

Two of Canada's most important personalities in publishing and film will be sharing the stage in Toronto next week to explain why it's true that there's no business like show business.

Paul Godfrey, Chairman and CEO of Toronto Sun Publishing and Allen Karp, President and CEO of Cineplex Odeon Corporation will be the guest speakers at UJA Federation's *The Business of Entertainment*, Wednesday, October 16, at the News Theatre, 98 The Esplanade.

Paul Godfrey

Godfrey and Karp will be raising the curtain on how they got their start in the business, and the U.S. influence on Canada's homegrown entertainment industry.

"Entertainment has become big business," notes Earl Rotman, Co-Chair of UJA Federation's Investment Division, "and that's why this program will appeal to so many."

"People are always fascinated with the behind-the-scenes buzz and this program gives them a chance to get the inside scoop," adds Howard Lichtman, Arts and Entertainment Co- Chair.

The event is being jointly sponsored by UJA Federation's Arts and Entertainment Division, Financial Services Division and Young Business Network. Tickets are $15 in advance and $20 at the door. For more information or to order tickets call (416) 635-2883 ext. 177.

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UJA FEDERATION

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MONTREAL REUNION

- *Music by Mandell Entertainment*
- *Delicious Montreal deli-style food (Kashruth observed)*
- *Re-visit old neighbourhoods*

Convert: $36/person • space is limited

To RSVP call Olga at (416) 635-2883 ext. 107

Don't miss this exciting night of Montreal nostalgia!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 - 8:00 p.m.

Bathurst Jewish Centre, *4588 Bathurst Street*

Sponsored by:

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CENTRE STREET DELI

MIDLAND WALWYN

From coast to coast

Villeneuve exceeded bounds of free speech: CJC

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Lawyers for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) are convinced there is sufficient evidence for the attorney general of Quebec to proceed with a criminal case against radical separatist Raymond Villeneuve.

In a letter to Paul Begin, CJC Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum, who is a lawyer, and honorary legal counsel Jeffrey Boro, write that Villeneuve "clearly" contravened the laws against incitement of hatred and of violence.

Their submission to Begin cites, Villeneuve's article entitled *Jewish Anglophones serving Canadians* in his pamphlet *La Tempete*, as well as his interview with on the French-language radio station CKVL on Yom Kippur with Pierre Pascau, as evidence that he violated section 319 of the Criminal Code.

That section reads: "Every one who, by communicating statements in any public place, incites hatred against any identifiable group where such incitement is likely to lead to the breach of the peace is guilty of an indictable offence or an offence punishable on summary conviction."

"Mr. Villeneuve identifies clearly 'Ashkenazi Jews' as being, among others, responsible for the misfortunes of Quebec and encourages in a clear way the use of violent actions against certain individuals that he identifies," Teitelbaum and Boro write.

In the Pascau interview, they note, Villeneuve "refers directly to the use of violence to reach his ends."

Boro admitted some doubt though over whether the case is so clear from a legal point of view. "There are always competing interests; in this case, the right of the Jewish population to protect itself against hateful behavior and, on the other hand, free speech.

"We believe Villeneuve went past the bounds of free speech."

Key to making a hate case stick is whether it can be proven that it was Villeneuve's intention to incite hate or carry out violence. His defence could be that he was expressing an opinion.

Dermod Travis of Forum Quebec, which filed a complaint with the Quebec Human Rights Commission (QHRC) immediately following the release of *La Tempete*, said his group is now doubtful about a criminal case, after obtaining a legal opinion.

"The [article] was clearly racist, anti-Semitic and threatening. But is it criminal? That's a different issue."

Forum Quebec, a group seeking to promote dialogue between anglophones and francophones but seen as conciliatory to the Parti Quebecois (PQ) government by many, was at time of writing about to have a meeting with the QHRC, which until that point had not made known whether it would pursue the matter.

Although there have been denunciations of Villeneuve by Relations With Citizens Minister Andre Boisclair and PQ MNA David Payne, Premier Lucien Bouchard has ignored CJC's request for an explicit denunciation from him directly.

B'nai Brith (BB) forwent making any formal complaint, believing that present legislation is inadequate.

Instead, it called on the government to amend the provincial Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms to make the incitement of discrimination a civil offence, which was recommended by the QHRC itself two years ago.

Specifically, BB says the charter should prohibit "any act of public incitement to hatred, contempt, ridicule or discrimination against a group or class of persons on the basis of race, religion, color, ethnic or national origin, among others."

Jewish art goes online

MONTREAL — The collection of over 400 antique ceremonial objects housed in the Aron Museum of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom has been plucked, figuratively, from relative obscurity and is about to be diffused to thousands of schools and libraries across Canada via the information highway.

This summer, a group of 10 young people — Jews and non-Jews, anglophones and francophones — worked under a contract with Industry Canada to produce a Web site on the Internet called *Art in Context/Decouvertes a travers l'art* that contains photographs of some 400 pieces from the collection, most with explanations.

Because the site is intended for the education of high school students in general, the program includes sections on the Jewish holidays and life cycle events to show how the objects are used by Jews, illustrated with photos taken at the temple or homes of members.

There's a glossary of terms related to Judaism and a Jewish calendar through to 1999.

Each section is interconnected, so one can instantly go from the description of Chanukah, for instance, to pictures of the different menorahs in the Aron collection.

The site is also linked to numerous other relevant sites on the Internet via key words that appear in blue.

There is also an audio component, so users can hear, for example, the rattle of the Purim *gragger*.

At the end is a multiple-choice quiz to test what's been learned. If the right answer is given, the screen goes directly to the page the information was given.

At 464 pages, the site is unusually large, said project coordinator Percy Johnson. The average site is 40 to 50 pages. Despite its size, it's described as extremely accessible.

Rabbi Leigh Lerner noted that it is probably unique for a Canadian synagogue to have such an extensive presence on the Internet.

The site has been fully translated into French.

Art in Context should be online in October as part of Canada's SchoolNet Digital Collections, after being vetted by Industry Canada. The contract, worth up to $30,000, carried the stipulation that it employ young people between 15 to 30 years old for up to 12 weeks, training them in computer skills.

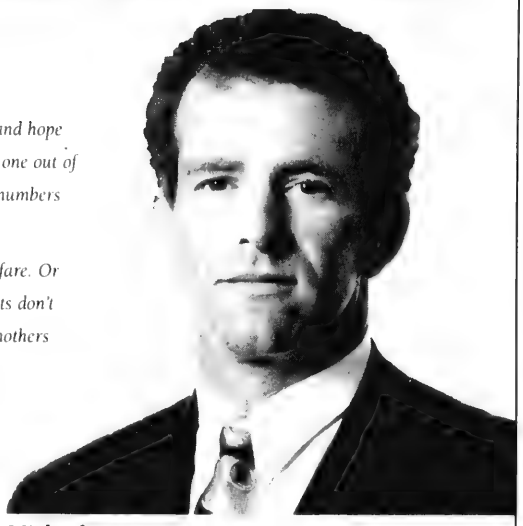
The temple's was one of 80 SchoolNet contracts awarded this year.

I BELIEVE

I BELIEVE *in this community because it provides help and hope for more than 23,000 Toronto Jews who live in poverty. That's one out of seven Jews, or 14 per cent of our Jewish population. And the numbers are growing.*

It's hard to believe that members of our community are on welfare. Or that our children frequent food banks. Or that our grandparents don't have a comfortable place in which to live. Or that our single mothers can't give their children warm clothing.

I believe UJA Federation is the most efficient means of dignifying lives and ensuring that what we value — as a Jewish community — is translated into effective action. Now. And always.



Michael Bregman

Through our community institutions, UJA Federation provides for those in need. Funding for the disadvantaged. Support for the disabled. Kosher Meals-on-Wheels. Employment assistance for immigrants. The list goes on.

But for all we have in place, it cannot meet the demand. We need more money, to help more people. Resources can come from only one place: Our community. Each and every one of us.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY. FOR ISRAEL.
FOR OUR CHILDREN. FOREVER.

UJA FEDERATION

From coast to coast

LIFE'S A CIRQUE

Members of the Weizmann Family recently participated in an evening of fun and entertainment at a special performance of Cirque du Soleil. Seen (from left) Peter Seligman, Marilyn Seligman, Tiana Koffler Boyman and Marc Boyman, Cirque du Soleil event co-chairs.

Solidarity with Israel said to be key to Diaspora's future

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — There is a growing trend for Diaspora Jewish communities to look inward, become more insular and isolated, and regard Israel as just another community where Jews "happen to live," says Julia Koschitzky of Toronto.

Koschitzky, chair of Keren Hayesod's world board of trustees and former chair of United Israel Appeal of Canada, spoke here at the recent Women's Division of Vancouver's Combined Jewish Appeal Top Gifts dinner.

"No matter how strong a local community we strive to create, without Jewish solidarity for Israel there can be no Jewish continuity in the long run. Jewish life cannot be sustained without the State of Israel at its core," she said.

It's ironic, Koschitzky said, that "in the midst of our great achievements, in the midst of ongoing aliyah bringing in 750,000 new immigrants in the last six years, and with less than 50 years of sovereignty, we hear doubts in Diaspora communities about our responsibilities and attachment to our historic homeland."

Because some believe that peace is imminent or that Israel's economy is prospering, "we are beginning to act as though our historical relationship with Israel depended only on its being in a perpetual state of weakness, vulnerability and crisis."

Speaking right after Sukkot, she reminded her audience at the Four Seasons Hotel that while the festival is supposed to be a time for rejoicing, 11 soldiers killed in the recent violence were buried erev Sukkot.

The sukkah, she continued, with its frail walls and leaky roof, symbolizes the historical Jewish condition — "the fragile, vulnerable, endless Diaspora we as people have traversed through the ages. The sukkah speaks to every Jew — it relates to the fragility of our lives."

She said partnership with Israel "transcends" wars, peace and changes in the economy. Even if there were not one Jew left to rescue from a land of distress, and even if Israel's economy were twice what it is, "our combined campaigns would still be at the heart of strengthening the *kesher* — the bond between Israel and the Diaspora."

Reviewing Israel's rescue of Jews around the world, especially from the former Soviet Union (FSU), she said 1.3 million are still counting on Israel.

"Statistics show that 30,000 are disappearing every year in the FSU because of assimilation or low birth rates. For every child born, eight die. Time is running out, and we are doing our utmost by increasing the number of Hebrew teachers in the FSU, creating ulpanim in 230 cities, running summer and winter camps and arranging direct flights from 20 cities.

"The only heartbreaking fact is that instead of reaching out to 18,000 children, as in the past, now we can only give this kind of experience to 10,000, due to diminution of funds," she said.

Guess who is coming to TOWN?

The 20th Annual Jewish Book Fair

Opening Night - Saturday, November 9, 8:00 pm

Bel Kaufman talks about her grandfather, Sholom Aleichem, in **Survival Through Humour: An Evening of Laughter.** With pianist, **Nina Shapilsky**, playing Klezmer selections. Sponsored by the Label Basman Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Basman Family. $7

Sunday, November 10

10:00 am Renelle Kuntz, Our Official Puppeteer, presents **A Midrash Retold-Why the Moon Only Glows.** Ages 4-7 $1.

10:30 am - 12:30 pm Having Fun with Jewish Technology presented by **Henry Campbell** and **Surfing Jewish Cyberspace: The Internet as a Jewish Resource** presented by **Dr. Jay Brodbar**. Free

11:15 am Sheldon and Judith Godfrey, speaking on **Canada's Unique History of Equality: Is Mere Tolerance Enough in the 90's?**. Sponsored by United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Ontario Region and Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Canadian Seaway Branch. Free

12 noon Meet the Authors - Meir Avineri, Sam Honig, Dr Philip Loren, Joseph Peretz, An opportunity to shmooze with the authors.

1:30 pm Professor Eugene Orenstein speaks in Yiddish and English on *New Yorkish*, stories about Jewish immigrant life in North America translated from Yiddish. Sponsored by Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation, The Shlomo Steinhart Memorial Fund, Label Basman Memorial Scholarship Fund and Kultur Geselshaft. $3

3:30 pm Prose and Poetry at the *Cafe Kasrilevke*. Readings from *Parchment*, featuring **Morley Torgov, Miriam Schneid-Ofseyer, Jack Kuper, Gabriella Golliger, Gary Geddes** and **Lila Julius**. Launching of *Jerusalem, An Anthology of Jewish Poetry* with **Seymour Mayne, Glen Rotchin, Shel Krakofsky, Ken Sherman** and **Marryne Genoff**. $3

4:30 pm Roz Wolodarsky Usiskin, speaking on **War, Revolution and Pogroms: The Agonizing Wait to Emigrate**. Sponsored by the Morris Winchevsky School and the United Jewish People's Order. $3

7:00 pm Reading by **Anne Michaels** from her book, *Fugitive Pieces* with **Beth Anne Cole** performing music featured in the book. Supported by Lipa Green Endowment Fund. $3

8:00 pm Hirsh Goodman, editor-in-chief of *The Jerusalem Report*, speaking on **Israel and Peace: Strategies and Risks in the New Middle East**. Sponsored by Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Toronto. $7

Monday, November 11

10:30 am Bone Button Borscht by **Aubrey Davis**. Performed by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy-Shearim Hebrew Day School as part of the "Learning Skills Through Drama" Program. Discussion follows. For K-Grade 8. $1

1:30 pm Chef and author, **Nettie Cronish**, speaking on **Bringing Vegetarian Cuisine into the 90's**. $3

8:00 pm Linda Frum, author of *Barbara Frum*, speaking on **A Daughter's Memoir**. Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section. $5

Tuesday, November 12

10:30 am 1:30 pm 5:00 pm School programs with author **Carol Matas**. Grades 5-8 $1

8:00 pm What are two nice Jewish boys doing in the right-wing?" featuring **David Frum**, and **Hugh Segal**. Moderated by **Elaine Todres**, Deputy Solicitor-General and Deputy Minister of Correctional Services. Sponsored by Toronto Women's ORT. $5.

Wednesday, November 13

10:30 am Simcha Simchovitch, speaking on **A Yiddish Poet in English Translation**. Sponsored by Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. Free

1:30 pm Esther Myers, author of *Yoga and You*, speaking on **Integrating an Ancient Wisdom into Contemporary Life.** Demonstration. $3

8:00 pm Anne Roiphe, author of *Fruitful*, speaking on **Family Values and the Feminist Vision: Feminism, Motherhood and the Fathering Issue**. Sponsored by Na'amat Canada-Toronto. $5.

Thursday, November 14

10:30 am & 1:30 pm School programs featuring **Leslie Robbins** in **The Singing Shtetl**, a puppet show. Grades SK-3. $1.

8:00 pm Shmuel Katz, author of *Lone Wolf*, speaking on *Vladimir Jabotinsky*, **The Prophet of Zion in Exile**. Sponsored by the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association. $5.

Friday, November 15

10:30 am Thelma Barer-Stein, Esther Schwartz and **Risa Vandersluis**, co-authors of *To Life*, speaking on **So-How is this Cookbook Different?** Sponsored by COR- Kashruth Council of Toronto, Rabbinical Vaad Kakashruth. Free

Saturday, November 16

8:00 pm Steven Hartov, speaking on **Acts of Terrorism: How to Control and Eliminate Them**. Sponsored by Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel - Beit Halochem Canada New Leadership. $7.

Sunday, November 17

10:00 am Renelle Kuntz, Jewish Book Fair's Official Puppeteer, presents **A Midrash Retold- Why the Moon Only Glows**. Ages 4-7. $1.

10:30 am Good for Parents-Good for Kids! **Having Fun with Jewish Technology** presented by **Henry Campbell**.

11:15 am Manny Drukier, author of *Carved in Stone*, speaking on **A Boy's History in the Holocaust and Poland Now.** Sponsored by Canada-Israel Committee. Free

12 noon Meet the Authors. See Sunday, November 10, 12 noon.

1:30 pm Dramatic Readings from **Shula Robin's** poetry by **Gladys Aaron and Shula Robin.** Musical Accompaniment by oboeist **Senia Trubashnik**. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital and Emunah Women of Toronto. $3

3:00 pm Klezmer Concert by the renowned French-Canadian Band, **Raoul**. Sponsored by du Maurier Arts and the Koffler Centre of the Arts. $7

4:00 pm Dr. Sherwin T. Wine, speaking on **Staying Sane in a Crazy World**. Sponsored by Secular Jewish Association. $3

7:00 pm Chana Weisberg speaking on **The Lives of Great Biblical Women Based Upon Rabbinic and Mystical Sources**. $3

8:00 pm Join **Olive Eye Productions** in celebrating Jewish Book Fair's 20th Anniversary. With **Michael Wax's Yiddishisms** and **CoolKlez** with French Canada's only klezmer band, **Raoul**. $12.

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פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

זונטיק, דעם 20-טן אָקטאָבער, וועט די יידישע קולטור געזעלשאַפט אין טאָראָנטאָ דורכפירן אַ ליטעראַריש-מוזיקאַלישן אָוונט, געווידמעט דער אַכציקסטער יאָרצייט פון שלום ראַבינאָ-וויטש — דער געניאַלער הומאָריסט און קלאַסיקער פון מאָדערנער יידישער ליטעראַטור, באַקאַנט איבעראַל ווי שלום עליכם.

ער איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין 1859 אין פערעיאַסלעוו, לעבן קיעוו, און איז אַוועק פון דער וועלט אין ניו-יאָרק אין עלטער פון 57 יאָר. ביי זיין לעבן איז ער געווען אַ פריוואַטער לערער, אַ קאַזיאָנער ראַבינער, אַ תבואה-סוחר און אַ בערזע שפּעקולאַנט. ער האָט געוווינט אין אָדעס, קיעוו, כאַרקאָוו און אַרומגערייזט איבער אייראָפּע. זיינע לעצטע יאָרן האָט ער אויסגעלעבט אין ניו-יאָרק.

מער פון אַלץ איז שלום עליכם געווען אַ פרוכטבאַרער שרייבער. עס האָט זיך אים לייכט געשריבן צו יעדער צייט און אויף יעדן אָרט, גייענדיק אויף דער גאַס אָדער פאַרנדיק אין דער באַן, אין דער היים ווי אין דער פרעמד. אין אַלעם, באַטרעפן זיינע געזאַמלטע ווערק אין יידיש אַרום 30 בענד.

פאַרשטענדלעך, אַז נישט אַלץ אין אָט דער גרויסער ליטעראַרישער ירושה איז פון דער זעלבער קוואַליטעט און אין דער זעלבער מאָס פון רייפקייט. אָבער גענוג און איבערגענוג איז פאַר בליבן, וואָס האָט אויסגעהאַלטן דעם עקזאַמען פון דער צייט און איז טייער, לעבעדיק און פריש ביז היינט צו טאָג, ווי מיט 80 יאָר צוריק. אָן ספק, אַז שלום עליכם איז געווען און פאַרבליבן דער סאַמע פאָפולערסטער און סאַמע באַליבטסטער יידישער שרייבער. און נישט בלויז יידישער, יוייל פיל פון שלום עליכמ'ס שאַפונגען זיינען איבערגעזעצט געוואָרן אין אַ צוויי צענדליק שפּראַכן.

דער שליסל צו שלום עליכמ'ס גוואַלדיקן דערפאָלג מוז מען, נאַטירלעך, זען אין זיין גאָט-געבענטשטן הומאָר, וואָס איז אַ זעלטענער זשאַנער אין דער יידישער ווי אין דער אַלגעמיינער ליטעראַטור. צווישן דער קליינער צאָל שרייבערס-הומאָריסטן מוז שלום עליכם פאַרדעכנט ווערן ווי איינער פון די גרעסטע. אין דער יידישער ליטעראַטור, ווי אין יידישן לעבן בכלל, איז הומאָר געווען אַ זעלטענע אייגנשאַפט. אין תנ"ך ווי אין דער תורה שבעל-פה האָבן דאָמינירט די געזעצן און אָנזאָגן, די שטראָפרייד פון די נביאים, און אין די מוסר-רייד אין דער רבנישער ליטעראַטור.

אין דער זעלבער צייט איז אָנגעגאַנגען אַן אונטערערדישער שטראָם פון פאָלקס-הומאָר און שפּילעוודיקן אָפּטימיזם, וואָס האָט געפונען איר אויסדרוק אין די וויצן און פריילעכע מעשיות פון די פאָלקס-וויצלערס, ווי מאָטקע כאַבאַד, הערשעלע אָסטראָפּאָלער א.אַ. די דאָזיקע טענדענץ צו לייכטער פריילעכקייט איז אויך בולט געקומען צו דער אויבערפלאַך אין די פריילעכע פורים שפּילן, שמחת תורה פאַרברענגעכצן און בעת משפחה שמחות. שלום עליכם האָט געשעפט פולע זשמעניעס פון אָט דער לייכטהאַר ציקער פאָלקס-טראַדיציע און עס פאַרוואַנדלט, דורך דער פריזמע פון זיין זשעני, אין דערהויבענעם און געלייטערטן הומאָר.

דאָס איז, נאַטירלעך, נישט געשען מיטאַמאָל. ער האָט זיך געמוזט ראַנגלען צו באַפרייען פון דער מַשכילישער סאַטירע, ספע ציעל פון מענדעלע מוכר ספרים, דעם זיידן פון דער נייער יידישער ליטעראַטור, וועמען שלום עליכם האָט באַוווּנדערט און פון וועמען ער האָט אַ סך געלערנט. פון דער צווייטער זייט האָט שלום עליכם געמוזט פירן אַ ביטערן קאַמף קעגן נחום שייקעוויטש, וואָס האָט, אונטערן פּסעוודאָנים שמר, פאַרפלייצט דעם דעמאָלסדיקן ליטע-ראַרישן מאָרק מיט ביליקע נאָוועלן און ראָמאַנסן, וואָס האָבן שטאָרק אויסגענומען ביים פשוטן עולם. כדי צו באַקעמפן די דאָזיקע שונד-ליטעראַטור נישט בלויז מיט אַן עפּנטלעכן משפט, האָט שלום עליכם אַליין געשאַפן אַ סעריע אייגענע יידישע ראָמאַנען: סענדער בלאַנק, סטעמפּעניו, יאָסעלע סאָלאָוויי, און, שפּעטער צו, וואַנדערנדיקע שטערן, דער מבול און דער בלוטיקער שפּאָס. די מערסטע פון זיי זיינען באַזירט אויפן לעבן פון דער יידישער באַ העמיע: קלעזמאָרים, וואַנדערנדיקע אַקטיאָרן א.אַ.

נאָכן באַפרייען זיך פון דער מַשכילישער סאַטירע און נאָכן אויפהייבן דעם ניוואָ פון יידישן מאָסן-לייענער, איז שלום ראַבינאָוויטש טראַנספאָרמירט געוואָרן אין שלום עליכם, דעם גוטהאַרציקן הומאָריסט.

דער לויטערער שלום עליכם געלעכטער וואָרעמט יידישע הערצער אומעטום און אין אַלע צייטן. אפילו אין די מורא'דיקע יאָרן פון חורבן-אייראָפּע, אין די געטאָס און אין די טויט-לאַגערן, האָבן שלום עליכמ'ס שריפטן געטראָגן היילונג און טרייסט פאַר די צעבראָכענע געמיטער. אין טעג פון אבלות און טרויער, ווי אין טעג פון פרייד און יום-טוב, וועט שלום עליכמ'ס וואָרט שטענדיק זיין געהערט און געשעצט.

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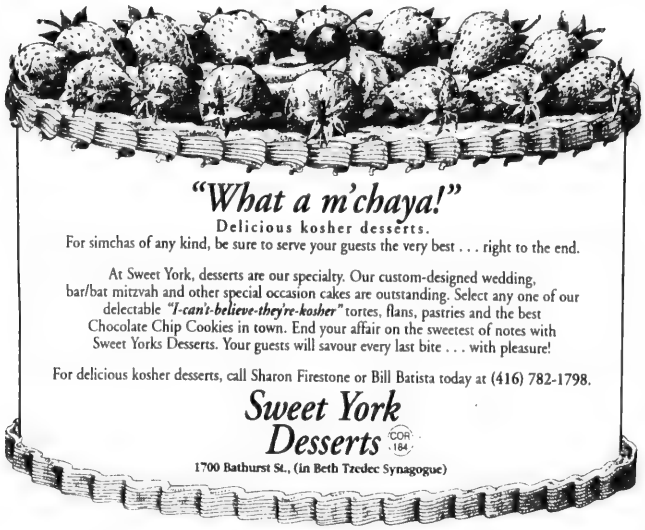

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For Shelley Enekave there's more to hair than meets the eye

Shelley Elnekave, owner of **Shelley's Hair Styling** in Toronto, is President of the National Academy of Hair Design. He has worked in Paris as director of C.A.T., the French hairdressers' association, was top stylist in his native Israel, and has conducted advanced professional seminars in Canada, the U.S. and Europe. Here in Canada, he has built a reputation as an expert in problem hair.

For Shelley, there is more to hairdressing than mere appearances; hair has lasting beauty only if it is healthy. He finds, however, that many hairdressers use the same harmful methods they did 15 or 20 years ago — with the result that many women suffer harm to their hair, and are afraid to have it permed or highlighted.

This, says Shelley, need not be so. He has discovered how to improve hair while you have it permed or coloured, using nucleic acid and placenta. "Placenta," he explains, "is a rich source of amino acids, which help restore chemically broken bonds in damaged hair."

His discovery is based on P.H. level, or alkaline content, of hair. "Natural hair," he says, "is about P.H.5; perms and colours are about 8-10. The higher the level, the more damage may occur. I reduce it to under P.H.5 — not just keeping hair safe, but improving it, giving it more lustre and resilience than it had before."

Oil, protein and henna treatments do nothing for hair, Shelley asserts. Hair does not absorb oils; we can produce only one of roughly half million types of protein in the human body; and henna is safe only because it coats the hair without penetrating it. "The trick is to enjoy the most beautiful array of colours available to us today, while eliminating alkaline deposits."

Shelley offers a few pointers on common hair problems. Some loss, he says, is natural due to shedding; and hair lost due to illness will grow back. At the same time, everyone's hair has a natural length, so don't worry, for example, if it won't grow past your shoulders. Wash it as often as you like, he advises: clean hair is healthy. As to shampoo, it's merely a cleanser, so the fragrance doesn't matter as long as it is acid balanced.

Shelley's Hair Styling is located at **504 Eglinton Avenue West**, (near Avenue Road), telephone **(416) 489-3100**.

Mr. Disc Jockey: Seamless Entertainment

Forget the guy with the rumpled jacket and a box of tapes. Forget the wisecracking MC with the old jokes. You and your guests deserve the best possible treatment from the people organizing the entertainment at your wedding or other special event; and Mr. Disc Jockey is there to make sure you get only the best.

Mr. Disc Jockey is more than someone to play music and introduce the band. It is an entertainment co-ordinating service, involving everything from music to floor plan. In some ways, owner Ed McMurtry says, entertainment co-ordinating is like catering. Good food — or in this case, good music — is necessary; but it's not enough. For the guests to enjoy themselves, the presentation must show style, grace and creativity.

This is especially the case when you celebrate a milestone event. A wedding, says McMurtry, is an important step in life to be treated with respect, elegance, and dignity. McMurtry and his team wear tuxedos and black ties; and they work in front of their equipment, not behind it. Mr. Disc Jockey is on display, as much as any of the entertainers are, and ready to be judged by appearances.

Mr. Disc Jockey's equipment is high-quality and state-of-the-art, and needs minimal attention. Time is saved by using CD's rather than tapes. In this way a requested song can be found in seconds. This flexibility ensures that all of your entertainment runs smoothly and on schedule.

Ambient sound level is an important part of the atmosphere at a special event. Mr. Disc Jockey's sound is big, pervades the room without being loud, and can be fed into a house sound system at low volume for an ambient cocktail/dinner background effect.

McMurtry devotes the same attention to lighting, staging and decor, as he does to music and sound. He makes great use of perimeter lighting, which often tends to create a friendlier ambience than overhead lights; and he has the equipment for special effects like pin-spotting tables.

The Mr. Disc Jockey team's attention to detail makes things easy for the client and party organizer. Two weeks before the wedding, every detail about the wedding is confirmed with the bride and groom, via Mr. Disc Jockey's wedding confirmation form; how they will enter the room; whether they will dance the first dance by themselves; if both their natural parents are attending etc. etc. During the evening, McMurtry and his team personally introduce themselves to the guests to get song requests; or, if the bride and groom prefer, they simply put request cards on the table for guests to fill out.

Seamless entertainment is a concept everyone at Mr. Disc Jockey firmly believes in. They work closely with bands and other entertainers when booked together, not to repeat the same material or have any "dead air" when changing over on stage which makes for a seamless transition.

The Mr. Disc Jockey team also enjoys interactive work with the guests, who often have more fun if they have some input. One can be interactive "they point out", and still be elegant.

McMurtry has 16 years' experience in entertainment co-ordination; 6 of those years are full-time. Over the years, Mr. Disc Jockey has grown and expanded, and has built a solid reputation for successful bar mitzvahs and weddings.

Mr. Disc Jockey now does shows across Canada and the U.S. This international experience is starting to be a selling point for the company, which is backed by its own professional production team, Edwin Allen Productions.

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For a hotel, the most valuable asset is a satisfied guest. At the Regal Constellation, you, our guest, are our greatest asset; and we want your wedding or other simcha to be special. Not only do we want you to recommend us to your friends, our job is to satisfy you; and we love our work.

So what's special about the Regal Constellation?

First, our ballrooms can be divided into sections so that we can alter our floor plan to suit your needs. Layout, and the way your guests move around the rooms, contribute to the ambience so this is one of the ways we help you make your simcha unique. Besides two main ballrooms, we have smaller rooms for intimate occasions (total banquet space of 100,000 sq. ft. including our Boardrooms).

Second, we offer many possible locations for your chuppah: under either of our two skylights, both of which open; or, if you like, in a separate ballroom. Also, all the rooms (separate reception halls, dining/dancing hall, change rooms, Yichud room) are conveniently situated under one roof on the ground floor.

Third, Regal Constellation has a permanent Kosher kitchen under strict supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.). Did you know that we've been catering Kosher functions for 18 years?

We can tailor a menu to suit any taste and budget; and we always maintain the high quality you expect from the Regal Constellation Hotel and our brilliant Chef Josef, who has been with us for over 25 years.

The Regal Constellation caters from 40 to 4,000, from private meetings to huge conventions; weddings with 200 to 1,000 guests, we take in our stride. No event is too small or too large.

Our talented team at Regal Constellation are happy to recommend photographers, videographers, florists, printers, entertainers and other professionals who have served our previous guests well.

If you book your wedding with us, we give you, for one night at no charge, a Bridal Suite, Yichud room (guest room on the main floor), and a Premium Guest room for each set of parents of the bride and groom. We also offer special room rates for any of your guests who stay over with us.

The Regal Constellation has parking for over 2,000 cars, and airport shuttle service at a nominal charge. We are located at **900 Dixon Road** in Etobicoke, near Pearson Airport. For information, please call our Kosher Catering Expert at **(416) 798-6400**.

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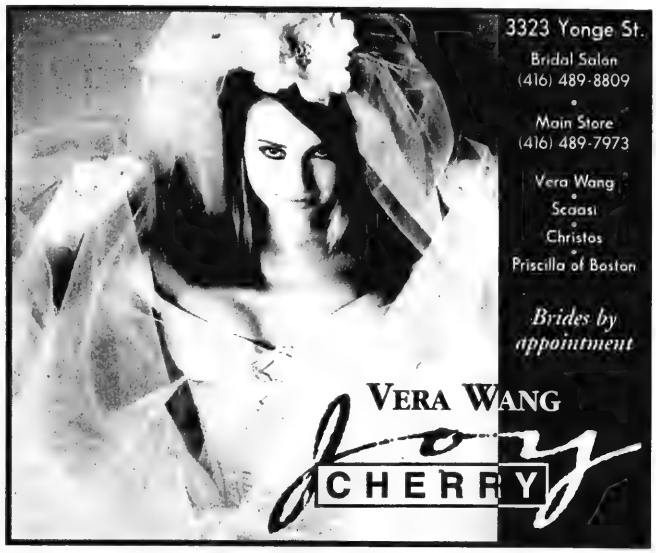

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EXCITEMENT ON BAYVIEW! Beth Tikvah offers new Kosher catering concept

Toronto is experiencing a new trend in kosher catering with the introduction of an open kitchen concept at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. It's all about choice, quality and value.

Beth Tikvah entered into an arrangement with four high quality, well experienced kosher caterers in the spring of 1996 and the reviews to date have been very enthusiastic. The four caterers are: **GMB Culinary Productions** in association with **Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers**; **Levy's Catering**; **Malmar Fine Foods and Catering**; and **Peter Graben Fine Foods Limited**.

"This project was months in preparation," says Beverley Holtzman, Catering Chair. "We gathered a committee whose members personify a diverse cross section of the Synagogue. There was representation from different ages and lifestyles, as well as input from foodservice professionals. Kosher caterers from across the city were invited to apply. Our very active catering committee then selected, based on a list of criteria and tasting presentations, the four fine caterers they felt would best service our clients' needs."

The new format means that families planning an event will have many choices in both style of service and value range among the caterers.

This innovative "open kitchen" concept is a first for Torontonians wishing to plan a kosher simcha in a synagogue with glatt kosher kitchen facilities, and we are proud that Beth Tikvah is leading the way. Beth Tikvah is the only Conservative synagogue in Toronto to offer this choice.

"Celebrating an important life cycle event in the synagogue brings to mind all the reminiscences and history of our traditions," explains Rabbi Wayne Allen, Beth Tikvah's spiritual leader.

Bev Holtzman added, "we hope the wide variety of choices available will lead people to consider Beth Tikvah as a viable option when planning in-synagogue functions."

Beth Tikvah Synagogue offers banquet halls capable of seating up to 450 guests, free parking and coat checking. It is easily reached by car or public transit, and is handicapped accessible.

In addition to the main sanctuary, Beth Tikvah's chapel is ideal for the smaller wedding, baby naming, brit milah and aufruf. The synagogue has recently commissioned two chuppahs by prominent Toronto artists Elaine Glassman and Haya Nativ which are available for use by the wedding party at no extra charge.

Beth Tikvah Synagogue and all four caterers are glatt kosher under the supervision of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth of Toronto (COR). Good booking dates are still available for 1997-1998 weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs or any other social function. Organizational and community events are welcome.

For further information please call Lillian Cornfield at **416-221-3433, ext. 307**.

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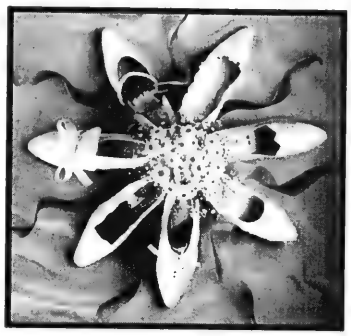

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All our caterers are Glatt Kosher and under supervision of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth of Toronto (COR)

Deblins offers helpful hints on shopping and caring for linens

Knowing what to look for and how to care for your bed, bath and table linens will help you enjoy your purchases for many years. Drawing on decades of experience in the linen business, Deblins' president **Ellis Chitiz** took some time out recently to offer the following helpful hints.

BUYING DUVETS

- **What to buy**. There are two popular types of duvets: down and synthetic. Each offer advantages, and which one you buy will depend on your needs and budget.

  - **Down**. If you want the very best, buy down; it retains body heat while allowing the duvet to breathe, keeping you warm in winter and cool in summer. Deblins recommends only **white goose down**, which offers the most warmth at the least weight. In this respect it far surpasses the cheaper duck down or feathers.

    The duvet outer casing should be 100% cotton, downproof, with the highest possible thread count — preferably over 200. Duvets come in three types of construction: box, channel and Karostep. Deblins recommends **box** construction, because it keeps the down evenly distributed and eliminates cold spots; a "baffle" wall keeps the down contained within the boxed walls, yet allows it to breathe.

  - **Synthetic**. If saving a bit more money is your priority — or if you're allergic to down — opt for a good synthetic like the "Thermoloft" duvet, which contains the same light, warm, non-allergenic Dupont fibres used in skiwear. It has the convenience of being machine washable, which will save you money each time you need to clean your duvet.

One general hint: for duvets, it's wise to **shop Canadian**.

BUYING SHEETS

- **What to buy**. Look for a **percale** sheet with a high thread count (minimum 180 threads per square inch; for optimum quality, 200-310 threads per square inch). A high thread count means a tight weave, which makes for a smoother, longer-lasting sheet. Different manufacturers use varying grades of cotton, so learn to read the labels and benefit from the expertise of the sales staff. You'll find the staff at Deblins particularly helpful.

  Although 100% cotton is most comfortable, the majority of sheets are a 50-50 blend of cotton and polyester. The latter offers a combination of comfort, easy care and freedom from wrinkles.

- **Caring for sheets.** Wash sheets in cold water, and set the dryer on "warm". **Never use bleach,** and ask your salesperson which detergents he or she recommends; some commercial detergents can cause fading and damage. Percale sheets should not have little fuzz balls or "pills" after washing; these are usually caused by excess heat in the washer and/or dryer.

- **Stocking up.** If you see a design you like, buy all the matching pieces you think you may eventually want or need — not only the sheets but also the pillowcases, shams, bedskirts, and other accessories. No matter how much you love a particular pattern, it could be discontinued at any time. The bottom line is, if you love it, buy it now.

BUYING TOWELS

- **What to buy.** Choose 100% cotton. Avoid velour or blended towels: they may feel good at first, but absorb limited moisture. For absorbency, quality American brands like **Fieldcrest** (including the *Royal Velvet*, *Waverley* and *Charisma* lines, all available at Deblins) are unsurpassed. In addition to towels, Deblins also carries matching bath rugs and accessories in Fieldcrest's full range of fashion-forward colours. Other top lines like *Royalton* by **Bibb** are also available.

- **Caring for towels**. Some of the deeper-toned towels take a few washes to shed surface dye. This is normal, and the towels won't fade. If you're concerned, add a cup of salt to the first wash to hold the dyes firm. **Never** wash towels with bleach. Do not put fabric softener in the dryer with your towels.

BUYING TABLECLOTHS

- **What to buy.** Start by jotting down your **table measurements**. If you don't recall them, use the number of people your table can seat comfortably as a guideline. A table which seats six generally needs a 60" x 84" cloth; a table for eight to ten, 60" x 102".

- For everyday or informal use, a polyester **"Visa"** cloth is ideal: it needs no ironing, is machine washable, and won't absorb stains. At Deblins you will find Visa cloths in 17 colours and all sizes.

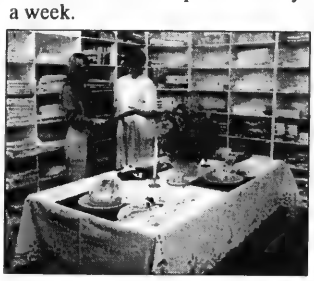
- For special occasions, a traditional look can be achieved with **Damask**: a cloth with a design woven in that complements fine dinnerware and adds a finishing touch to the decor. Cutwork and Battenburg lace enhance a formal dinner. Even when the table is not in use, an all-lace cloth gives the dining room an air of elegance and refinement.

Deblins offers a myriad of accessories, from napkins and napkin rings to cork place mats in a large variety of scenes and matching coasters.

BRIDAL REGISTRY

If you're a bride-to-be — or shopping for one — Deblins' **Bridal Registry** takes all of the guesswork, but none of the pleasure, out of the gift-giving process. Amid Deblins' vast range of quality merchandise are every item you'd expect in a "linen" store and many more — like shower curtains, of which Deblins carries hundreds.

Deblins' largest store, the Superstore at 39 Orfus Road, has 10,000 square feet devoted just to linens. Deblins also has stores in The Promenade Mall at Bathurst and Centre Street, and the Mississauga Home and Design Centre at Winston Churchill and Dundas Street. All three stores are open seven days a week.



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Making sure that a wedding goes well involves hundreds of details. Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will take care of them all under one roof, meaning less stress on the wedding party, and more enjoyment for everyone — bride, groom, family and friends.

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto hosts wedding parties of 40 to 150 people, starting at $80.00 per guest, plus gratuity and taxes.

When you book your function at this marvelously mid-sized downtown hotel, which offers free parking for all members of the bridal party, you'll find something special in store for both bride and groom.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a one-hour cocktail reception featuring complimentary piano player, open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This is followed by an elegant four-course dinner with imported wine, and sparkling wine afterwards for toasts. There is a four-hour host bar after dinner, and coffee and tea service at midnight.

The bride and groom may enjoy two complimentary nights at an Inter-Continental hotel in New York, Washington D.C., Miami, New Orleans, Los Angeles, or San Francisco. Or, there is the alternative of one free room on the wedding night for every $1,000 spent, to a maximum of five nights. For example, if there are 70 guests at $80 each, totalling $5,600, there would be five complimentary rooms for the bride and groom to offer family and friends. (These figures do not include taxes and gratuity.)

Rates start at $155 for a single or double room, with special rates during the slow season. When they arrive on their wedding night, the bride and groom receive a complimentary suite and chilled champagne. Before setting out next morning on their honeymoon, they are served a continental breakfast (sliced fruit, Danish pastry, croissants and coffee).

If you wish, Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will be pleased to organize every aspect of your wedding within the domain of the hotel, from flowers to entertainment. The catering manager will attend to every detail to ensure all goes smoothly. This level of service is in keeping with Hotel Inter-Continental's profile: it's a "boutique hotel" for individual business travellers, families, intimates and small groups (and possibly a celebrity or two in search of privacy and quiet).

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto is located at 220 Bloor Street West, just west of Avenue Road, across from the Royal Conservatory of Music. For more information, ask for the catering manager at **(416) 960-5200**.

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At Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto, we make any *simcha* elegantly distinctive and respectfully traditional. Celebrate in one of our elegant reception rooms with up to 250 guests, or under the stars in our outdoor courtyard. And enjoy a special *Mazel Tov* gift – a complimentary overnight stay for every $1,000 you spend on Food & Beverage.

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From headpieces and earrings to gowns and shoes Duette carries all the finest products to make the bride and her bridal party look extra-special.

Anna DiRenzo, designer and buyer for the almost 45 year old family-run business says that from the moment a bride walks into the store, she is put at ease. "We like our clients to shop at leisure without pressure. We want them to look around, talk to us and really know what they want before they make any decisions.".

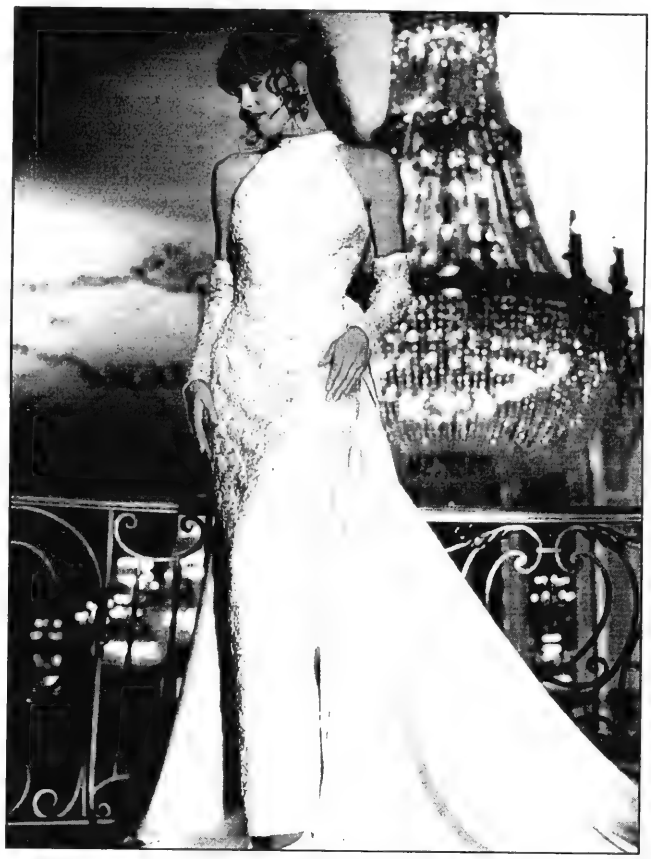
At Duette, brides can have a gown created from scratch, make structural changes to enhance the framework of an original gown or choose from gowns already in the store. Whatever they choose, the expert staff provides clients with maximum care from the moment they arrive until they leave with gown in hand. "I am not happy until my client is satisfied. I know when they fee comfortable with their gown," says DiRenzo.

With over 400 bridal gowns in stock at any one time, she says that more than half of the brides who come in for a custom-made gown find what they want in the store. "We carry designers such as Scaasi, Milady or Amsale and any gown can be customized. Sometimes it is just a matter of making the neck higher, the sleeves longer or the bodice changed. We can reconstruct a size 12 gown to fit a size 6 woman or alter a gown if the bride's figure changes. Every change can be accommodated."

DiRenzo, who attends New York and European trade shows advises brides to shop for their gowns at least 8 or 10 months in advance, if possible. "This gives them time to wait for that perfect lace, the exact trim — whatever they want. I don't feel comfortable when clients do not get exactly what they had their heart set on.

"When shopping for a gown, do not overshop — including Duette choose only 2 or 3 salons because seeing too many gowns can be confusing. Also, pay close attention to service and feel free to ask questions. Your consultant should be knowledgeable and confident in answering your questions and should give you all the time you need. Buying a wedding gown is not a time to be rushed."

She also advises brides to scour bridal magazines and tear out pictures that are most appealing. "Go through these pictures and eliminate your second choices. The remaining photos are a great start when choosing a gown. From there we can make a sketch, change the sleeves, lengthen the skirt — it does not have to look just like the picture, it just gives the bride an idea of where to begin."



What is the fashion statement for today's bride? "Although the look is divided from simple to ornate, bridal fashion today is very much a 1960's or 70's look," says DiRenzo. "We may see an empire line gown topped with a guippure lace bodice or a Jackie Onassis-type sleeveless gown with a gold-trimmed scooped neck. Of course, everything can be made more modest for the wedding ceremony. The sleeveless gown can come with a short jacket and I have made snap-off cap sleeves for an off-the-shoulder gown. Anything can be done to any gown. Long gowns are still important and most are in satin, chiffon, silk and peau de soie. Many silk gowns are in an eggshell colour," she says.

No matter what style is chosen, Duette has a gown to fit every budget without compromising style or quality. "We have a selection of discount bridal gowns that cost no more than $600. **Once a year we convert the entire store into a bridal warehouse. Gowns that normally sell for thousands of dollars can be bought for as little as $800," DiRenzo says. The next warehouse sale will take place Oct. 17, 18 & 19.**

Bridesmaids gowns are an important part of Duette's business and DiRenzo says that although some brides like to have their attendants in gowns with similar necklines and sleeves most choose a colour scheme and allow the bridesmaids to pick their own gown. "Most of all, bridesmaids want wearable clothing. They want a gown they can wear again and again. I appreciate that when I custom-make or customize their dress. Mothers of the bride and groom can choose from a wide selection of gowns, dresses or suits or a custom design."

Accessories are not forgotten at Duette and DiRenzo always has shoes, customized headpieces, undergarments, gloves and jewellery on hand. "Accessories complement the gown and we want the bride to be able to shop at our store for everything. We even arrange for esthetic services such as make-up and waxing. We appreciate how busy todays' brides are and we want to be there to help."

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"As a wedding co-ordinator who has worked with Stuart on numerous occasions, I highly recommend his services. He is professional, efficient and most important, he is fun to work with. That is why I chose him as my photographer when I got married."

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"A photographer can make or break your wedding day. Stuart made ours. Capturing the sheer joy we all felt, on film forever. The problem we encountered was actually deciding which of the photographs we liked the best. Every shot was a winner."

— Sara Levine Petroff & Steven Petroff

"We have used Stuart Moscoe on many occasions for weddings and family portraits. He was always easy to deal with, and the quality of his work is excellent. We would not hesitate to recommend him when quality work is required."

— Elaine & Jerry Cooper

"Stuart Moscoe was easy to work with and very comforting on our hectic wedding day. The work he produced was highly creative, and the quality was excellent. We were thrilled, and we have referred him to many of our friends."

— Jason & Stacey Cloth

"We get raves for the pictures Stuart did for our son's wedding. Everybody loves them, and they ask who the photographer is."

— Jerry & Karen Papernick

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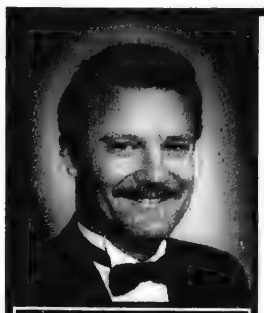

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Dear Greg: August 11, 1996

We are writing you to let you know how happy we were having you as our photographer for Marnie and Mark's wedding. We were absolutely thrilled with the engagement pictures Greg, you certainly know how to make people you are working with feel comfortable. You always have a big smile on your face when you are at work no matter what you are feeling. Everyone in our wedding party felt totally at ease and I know how important that was for all of us. Marnie and Mark have told me numerous times how much they enjoyed working with you. Thank you so much for helping us get through the entire day and evening without a glitch. Greg, I have absolutely no reservations in referring you to anyone. In fact, I have gone out of my way to refer you. You should feel extremely proud of your work. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely, Janice and Morrie Goldsmith

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Stavros, as he prefers to be called, is a master tailor who has been making hand-sewn suits for celebrities and influential executives for 45 years. The Yorkville shop that bears his name is located at 95 Cumberland St.

Stavros says his clients come from as far away as England and San Francisco because they want the quality craftsmanship he offers: a Stavros suit is hand-sewn and the cloth comes from the finest mills in the world.

The fit distinguishes a finely hand-crafted suit from a factory-made one, he says: "a made-to-measure suit should fit like a glove." To that end, he creates an individual pattern for each garment he makes. The results, from jackets with superbly tapered waists to shirts that fit correctly at every joint, are far more flattering than loose-fitting factory-made garments.

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Stavros and Kennedy attend the top trade shows in the world to find the finest quality accessories — ties, socks, sweaters, etc. — for their clients. Stavros also carries an exclusive line of black tie accessories.

Stavros makes suits fit for kings. But such fine craftsmanship is a dying art, he laments. "When the master tailors of my generation retire, these fine suits will no longer be available."

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Bronson's China and Gifts has a reputation for service. Satisfied customers don't just come back; they bring new customers, and recommend Bronson's to friends and relatives. Thousands have turned to Bronson's Bridal Registry for gifts they cherish years after the wedding.

Bronson's spacious Thornhill store opened in 1979. For midtown customers and brides, owner Ilene Bronsteter has now opened a new 3,000 sq. ft. store, in Lawrence Plaza.

Bronson's Bridal Registry, one of Canada's best, can accommodate every budget and taste with its huge selection of quality china, dinnerware, flatware, stemware, kitchen items and giftware. Contemporary and traditional patterns from around the world include Rosenthal, Mikasa, Noritake, Wedgewood, Fitz & Floyd, Villeroy and Boch, Royal Doulton, and beautiful hand-painted Italian designs.

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Besides the best prices on gifts and china, Bronson's offers special services including gift wrapping, same-day delivery and telephone orders. Stock is constantly updated; and as the inventory and Bridal Registry are computerized, service is prompt, and your list stays up to date.

Bronson's Thornhill store, located at 2 Steeles Avenue West, is open Monday-Saturday 9:30 -6, Thursday till 9, and Sunday 12 noon-5.; phone **(905) 881-9930**. The Lawrence Plaza location is open Monday-Thursday 10-9-, Friday and Saturday 10-6, and Sunday 12 noon-5; phone **(416) 256-9930**. For cross-Canada orders, call toll-free: **1-800-387-2766**.

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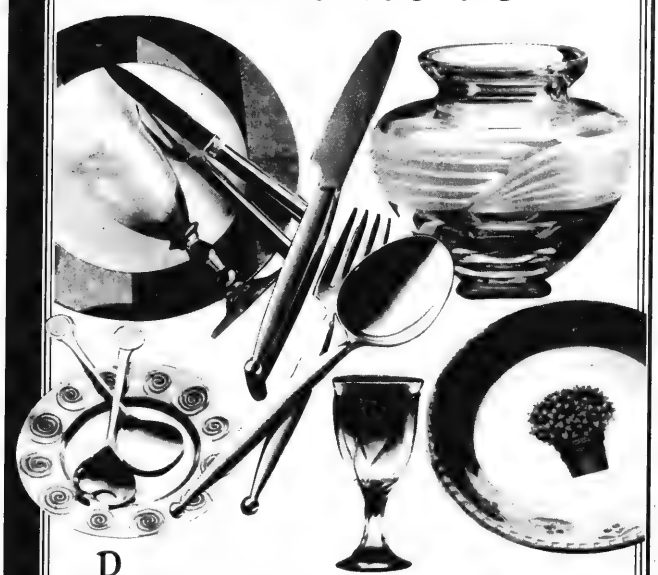

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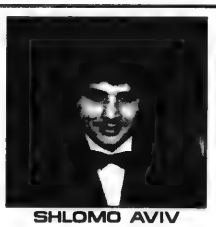

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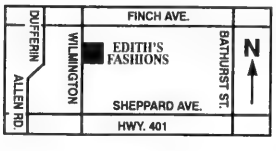

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The decor is Contemporary Canadian. Venetian blinds allow you to enjoy the natural light, yet control its intensity; the gleam of the white linens contrasts with the warm, polished tones of Canadian hardwood. The dining rooms offer a stark beauty that sits well on its own; all you may want to add for your event is a floral centrepiece.

Canoe offers a spectrum of dishes, representing Canada from coast to coast: Yukon potatoes, wild rice and northern field greens; rabbit, venison, rock hen or duck. Co-chefs Anthony Walsh and Todd Clarmo vary the menus with the seasons. There are many fish dishes, from crab to Arctic char — and sushi with a Canadian flavor, prepared by sushi chef Timothy Ng. For any special occasion, Canoe offers the kind of environment and fare that will always be remembered amid the lifelong collage of standard banquet hall events.

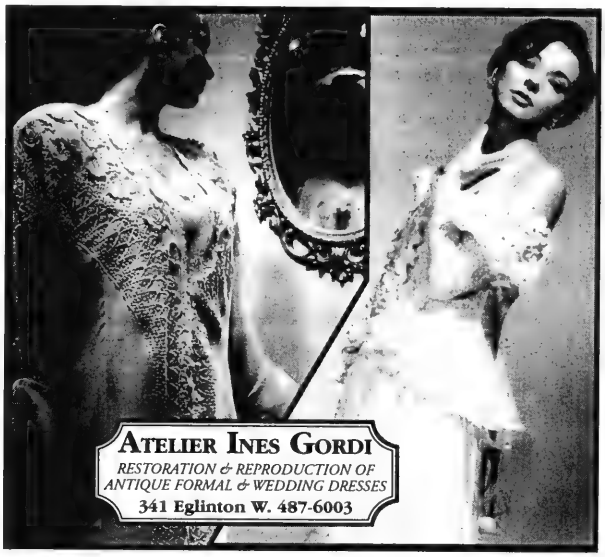
Canoe's extensive wine list includes private consignments of rare wines, both New World and Old World. There are plenty of ice wines, and a fine list of Canadian vintages, mainly from Ontario.

Canoe's main dining room seats 120; for special events, it can be transformed to seat 160. There is also a private lounge for up to 20, and a private dining room for 40. To accommodate special events like weddings, the rooms are designed for versatility; the private lounge, for example, can become an entertainment area for the kids, while you and your friends enjoy your meal in the dining room. The private lounge and dining room can also be combined for up to 60 seated guests, or 100 for cocktails.

Canoe provides customized meals and vegetarian orders on request, and will custom-print group menus with your guests' names.

Hours are Monday to Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.; the bar is open from 11:30 a.m. till closing. Except for special events, Canoe is closed on weekends. After 5:30 p.m. and on weekends, there is complimentary parking.

For dinner and lunch reservations, call (416) 364-0054; to book your wedding, call Monica Peschmann at (416) 364-1211.



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Judy ensures that the utmost care is given to every detail of a cruise vacation. "With the ever-increasing number of ships and itineraries, it is important that the right 'shidach' is made between the client's needs, budget and the choice of cruise ships and itineraries," Judy maintains.

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Jack Ritché received his fashion training in Europe, then came to Canada. Here, in his first store at Bloor and Avenue Rd., he soon established a reputation as a leading couturier designer – and not only in Toronto. He has outfitted local and national celebrities, as well as thousands of brides across Canada.

Jack's daughter Vivian joined the family business in 1981. Soon after, Ritché expanded, adding the Avenue Road location; today, Vivian and her husband Arthur Prussky operate two successful bridal salons. Meanwhile, Jack Ritché still personally attends to customers, and finds a creative outlet in designing dresses for brides and mothers in fine fabrics and laces from around the world.

The imported and Canadian bridal gown collections feature designers such as Alfred Sung, Mori Lee, Paloma Blanca, Alfred Angelo, Jai International, Moonlight, Mon Cherie, and Jessica McClintock. It is the Ritché Originals and custom design service, though, that set Ritché apart from other bridal salons.

Vivian says her father has always followed the principle that "What the bride wants, the bride gets" – even though it means working harder, going that extra step to get it exactly right. Vivian and her husband still follow this principle; and the thank-you cards and notes they receive prove that it works.

In fact, the general public have recently nominated Ritché as "Toronto's Favorite Bridal Salon". This is the third year in a row for Ritché to achieve this Toronto Sun Readers Award.

Customers vary greatly, from those who know what they want the moment they see it, to those who carefully ponder every detail. Serving the customer to the best of one's ability means offering guidance which is based on decades of knowledge and experience, yet tailored to individual tastes and desires.

Ritché' has one of the largest selections of bridal wear available in Toronto. Brides-to-be can choose from any one of the hundreds of styles in the salon, or have one custom-made to their own desires. There is something here for every bride, for every taste and theme, elegantly simple or opulently elaborate, traditional, contemporary or avant-garde.

Ritché takes pride in pleasing even the customer with very particular tastes. "In fact," says Vivian, "the real test of excellence is the customer with the most discriminating tastes." Often, moreover, those who are hardest to please are the most loyal, and therefore the best long-term source of recommendations to new customers.

Ritché's spacious three-level Avenue Rd. store features an entire floor of wedding dresses. Relaxing in private consultation rooms, brides make their selections with the assistance of friendly, knowledgeable consultants. Meanwhile, mothers, bridesmaids, flower girls and wedding guests can browse through a wide selection of gowns, special-occasion dresses, suits, evening wear, party dresses, and accessories including jewelry and shoes.

If you are in search of a bargain, visit Ritché's Factory Clearance Store on Richmond St. West at Spadina Ave. Here you will find a large selection of wedding gowns in a wide range of styles and sizes, marked from 20%-70% off retail prices.

For the major events in your life, choosing and deciding must be allowed plenty of time. As you will want to make repeat visits over several months – not only for the bride's gown, but for the mother's suit, bridesmaids' and flower girls' gowns, and accessories – visit or call Ritché's soon.

Ritché

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Appointments preferred

423 Richmond St. West
(SW. corner of Spadina)
(416) 504-2349
No appointment needed

From coast to coast

Jewish student centre dedicated at McMaster U

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Beit Menachem Jewish Student Centre was dedicated here recently, almost a year after it opened its doors as McMaster University's first Jewish student centre.

McMaster University president Dr. Peter George welcomed Beit Menachem, located just outside the campus, and thanked the Jewish community for its "generous gift to our [university] community."

Rabbi Morton Green of Adas Israel Congregation and dean of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and Yeshiva Beit Yitzchak, observed that increasing numbers of Jewish students are attracted to McMaster, and welcomed Beit Menachem as "a home away from home" that would "permit the Jew to be himself and part of society."

On behalf of the Lubavitch movement, Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum, executive vice-president of Chabad Lubavitch, Southern Ontario, and Rabbi Mordechai Berger, Young Israel director of Chabad and dean of Ottawa's Maimonides School and Yeshiva Birchas Menachem, also extended congratulations.

Hamilton United Jewish Appeal co-chair Dr. Cheryl Klein brought greetings from the federation, and Lisa Isen, vice-president of the McMaster Jewish Student Association, a fourth-year sociology student from Toronto, spoke on behalf of the university's Jewish students.

Rabbi Zalman Itkin, director of Chabad Lubavitch, Hamilton, presented the founders of Beit Menachem — Joseph, Daniel and Jacqueline Snajdman; Herb and Cece Schreiber; Lorne and Brenda Richter; Mark and Anne Mandell; and Stephen and Sharon Lax — with a shofar mounted on wood.

Dr. Peter George at dedication of Jewish student centre.

New JNF shaliach arrives in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – "My wife Malka says she feels like we are in Little Israel," says Yoseph Adar, Winnipeg's new Jewish National Fund shaliach of the city he will call home for the next three years.

Adar arrived here in late August to succeed Ze'ev Kedem who returned to Israel at the end of June. This is Adar's first JNF posting. For the past 14 years, he has served as director-general of Tel Aviv's Association for Tourism. Before that, he had been director of Public Information Services for the Tel Aviv-Jafo municipality and assistant to Tel Aviv's acting mayor.

Adar was born in Bulgaria in 1935. He and his family came to Palestine in 1944 after the Red Army occupied Bulgaria.

Besides representing the JNF in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Adar will also be travelling to Alberta every few weeks. Alberta was recently made part of a single Prairie JNF region.

Look who is becoming a TORONTONIAN

Okay, so it may not be declared an historical site...

It's the soon-to-be-former head office of *The Canadian Jewish News* (We're moving onward and northward) and as of November 5 it will be available on a six month sublease basis at a remarkable rate.

Located at 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills (1/2 mile south of the Ontario Science Centre), 8430 sq. ft. net rentable, $1 per ft. net rental plus Common Area Expense. Call Gary Laforet at (416) 422-2331 for details

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Prices effective Sunday, October 6 thru Saturday, October 12, 1996
All Fortinos stores will be closed Thanksgiving Monday, October 14
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From coast to coast

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wishes to express our sincere appreciation
to our family and friends for the thoughtfulness
and generosity extended to us during our recent bereavement.
Goldie Feldman, Florence Landman
and Deenie Stulberg

BETH EMETH BAIS YEHUDA SYNAGOGUE
is pleased to announce the dedication of
The Hebrew School Wing
in memory of
SHEVA FISCHTEIN ז"ל
mother of
Goldie Konopny, Edna Sherman and Morris Fischtein
to take place after Shabbat morning services
October 19th, 1996
Everyone Welcome
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The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
presents a
Gala Reception Evening
on **October 30** at **8:00 p.m.**
of
Still The Night
Written by Theresa Tova
Featuring Theresa Tova & Liza Balkan
at **Theatre Passe Muraille,**
16 Ryerson Avenue, Toronto
Limited number of tickets available.
For further details please contact
The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
at 905-660-6028

Ground Breaking at Chabad Lubavitch of Markham

It is with great pleasure that the Jewish community of Thornhill, Ontario announce the Ground Breaking Ceremony which heralds the commencement of the building of a new Synagogue.

Every member of the community is invited to join prominent dignitaries, local politicians and distinguished Rabbis.
Witness history in the making and the final realization of our community's dream.
The ceremony will take place on October 13, 1996 at 4.30 pm at the building site at 83 Green Lane, Thornhill.

Light refreshments will be served.

All are invited! We hope to see you there to celebrate with us!!

Please R.S.V.P. to:
Chabad Lubavitch of Markham Tel no: (905) 886-0420

BB, CJC-Q vie for attention in the Matzahgate deal

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), came under a barrage of criticism recently for striking a Passover imports deal with the Office de Langue Francaise (OLF).

Opinion

But let's try to settle this thing once and for all, OK? From an objective standpoint, did CJC-Q really deserve all that flack? And wasn't the uproar as much about community turf wars as it was about how "kosher" the deal itself was?

The first thing to realize is that if the "other side" in Matzahgate had been a Liberal government, a similar stink would in all probability not have been raised.

The difference now is that the Quebec political climate has become so poisoned and polarized since the referendum, that it's almost reached the point where any contact with the separatist government is seen as collaborating with the enemy.

The CJC did agree to use its "moral authority" over "interested parties" — a phrase even CJC officials now privately admit could have been better chosen. But the role of CJC-Q, the Vaad Ha'ir and the Communaute Sepharade du Quebec (CSQ) truly does not go beyond informing importers and retailers — before Passover — about the 68-day time limit for Passover products. No more, no less.

Should the Jewish community have actually put its signature to the pact?

In retrospect, maybe not. CJC-Q probably could have avoided the controversy by demanding that the OLF unliterally recognize the Jewish community's rights. It's hard to imagine the OLF not eventually giving in.

On the other hand, the agreement was no big deal and it was not "secret," as B'nai Brith (BB) repeatedly charged.

Maybe Congress could have played a meaner game of poker with the OLF, but signing the pact was no different than what BB did with CJC in 1982, when they agreed on a League for Human Rights document to work with the Commission de Surveillance de la Langue Francaise towards francisizing *all* kosher imports. And as evidence increasingly suggests, BB was perfectly prepared to sign its own deal with the OLF.

And the deal was certainly not "secret." Its progress was followed in *The CJN*, with the involvement of the CSQ and Vaad reported last June. Contact between the CJC-Q and OLF was no more "secret" than that between BB and the OLF during the negotiations period.

This brings us back to the turf wars question. When all is said and done, how much of BB's harsh opposition to the pact was in good faith and how much was just an effort to play media catch-up with CJC-Q?

Of course, we will never know. But whatever BB's motive, it was irresponsible to compare CJC-Q's actions with — *l'havdil*! — that of the Judenrat of wartime Europe. Such comparisons are indeed "odious," just as CJC-Q said.

Whether BB likes it or not, CJC-Q is the organization mandated by the Jewish community to be its "parliament," its representative body. So while BB has every right to express its views and to make its own contacts with the OLF, CJC does have a responsibility to try to find a resolution with the OLF.

CJC-Q probably was right in saying that BB criticized the deal because it had been left "out of the loop." But at the same time, such criticism seems disingenuous coming from an organization that is just as preoccupied with getting its share of the media spotlight.

In other words, CJC-Q and BB have been equally culpable in clamoring for media attention, sometimes to the point where the real issues facing the community have become secondary. And here was a perfect example.

In retrospect, both behaviors were out of keeping with two worthy organizations' community responsibilities.

CJC conference set for Edmonton

EDMONTON — The national small communities committee (NSCC) of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) will hold a leadership development conference at the Royal West Edmonton Inn Nov. 1 to 3, with the theme Strengthening Our Resources: Are We Up to the Challenge?

The conference is geared specifically to those in small communities who will be able to benefit from the programming, according to NSCC co-chairs Ellen Freedman of Burquest, B.C., and Myra Freeman of Halifax, N.S. Cost of registration is $125, which includes GST, five meals and conference material.

Speakers, presenters and facilitators over the weekend will include CJC president Goldie Hershon, national executive chair Renee Switzer Bellas, Quebec region executive director Jack Jedwab, McGill University assistant professor of Psychiatry Dr. Ilana P. Spector, Mount Saint Vincent University professor Sheva Medjuck and Travel Israel (Winnipeg) director Roberta Malam. Federal Minister of Natural Resources Anne McLellan is scheduled to be a keynote speaker.

For more information, contact Shellie Ettinger at 514-931-7531 (extension 254) or Lesley Jacobson at 403-487-5120. Enquiries can also be sent by e-mail to [shelliee@cjc.ca].

During the same weekend meetings will be held in Edmonton of CJC's national community relations committee and law and social action committee.

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ASK FOR OTHER IN-STORE SPECIALS

From coast to coast

Separatist-Jewish animosity spills into Commons

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — The growing animosity between Quebec Jews and hard-line separatists rebounded with ugliness in the Commons last week.

The Federal Liberals tried to link Bloc Québécois leader Michel Gauthier to racist, anti-Semitic remarks made by separatist Raymond Villeneuve in a radio interview the previous week.

The Bloc Québécois MPs felt obliged to come to their leader's defence quickly and loudly.

It was not a pretty scene, with dark innuendoes and pointed accusations flying back and forth across the floor of the Green Chamber.

The whole thing began a week earlier in Montreal when Villeneuve, a former member of the Front de Libération du Québec, the leader of a new fringe political party, Le mouvement de libération nationale du Québec, made some intemperate remarks against Jews and anglophones.

What is suspicious about Villeneuve is that while his remarks have not won over any converts to separatism, they have put the entire mainstream separatist movement on the defensive and linked it to racism and anti-Semitism in the minds of some Quebecers.

It is not easy to figure out Villeneuve's agenda.

Villeneuve was holding forth recently on a popular CKVL radio talk show in Verdun hosted by the suave, eloquent and erudite Pierre Pascau. (He may not have known that Pascau is a Jew from North Africa and the radio station is owned by a prominent Montreal Jewish family.)

Pascau, pushing Villeneuve to the limit, asked him if bombs could eventually be used against Howard Galganov.

Villeneueve replied that "it could come to bombs, or more simple methods such as Molotov cocktails."

Nice talk eh? Undaunted, Villeneuve followed up with a newsletter on the following Sunday which happened to be the eve of Yom Kippur. (But Villeneuve probably wouldn't know the difference between a Jewish holiday and a Holiday Inn!)

"If there is trouble after Quebec becomes independent, nationalists will remember who was against them," Villeneuve wrote. "The major groups fighting separation like Alliance Quebec and the Equality Party were founded by Jews and it's continuing today."

(Wrong again! Both groups were founded by a wide variety of anglophones. Jews were there, but so were Protestants and Catholics, and for that matter, blue-eyed people, and even bald-headed people. It all depends which group in society you want to single out for your own special hatred.)

In the minds of some people, because Villeneuve is a separatist and Bouchard is also a separatist, then Bouchard is responsible for Villeneuve. (Sound like the logic the PQ used on the Canadian Jewish Congress in the Galganov affair?)

Mount Royal Liberal MP Sheila Finestone told the Commons that "the threatening comments made by convicted criminal Raymond Villeneuve particularly against the Jewish community on the eve of their holiest day, Yom Kippur, was an act of hatred and anti-Semitism that cannot be tolerated."

She said a police investigation was not enough — Villeneuve should be prosecuted under Canada's anti-hate laws.

Ahuntsic Bloc Québécois MP Michel Daviault described Villeneuve as "an extremist whose revolting remarks have been unanimously condemned."

Daviault has become somewhat of the Bloc's point man in the continuing acrimony between Jews and separatists. It was Daviault who was chosen to go on Peter Gzowski's *Morningside* show on CBC radio recently to defend Gauthier after his disastrous visit to the CJC.

Daviault pointed out to the Commons that Gauthier was the first political leader "to disassociate himself from and condemn these remark by Villeneuve, saying they did not reflect the views of any member of the sovereigntist movement in Quebec."

Daviault said it was "totally inadmissable" for any MP to try to link Gauthier to Villeneuve.

(Why is it always harder to clean the mud off than to throw it on in the first place?)

With friends like Villeneuve, the separatist movement doesn't need federalists.

Hate crimes discussed

VANCOUVER — Six senior officers of Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P) met here recently with British Columbia Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh to discuss the province's initiatives on hate crimes.

Dosanjh said an anti-hate and anti-bias team is being set up to investigate the nature and scope of hate crime in B.C., to disseminate information, and to interact with communities concerned with hate activities. The team will include one full-time liaison officer, one Crown counsel, two policy analysts and two police representatives.

Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of CJC-P, told the attorney general that "we look forward to working with members of the team. Its establishment is a major step forward in recognizing and fighting hate in our province."

The CJC officers were told that amendments made by the legislature to the Human Rights Act will take effect early in 1997. This will include action under section 2 of the act, which deals with discriminatory publications.

Watch for our GRAND OPENING details in the CJN Oct. 24...

Advertisement

PARADISE OFFERS CLIENTS THE ULTIMATE IN KOSHER CUISINE

Since Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre opened its Kosher kitchen 5 years ago, it has doubled its business each year — bringing you the ultimate in delicious food, with service and ambience to match.

Award-winning Chef Gregory is an experienced international chef, with a talent for inventing exquisite dishes with unique tastes. Among Chef Gregory's recent creations are: Fusile Primavera, a flavourful 3-colour pasta with a julienne of fresh vegetables in a tomato sauce seasoned with garlic and fresh basil; and Chicken Saté, skewers of barbequed chunks of succulent boneless chicken marinated in a sauce made with fresh garlic, ginger, coriander and lime. Let the expertise of Gregory and staff tantalize your palate; the above are but a few choices. Paradise also offers unsurpassed Israeli, Russian, Moroccan, and Middle Eastern specialties.

Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre is a family business with a 32-year tradition of personal service. All servers are dressed in tuxedos and white gloves. Food is both delicious and abundant and seconds are offered on every course. All packages are at the best competitive prices.

To continue this trend, Paradise is celebrating its first five years with a 5th Anniversary "Value Added Package" for upcoming bar & bat mitzvahs and weddings. This offer is available for a limited time only.

Paradise features five rooms, each with a different atmosphere, to seat as few as 20 or as many as 1500. Canada's award-winning designers "2 By 4" have created the decor, featuring unique wall painting techniques, and items such as hand-carved and blasted backlit 1/2" glass as backdrop for one head table. Each lobby has imported Italian granite; there are lovely interior fountains and custom-made brass tube chandeliers. All in all, it's the ideal setting for your special function, whether personal or corporate.

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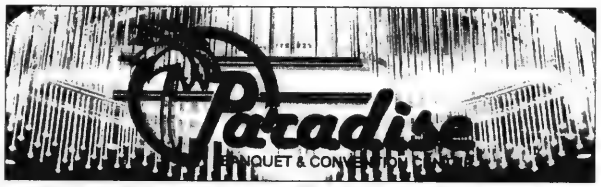
You, the client, always come first. "Don't take our word for it," urges Manager Joseph Pandolfo. "Let us prove it, by offering you a complimentary Kosher dinner before you book with us. Let the final judge be the client, not the salesperson."

"We thank all our existing clients for their support over the past 5 years, and look forward to their continued patronage" says Joseph — and invites you to let Paradise be the host of your next celebration. Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre is Glatt Kosher, under the strict supervision of the Vaad Hakashruth.

Paradise, located at 7601 Jane St. in Concord, is conveniently close to Hwys. #400 and #7. Call Meir Osipov, Joe, Yolanda, Laurie, Gerry or Cathy at (416) 661-6612.



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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Oct. 10 is deadline for Oct. 24 issue and Thursday, Oct. 17 is deadline for Oct. 31. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Oct. 10

JSU, U OF T

First in series of films in film festival, *The Quarrel*, 7 p.m., Innis Town Hall.

Saturday, Oct. 12

MURDER MYSTERY

Emunah Women sponsor a murder mystery evening, CBC Atrium. More tickets available. Call 636-0036.

Sunday, Oct. 13

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Riverdale Jewish community Centre, 179A Danforth features Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, 7:30 p.m. Call 699-8914.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Congregation Habonim breakfast club, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 15 Glenpark Ave. (Bathurst and Glencairn) features energy healing, homeopathic remedies and iridology. Breakfast, lecture $6.

BONDS PARLOR MEETING

Kielcer Society Israel Bonds parlor breakfast meeting at the Zionist Centre. Call 789-3351.

ZENITH EXPRESS

Alish HaTorah/Discovery presents The Zenith Express, 10:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue, 1445 Eglinton Ave. W. $5 at the door includes breakfast. Call 783-6103.

Monday, Oct. 14

GALA GARAGE SALE

Negillah Chapter, JWI, garage sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 23 Laurelcrest Ave. (Bathurst & Wilson area).

CRAFT AND GIFT SALE

Club Beersheba, Na'amat Craft and Gift Sale, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Bayview Village Mall, includes draws, clowns. Free admission. Call 636-5425.

Tuesday, Oct. 15

ADOPTEES GROUP

Birth parents and adoptees support group held at JF&CS monthly, 7:30 p.m. For information on tonight's meeting, **Brenda Isen**, 638-7800.

RESOLUTIONS

Club Dafna, Na'amat, invites women 35-45 to hear **Mitch Mandell**, who will discuss Changes in Our Lives in the New Year. **Sharon.** 905-889-9785.

ONE YEAR AFTER

Next meeting of the New Fraternal Jewish Association will be held 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St. **Thomas Walkom**, reporter and columnist, *Toronto Star* will speak on After One Year of the Harris Government. Everyone welcome.

CHARITY BIKING

Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, Toronto chapter is holding a charity biking/hiking expedition to Israel. Information meeting 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington St. Call **Merle Goldman**, 485-8000.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

BASIC JUDAISM

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich will speak on Basic Judaism — What Are We?, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres. No charge.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple, Lunch and Learn in Retirement presents **Stevie Cameron** who will speak on A Month in Israel, 12 noon at the Temple. $1 fee, coffee and tea served. Bring own lunch.

TRANSNISTRIA

Transnistria Survivors Association is holding its third annual North American commemoration of victims, 7 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4th floor.

THE SOUL PATH

Rabbi Mitch Mandel will speak on the Convergence of the Body, the Soul and the Next World, 8 p.m., the Aish HaTorah Dan Family Community Centre, 949 Clark Ave. W.

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

JSU presents Come and Pray and Hear What Women Have to Say, JSU, 10 a.m. Call 978-0421/0422 for information.

[Cont'd. on page 33]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription. We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 10 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Mazel tov Naftali! You are a big boy now. Happy fifth birthday from Mommy, Daddy and grandparents.

Mazel tov to Martin Seaton (seen here at his bar mitzvah) on his 60th birthday, from Henry & Sylvia Shanoff.

Happy sixth birthday to Jonah Krochmalnek. All our love, Mommy, Barry, Miles, Jason & Lisa.

Mazel tov to Brandon Neil Goodman on his bar mitzvah, from proud parents Ruth & Larry, sister Elise, grandparents Leib & Marcie Schwartzberg and Flora & Sydney Rosenfield.

The bar mitzvah of David Waldman, son of Rosanne Waldman, took place Oct. 6. Proud grandparents are Bernie & Vera Waldman.

Robert & Lisa (nee Sugar) Petrinec were married on July 28. All our love, Mom & Dad, Kenny, Janis, Corey & Lauren Sugar.

Mazel tov to Nina & Zelik Muskat on their 45th wedding anniversary, with love from your children and grandchildren.

Min & Sid Wlosko celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 3. Mazel tov from Lillian, Rick, Stephanie, Michelle, Dorothy, David, Geoffrey & Lisa.

Mazel tov to Harold & Helen Shneer on their 40th wedding anniversary. With admiration and love, from your children and grandchildren.

Ettie & Nat Sugar celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary on Oct. 30. May you enjoy many more anniversaries. Love from your children and grandchildren.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 32]

BAYT SISTERHOOD
Enjoy a fun-filled evening touring the world of delectable delights, 7:45 p.m., at the synagogue, 613 Clark Ave. RSVP 905-731-0485. Paid up members free, others $5.

LOW FAT COOKING
Temple Sinai Sisterhood presents low fat cooking demonstration and boutique sale, 7:30 p.m. Members $8, non-members $10, all tickets at the door $12. Please bring non-perishable food item for food bank.

Thursday, Oct. 17

READING
Donia Blumenfeld Clenman greets Sukkot and autumn, Moonbeam Cafe, 30 St. Andrew St. 7 p.m. Call 598-1273.

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am continuing education committee presents Women in the Bible with **Rachel Turkienicz,** 8 p.m. Tonight's topic, Deborah and Yael, Women of the '90s. Call 633-5500.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

SURVIVORS GROUP
Ongoing group for survivors and children of survivors to explore impact Holocaust has had upon their lives. Leaders are **Doris Strub Epstein** and **Dr. Fern Waterman Seigel**. Information and registration, 630-0164.

HEBREW CLASSES
Beth Israel Hebrew Academy offers Hebrew classes for ages 5-8, Sundays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in Richmond Hill. Call **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

JWI WEEKEND
A weekend of relaxing, sharing, learning and growing, in Gananoque, Oct. 18-20. Scholar-in-residence, **Marsha Razin.** Non-members welcome. Call 630-9313.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service offers the following groups: Single Again: Building a New Life, begins Oct. 22; Single Parent Challenge, begins Oct. 23. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

UJPO Anniversary
United Jewish Peoples Order celebrates its 70th anniversary Oct. 11-13. Features banquet, Sunday lunch and a Saturday evening concert marking **Shalom Aleichem's** 80th yahrtzeit. Call 789-5502 for information.

ESSENCE OF JUDAISM
Dr. Elliot Malamet offers an eight-lecture series, Sundays, 10:15 a.m. beginning Oct. 13, Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Topics include prayer, Shabbat, learning the Torah. Each lecture $4. Call 229-2600.

ENTERTAINERS WANTED
An entertainers group at the Wagman Centre seek singers, dancers, comics and behind-the-scenes people for an early summer revue. Rehearsals begin in March so Snowbirds call now. **Esther Rine** 630-3610 or **Helen Batcher** 733-2447.

STUDY LUNCHEON
Beth Tzedec Congregation Shabbat study luncheon, Oct. 19 following services, features **Rabbi Roy D. Tanenbaum**, Beth Tzedec's new rabbi. Paid reservations no later than Oct. 16. Call 781-3511, ext. 13. Unpaid reservations cannot be accommodated.

BABY MAKES THREE
Program designed to address the impact of a new baby on the couple relationship, adapting to challenges of parenthood. Call **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

PEER GROUP
Peer socialization group for kids who are shy, have difficulty making friends and asserting themselves. Improves child's social skills and enhances self-esteem. Begins Oct. 16. Call **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800 ext. 215.

SAVE A LIFE
North York General Hospital offers monthly Citizen CPR Workshop. Next one held Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6:15-10:30 p.m. Cost under $30. Call 756-6307 to register.

RUN FOR THE CURE
Honda Run for the Cure, a fundraising event for breast cancer research takes place Oct. 27. Registration forms available at Running Room locations, The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, 790 Bay St., various hospitals, and all Metro Toronto LCBO outlets. Call the hotline 599-7779 to receive brochure.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING
Israeli dance party, Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 p.m., Studio Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. Refreshments and all-request program.
Beginners Israeli folkdancing with **Teme Kernerman**, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. For information call Teme 636-1880 ext. 364.

YIDDISH FOR CHILDREN
Children learn Yiddish, Jewish holidays, traditions, Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Associated Hebrew School, 250 Finch Ave. W. Next class Oct. 20. **Sylvia Lustgarten**, 636-2883, ext. 155.

BETH TZEDEC WORKSHOPS
Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library offers the following workshops: Contemporary Jewish Writers with **Prof. Ruby Newman**, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Oct. 29-Dec. 3 featuring a variety of Jewish fiction; In My Flesh I See G-d, spiritual practices as moving mediations, with **Shelley Duke**, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 29-Dec. 10; Jewish Heroes of History with **Dr. Edmond Lipsitz**, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 30-Dec. 11. Cost $36 for 4 sessions. Call 781-3511, ext. 10.

ZAGLEMBIER TEA
Ladie's Auxiliary, Zaglembier Society held its tea at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Lieb Pillersdorf Oct. 9. Donations to UJA and Israel still accepted.

For Seniors

LZA Senior Citizens Club taking registration for Miami trip, Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Luncheon meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 16; ladies folk dancing, Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.; and cultural discussion group, Tuesdays, 10 a.m. in the centre.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club — free manicures for members, $5 women's haircuts for members Thursdays. Sunday dance Oct. 13. Trips — Thursday, Oct. 10, Hillroy Factory; Oct. 13-15, Frankenmuth, Mich., Flint, Crossroads Village, Casino Windsor; Tuesday, Oct. 22, shuffle off to Buffalo; Oct. 27-31, Atlantic City and New York; Nov. 24-28, Las Vegas, Nev., 395-7881.

North York Community House attends Stage West Oct. 30. Tickets and information, **Rose** 783-6096.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club trip to Buffalo, Sunday, Oct. 20, shopping and theatre, the musical **Cabaret**; vacation trip to Netanya and Eilat all inclusive, Nov. 4-25; alternative to Miami trip is Arizona. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Sunrise Group trips: Nov. 7-14 Las Vegas, $600. Porto Plata, Dominican Republic, one or two weeks. **Esther** 223-9165.

Bloor JCC Seniors features **Lance Davis,** who will discuss The Jewish Concept of Love, Oct. 10, 2 p.m., Wallin Lounge. A musical afternoon and fall birthday party will be held on Thursday, Oct. 17, 2 p.m., Wallin Lounge. Everyone welcome. Call **Judy** 924-6211.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Oct. 10 Israeli film *Aba-Ganob* Part 1 will be screened. For information call 661-4689.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., 225-2112.
Fitness class with **Hanna Weil** Tuesdays, Oct. 22-Dec. 24, 9-10 a.m. $10 members, $30 non-members.
Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Oct. 16 program is a sing-along. **Anna**
Wednesday afternoon social, Oct. 16 features Creative Choir of the Bernard Betel Centre. Members $3, non-members $4. **Irina**.
Simchat Torah dance, Thursday, Oct. 10, 7-10 p.m., dancing, entertainment and light supper. Members $7, non-members $9. Tickets at information desk.

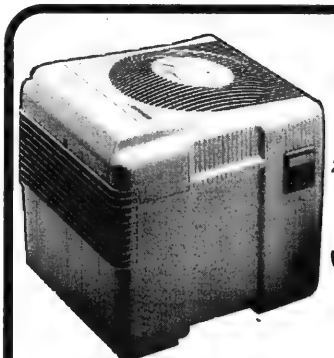
THE BERNARD BETEL CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING
JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD SERVICE SUPPORTS THE UNITED WAY
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY SUPPORTS THE UNITED WAY
Bloor Jewish Community Centre

UNITED WAY WALKATHON

The Jewish Community walked the United Way. More than 100 representatives from various agencies joined the walkers in the annual United Way Walkathon.

ISRAEL BOND LUNCH

Pictured at Zaglembier Society recent Israel Bond lunch (from left) Joe Kichler, Israel Bond chair; Marek Felzon, Israel Bond co-chair; Simon Slika, secretary, Zaglembier Society; Zelig Chinitz, speaker, and Peter Ferens, society vice-chair.



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From coast to coast

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Human rights accomplishments said to be under attack

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Progress in human rights is under attack by those who are "frightened" by the way these new rights are changing everything in society, says Justice Rosalie Abella of the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Speaking at the Commonwealth Law Conference held here recently, Abella said human rights are "an assault" on the status quo, and those who are scared by the changes have fought back by claiming that advocates of minority rights favor reverse discrimination and political correctness.

Among successes in human rights in Canada, she said, are bilingualism, multiculturalism and the Charter of Rights, as well as affirmative action in the United States.

Instead of concentrating on individual rights during the past three centuries, "we have shifted focus from civil libertarian remedies for individual harm to a search for human rights remedies for collective harm. We gained more rights in one generation than we had in all the previous centuries."

But, she warned, "we have been lulled into a false sense of complacency and there is growing opposition to the achievements."

Abella, born in a German refugee camp, said the Holocaust triggered a fundamental change in the approach to human rights. "The horrifying spectacle of group destruction shocked much of western society and led to a focus on individual rights being superseded by the defence of beleaguered groups. More rights were achieved in one generation than in all previous centuries," she said.

She noted that women, the disabled, gays and other minorities for the first time have been given a chance to participate fully in society. "Why," she wondered, "do we appear to be abandoning this commitment as the century closes?"

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.**

For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331.

A Grand Singles Night with dancing & dinner, Friday, Oct. 18th at 8:30pm for singles 30-55 at Metropol Restaurant, 72 Steeles Ave. West. $20.00 admission fee. For reservations call Lili 416-739-7371.

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Watch & Ask For Details On Our Jewish Singles Weekend

SHOFAR AWARD

Beth Sholom Sisterhood and Brotherhood recently joined together to honor Bernie and Sandra Parl at a breakfast. They were presented with the Shofar Award for notable leadership in strengthening Israel through the Israel Bonds program.

JIAS leader dies at 84

MONTREAL — Joseph (Kagedan) Kage, whose name was synonymous with Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) for decades, died recently at age 84.

Kage was national executive director and later executive vice-president of JIAS for some 30 years until his retirement in 1982. During that period, he oversaw the immigration and resettlement of thousands of post-war refugees from Europe and thousands more Jews fleeing Arab lands.

He was recognized as an expert in international migration and advised government on immigration policy. Kage served for five years on the Refugee Status Advisory Committee of the federal government.

Kage was an immigrant himself, coming to Canada in 1934 from Minsk, Belorussia. Before joining JIAS, he was a teacher and vice-principal at Jewish People's School and a lecturer for many years at the Montreal Jewish Teachers Seminary. He was also an instructor and field supervisor at the McGill School of Social Work.

Kage held five university degrees, all earned in Canada, including a PhD from the University of Montreal.

Kage was the author of numerous articles on immigration and education and the book *With Faith and Thanksgiving*. He was a columnist with the Yiddish newspaper *Kanader Adler* and wrote an entry on Jews in the *New Canadian Encyclopedia*. He also edited *Mir Zeinen Do*, a large-print Yiddish reader.

Among his many communal activities, he was president of the Jewish Public Library, a founder and president of the Quebec and Canadian Ethnic Press Federation, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress Yiddish committee, a founding member of the Corporation of Professional Social Workers of Quebec and served on Canadian Citizenship Federation and the Montreal Citizenship Council.

A staunched Labor Zionist, he remained involved until the last weeks of his life.

Kage is survived by wife Miriam Weiner and sons Ian, Allan, Steven and Tom and their families.

From coast to coast

ORNATE TORAH FOUND

On his first visit to Egypt, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, David Levy, was presented with an ornate and ancient Sefer Torah by Egyptian president Moubarak. The Torah was obtained from a synagogue closed 40 years ago in the city of Alexandria, which once had a rich and vibrant Sephardi Jewish community. Upon their recent visit to Jerusalem, Jacques Benquesus, president of Or Haemet Sephardic School and his son Amram met with Levy and are seen admiring the Torah.

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Hamilton rabbi to be honored

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Educational Endowment Fund (TEEF), initiated a year ago by Hamilton State of Israel Bonds chair Al Rams, will hold its second annual fundraising event on Oct. 13.

Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz, spiritual leader of Temple Anshe Sholom, will be honored at a special dinner organized in conjunction with the Hamilton Bonds office and the Jewish Federation of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Proceeds from this year's dinner will go towards education of children with special needs.

Rabbi Zeplowitz, a native of Niagara Falls, N.Y., attended the University of Toronto. Following graduation, he studied at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem, Los Angeles and Cincinnati, where he was ordained in 1984.

In 1989, after five years as rabbi of a Chicago area congregation, he joined Hamilton's Temple Anshe Sholom.

Guest speaker at the TEEF dinner will be family therapist, counsellor and author Sara Chana Radcliffe.

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At the Workman's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. West

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BEN KAYFETZ on Phil Givens' role in our community
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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The North York Board of Education seeks applications from North York public school ratepayers, parents and senior citizens (two to be selected) and North York's business community (one to be selected) to apply for membership on its newly created **Antiracism and Ethnocultural Equity Advisory Committee.**

THE COMMITTEE WILL:

- promote the full and equitable participation of all racial, ethnocultural and faith specific groups within the North York Board of Education
- advise the Director and the Board on issues and concerns relating to antiracism and ethnocultural equity within the North York Board of Education
- liaise between the community to the Board and its staff on issues related to race and ethnocultural equity within the education system and the community at large.

APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE:

- knowledge and understanding of human rights and equity issues
- experience working effectively with diverse racial, ethnic and faith groups in both community and organizational settings.

The composition of the committee will reflect the racial, ethnocultural and faith specific diversity of North York, and will include representation from public schools, ratepayers, parents, community organizations, Board employees, Trustees and students.

Interested applicants must attend an orientation session at the North York Board of Education Assembly Hall, 1st Floor, 5050 Yonge Street, Tuesday, 15 October 1996, 7:00 p.m.

Application forms will be available at the orientation session.

For further information, please call the **Antiracism and Ethnocultural Equity Division, 395-8107.**

The mission of the North York Board of Education is to empower every student to learn, to achieve success, and to participate responsibly in a pluralistic, global society.

NORTH YORK BOARD OF EDUCATION

From coast to coast

Bourassa gave his all for people of Quebec

By RUSSELL COPEMAN

Shortly after my appointment as riding assistant to Robert Bourassa in 1991, I was summoned to the Premier's Office to brief Bourassa on a local matter. I was terribly nervous during the trip to Quebec City and the feeling only intensified while I waited to see the premier and some of his advisors.

IN MEMORIAM

Bourassa's first words were a hearty "Bonjour mon Russ." He enquired how I was getting along in the riding office and we sat down to business. A quick briefing, a few quesions and then he asked, "Well, what do we do?" As I was leaving, Bourassa thanked me for coming to meet with him!

I was immediately enthralled. Often described as a cold, aloof, technocrat, here was a warm, gracious down to earth Robert Bourassa listening attentively to a briefing from a junior staff person. He didn't make me feel insignificant. On the contrary, at that moment he made me feel as though I were the most important person in the room.

Robert Bourassa

Bourassa influenced Quebec and Canadian politics for almost 30 years. First elected to the National Assembly at the age of 33, he became in 1970 the youngest premier in the history of Quebec. Six months after assuming office, he had to deal with the October Crisis and the assasination of one of his ministers. Few other Canadian leaders have had to confront a crisis of this proportion. He was 37.

His first administration was marked by tremendous successes and failures: James Bay, the Victoria Conference and then a victory that crushed the opposition in the general election of 1973. His second term was marked by Bill 22, public sector strikes and an equally crushing election defeat in 1976.

Just after the 1976 election, one of his own candidates described Bourassa as "the most hated man in Quebec."

In 1985, only nine years later, Bourassa achieved one of the most stunning political comebacks ever and began another eight tumultuous and controversial years as premier. Meech Lake, more language laws, Charlottetown and the Oka Crisis highlighted his last two terms. Then in 1990, at the age of 63, Bourassa faced a much more personal crisis, which ended last week — six years of personal courage, of hope and finally of serene acceptance.

He was, as a longtime political foe described him, "a most exasperating man." There is no dispute that he was a strong Quebec nationalist in the tradition of Quebec premiers before him. As to whether he was a strong federalist, it depends on who you talk to, and when. On the day after his death, Montreal's *La Presse* ran a story calling Bourassa "an unwavering federalist." Many English-speaking Quebecers thought he was a closet separatist.

Bourassa never really understood anglo-Quebecers. He knew non-francophones were angry after he had overridden the Charter of Rights and banned English from outdoor commercial signs. He just thought that, faced with the typical Bourassa compromise, the anger would fade. It did not.

Pragmatic people

He particularly thought that Montreal's Jewish community would eventually come around to his point of view. He described us as pragmatic people who understood the importance of harmonious coexistence with the majority community. Although a well-read man, Bourassa also badly misjudged the reaction in our community. We do know how important it is to live side by side with the majority community, but our reaction was dominated by the lesson we have learned throughout our history about the importance of individual rights.

That Bourassa had a quick sense of humor was not generally well known. He had a dry wit and always appreciated a pointed barb, even if it was aimed at himself. During my tenure as his riding assistant I was dubbed the pseudo-member of the National Assembly for Saint-Laurent, a crack at Bourassa's relative absence from his own riding. I once mentioned this to him and added that I had the pseudo-salary to go with the title. He laughed so hard he almost fell off the chair from his usual slouched position.

He was a warm, gracious, amusing, exasperating, brilliant man who gave all he had to the people of Quebec. As the Mourner's Kaddish says: May abundant peace and love descend from heaven upon us and upon all Israel, and say you Amen.

Russell Copeman is a member of the Quebec National Assembly for Notre-Dame-de-Grace.

From coast to coast

Hamilton UJA borrows idea from Vancouver

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Always on the look-out for innovative fundraising methods, Hamilton United Jewish Appeal (UJA) leadership has this year adopted Vancouver's "plus giving" program, which was launched last year.

Under the new program, donors can designate 50 percent of their "plus gift" to an agency of their choice.

Dr. Patricia Tolkin Eppel, Hamilton UJA campaign director, hopes it will prove as successful for Hamilton's much smaller community of 5,000 as it did in Vancouver.

Campaign co-chair Cheryl Greenbaum hopes the new approach will result in "greater community involvement," and that it will not only encourage members of the various agencies to take part in canvassing, but lead to "a partnership with our agencies."

One problem, says Eppel, is that increased pledges of $100,000 over the past three campaigns was due mainly to increases in small gifts. In a community the size of Hamilton, she points out, "there simply aren't enough people at the top.

She says Hamilton is working with the communities of London and Windsor and receiving help from UJA and the Council of Jewish Federations to get an endowment officer to serve the three communities.

The depressed economy, cuts in government spending and services and rising costs, have meant growing demands, particularly on Jewish Social Services, which administers the kosher food bank, relief payments, Hebrew Free Loan and looks after the newcomer settlement.

In addition, the federation has expanded various services, Eppel explains, to the Midrashah high school, Holocaust education projects and Israel Experience and March of Living scholarships.

A new advertising campaign for the local Jewish paper and synagogue and other bulletins is aimed at getting first-time agencies involved.

The campaign opened last month with a performance at Adas Israel Synagogue by ShoraShim, a group of young Israeli entertainers, with a program entitled Remembering Our Roots. Interspersed were appeals by Eppel and Greenbaum for the local campaign and brief interviews of federation board members about their own roots, conducted by president George Czutrin, a Hungarian-born son of Holocaust survivors.

No other major campaign events are planned, but there will be a series of meetings of "affinity groups," such as doctors, lawyers and business people, Eppel says.

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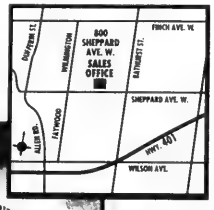

by TORBLAIR

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OLYMPIYEDA COMPETITORS

Two Canadians, Matthew Amsel of Montreal (right), and David Levine of Toronto (left), were among 21 North American students who competed in this year's Olympiyeda, an international science competition in Israel designed to encourage youthful interest in science and technology careers. The two are shown with Prof. Zvi Dori, founder and director of the Israel National Museum of Science, sponsors of the Olympiyeda, which is known as the "Olympics of the Mind." Matthew, a student at the Bialik School, and David, a student at Yeshivat Or Chaim, received an all-expense-paid, 24 day-stay at a science camp in Israel, conducted under the auspices of the Israel National Museum of Science. They participated in a science and technology workshop, met with Israel's leading scientists and visited historic, cultural and religious sites.

Survivor's music reveals his rage against the Nazis

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Peter Gary, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen and other Nazi death camps, voluntarily conducts symposia on the Holocaust for students all over Vancouver Island.

He also composes Holocaust music. A music student in Hungary before being interned for four years by the Nazis, Gary completed his music education at the Sorbonne in Paris, receiving his PhD in musicology in 1949.

Recently, the Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society presented a concert of all-Gary compositions. Titled An Afternoon in Black and White, the program featured numbers representing the "black" — the worst days in Gary's life — and the "white," which Gary explained "is a salute to beautiful Victoria and Vancouver Island, which is now my home — and to its wonderful people."

The music is disconcerting and disturbing, yet compelling. It has harsh undertones revealing the rage against the Nazis that Gary can't get out of his system. One of the works, *One Day, One Day*, is from his *Twentieth Century Passion*, an oratorio he is writing for presentation next summer by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

The selection deals with the day of his liberation by the British, summed up in the climactic cry: "Why didn't you come yesterday, or last week?"

Poet Doug Beardsley, a professor at the University of Victoria, articulated some of Gary's musical feelings in readings of his own poetry based on the Holocaust. The main work in the concert was *Trilogy+1*, for which Gary set three of Beardsley's poems to music. Beardsley read each of his poems before Gary's music was performed.

The music was provided by a quintet, trio and baritone soloist.

Gary, who conducted orchestras in France and Germany before immigrating to the United States, taught composition at the University of California before retiring to Victoria. In 1994, he published *Concert for Violin and Orchestra*, commissioned by Israeli artist Rivka Golani. He is currently working on an opera based on George Bernard Shaw's *Don Juan in Hell*.

Proceeds from the concert, held at the Roxy Cinegog, will go to the Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society.

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Arafat's next move is IDF's biggest concern

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Hours before he left for Washington on Monday, Benjamin Netanyahu took a step unprecedented for him as prime minister. He summoned leading IDF and intelligence officers to assess what the Palestinians might do next in the wake of the bloody battles they waged in the territories last week.

This time, the officers, who included Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, military intelligence chief Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon and head of IDF Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, decided not to mince words.

Virtually all of them, with the exception of General Security Services chief Ami Ayalon, had been excluded from the consultations prior to the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel in Jerusalem's Old City and they wanted to make sure their words reached the top.

Their message to Netanyahu was two-fold. First, they warned, the chance of renewed Palestinian attacks on Israeli military and civilian targets was high. One intelligence officer said fighting between Palestinian and Israeli soldiers might spread from the territories into Lebanon, Jordan or even Egypt.

The second message came from a senior field officer who recalled the pitched battles with the Palestinians in Nablus, how Palestinian officers shot at their Israeli partners in joint patrols, how Palestinian officers gave their guns to militants, and how Hamas activists donned police uniforms.

Many military commanders and intelligence analysts acknowledge that they were taken by surprise by last week's battles, the most feverish in the territories since the 1967 Six Day War. Just three months ago, the research division of IDF intelligence assessed that war was highly unlikely over the next year and probably beyond.

That view has now been reassessed and the biggest question mark in the reassessment is Yasser Arafat.

Privately, some IDF officers say that for at least a year IDF intelligence was getting an increasingly blurry picture of what was taking place in the PA areas.

The result was that Arafat had the advantage of taking Israel by surprise. Israeli intelligence officials say Arafat did not order his soldiers to shoot at the IDF on Sept. 25 in Ramallah. But both Palestinian and Israeli officials agree that he decided that he would rather ride the tide of Palestinian anger than risk confronting it.

Arafat's first step was to halt security and intelligence cooperation with Israel. PA security chiefs did not warn IDF commanders of the 1,500 Palestinians being organized in Bir Zeit to mob the Israeli checkpoint at the Arak junction south of Ramallah.

The cooperation breakdown spread throughout Gaza and the West Bank as senior Palestinian police commanders refused to leave their offices to take charge of their men who joined or even led the attacks against Israeli positions. They included members of the elite Force 17 and the Palestinian General Intelligence Service led by Amin al-Hindi.

In all, IDF sources say, up to 200 Palestinian police officers participated in the battle.

IDF commanders are convinced that in the end Arafat ordered that Palestinian attacks cease only after he was threatened with an Israeli invasion.

But the biggest concern on the minds of security officials is Arafat's next move. Virtually nobody in the defence community is optimistic. As a result, the new credo in the IDF and Israeli intelligence is self-reliance.

Intelligence is being beefed up and troops have been reinforced. This time, IDF commanders say, they intend to respond with a massive display of firepower that will quickly crush Palestinian resistance.

Negotiations resume in Erez.

[Cont'd. from page 1]

chance it deserves," Erekat said. "I know that Palestinians and Israelis will understand that we are able to put the peace process on track, when we start implementing the agreements on the ground.

"We are determined to end violence by eradicating all the causes which led to it...and to try to solve our differences by negotiations," Erekat said.

Shortly after the 2½-hour meeting convened, Israel announced steps to ease the closure. These included allowing 2,000 Palestinians laborers into the Erez industrial zone and loosening the closure around Tulkarm.

The meeting took place on the Israeli side of the Erez checkpoint, which 10 days earlier was the scene of bloody gun battles between IDF troops and Palestinian police.

The Israeli team was briefed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who instructed its members to tell their Palestinian counterparts that the gun battles which killed over 70 people, including 15 soldiers, created a totally new situation and that the Palestinians had to take this into account.

The negotiators were also instructed to re-tool the agreement to redeploy from Hebron, with demands to set up "demilitarized zones" in the city and IDF emplacements surrounding it, which would be able to give aide to Hebron's Jewish residents in an emergency.

The United States was represented by special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross, Consul-General in Jerusalem Edward Abingdon and Ambassador Martin Indyk.

Two committees were formed, one to deal with Hebron, which will convene on the Palestinian side of the Erez checkpoint. The media will be barred from covering those talks. A second committee dealing with civilian matters was to convene this week.

Both sides are seeking changes on the ground. The Palestinians want guarantees that Israel will not enter the autonomous West Bank cities and promises of "safe-passage" roads linking them with the Gaza Strip. They also want complete control over the Dahaniya airport near Rafiah, but Israel wants to maintain overall security.

High on the agenda is Hebron. The Palestinians are seeking a date for the IDF withdrawal from Palestinian sections of the city, which according to the Oslo accords should have taken place last March. But the government says the agreement is fundamentally flawed. It wants to renegotiate security arrangements and ensure that Palestinian police are not armed with assault rifles, but only with pistols.

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Arafat employing political pressure

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Yasser Arafat looked grim after last week's summit in Washington, convened by the United States to rescue the tottering Mideast peace process from irrelevancy, if not destruction.

Mideast Analysis

Arafat, president of the Palestine Authority (PA) and head of the PLO, went home empty-handed, having failed to wring concessions from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who held fast to his positions.

But for Arafat, there was some light at the end of the tunnel. He had sought a high-profile meeting to publicize the Palestinians' mounting grievances against the Israeli government, and he got it from President Bill Clinton, following the deadly fighting which convulsed the West Bank and the Gaza Strip two weeks ago.

Furthermore, as a result of the two-day conference, Netanyahu, whom Arafat had accused of playacting at peace and of refusing to implement solemn accords, promised to pump new life into the sputtering peace process.

But in the wake of the bloodshed, which widened the gulf of mistrust between Israel and the Palestinians, one wonders whether the two sides are capable of reaching agreements over such contentious issues as Hebron or Jerusalem.

It's abundantly clear that Arafat used the controversy over the archeological tunnel in eastern Jerusalem as a pretext, blowing it all out of proportion to gain a tactical advantage over Netanyahu. The tunnel is not a threat to the complex of mosques around the Temple Mount, as the Palestinians charge. But Arafat, who claims East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state, regards the tunnel as a potent symbol of Israeli encroachments there and of Israeli obduracy in the peace talks.

So Arafat called for protests and a commercial strike, and the Palestinian masses, aided by the PA's police force, responded with a vengeance, perhaps beyond his expectations.

The subsequent clashes, far worse in scope than any during the six-year intifadah, confirmed the worst fears of Israelis in each camp — those who despise the Oslo peace process and those who do not and hold Netanyahu responsible for the current impasse.

For Arafat, the ascendancy to power of a Likud government was a disaster, a harbinger of tension. Netanyahu pledged to honor all existing agreements, but his actions have not necessarily corresponded to his words.

In mid-August, after an eight-month hiatus caused by a series of Islamic fundamentalist suicide bombings in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashdod, Israel resumed negotiations with the PA.

By early September, Israel and the PA seemed close to reaching a set of understandings designed to nudge the peace process forward. And in line with PA requests, Israel began to ease the border closure by increasing the number of Palestinian work permits.

To Arafat, these glimmerings of hope were offset by Israel's announcement that settlements would be expanded, by the demolition of a Palestinian day-care centre in East Jerusalem and by further Israeli delays in deploying from Hebron.

On a personal level, Arafat was humiliated by an Israeli order holding up permission for him to fly in his helicopter from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank. Arafat was further insulted by Netanyahu's procrasination in agreeing to a face-to-face meeting with him, a deadlock finally broken through President Ezer Weizman's intervention.

Due to all these factors, Arafat launched a campaign to mobilize domestic and international support against Netanyahu's policies.

He met with Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor party, and he issued appeals to the Arab League, the United Nations and Washington.

Escalating the level of his rhetoric, Arafat claimed that Israel had declared war on the Palestinians; threatened "to return to the intifadah;" and suggested that he would seek redress through international arbitration.

Arafat's strategy, with its implicit threat of manipulated violence to achieve political ends, is not without precedent. Twenty-three years ago this week, Egypt and Syria initiated the Yom Kippur War to break a diplomatic stalemate with respect to the status of the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights.

In launching hostilities, Egypt and Syria had no intention of conquering Israel but of regaining land they had lost in the 1967 Six Day War. Having fallen short of this objective, Egypt and Syria successfully enlisted the help of the United States to exert political pressure on Israel.

Israel and Egypt, and then Israel and Syria, negotiated pacts which eventually led to a total Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and an Israeli pullout from a portion of the Golan.

Arafat appears to be following in their footsteps, hoping that the recent wave of bloodletting in the territories will embolden the United States to seek a viable agreement on the Palestinian front.

The Week in Israel

Sept. 30

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ruled out the possibility of forming a unity government as a result of the clashes with the Palestinians. Netanyahu made the remark in response to a question from Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, spiritual leader of Shas.

• Reports appeared in the media attributing a story to a Munich-based magazine called *Focus*, claiming that Ron Arad, the pilot shot down 10 years ago in Lebanon, is still alive.

Oct. 1

• In a meeting in Washington with approximately 40 Jewish officials, Netanyahu chided as "not being helpful" those Jewish leaders who had criticized the Israeli government during the armed clashes with the Palestinians.

Oct. 2

• Foreign Minister David Levy addressed the UN General Assembly emphasizing Israel's "irreversible commitment and determination" to pursue the peace process. He also called upon Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to return to negotiations.

Oct. 3

• A Tel Aviv Court sentenced Yigal Amir, his brother, Hagai and friend Dror Adani to prison terms ranging from five to 12 years for plotting the murder of Yitzhak Rabin. The three had been convicted of conspiracy charges last month.

Oct. 4

• Speaking directly to the Palestinian people, Netanyahu appealed to them not to lose hope for the peace talks. He said the Washington summit, which they called a failure, was a chance for a "fresh start".

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

The Jerusalem Khan and the Jerusalem Theatre announced the opening of *The Dissidents, Ben Zakai*, a new play by Yehoshua Sobol. The play portrays the leaders, the warriors, the zealots and the moderates of the revolt against the Romans as seen through the eyes of Rabbi Shimon Ben Gamliel and Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakai.

Life goes on in Kfar Darom

[Cont'd. from page 1]

of the Barat family, piercing holes through three walls but injuring no one.

The Palestinians came within 20 metres of the settlement's fence before soldiers and settlers stopped firing in the air and directed their shots at the attackers, says Itzik Nissim, one of the settlers who took part in the exchange. One settler and several soldiers, including the commander of the southern brigade, were wounded.

The word "ghetto" comes up in nearly every conversation at Kfar Darom. This is ironic because it is the image, way of life and stereotype of the ghetto that the settlers want more than anything else to purge from modern Jewish existence – above all, in Eretz Israel. They are citizens of a sovereign Jewish state, have a sympathetic government and an enormous army presence. But the word ghetto is part of the lexicon, and perhaps part of the reality that Jews at Kfar Darom can't escape.

When Shela Shorshan surveys the fortifications that the army is erecting all around the settlement in order to bolster its defence, she is struck by that image.

"They should be dealing properly with the Arabs," she says angrily, "instead of enclosing us in a ghetto."

When Shaul Har Habayit is asked how he feels in the aftermath of last week's rioting, he also introduces the word ghetto, insisting that he doesn't feel as though he's in one. "I have to carry on with life as usual," says the 26-year-old convert from England.

"If I was going to hide inside my house, I might as well pack up my bags and live in a ghetto. I came here to feel free, to feel at home," says Har Habayit, who chose his name in order to show his identification with Jerusalem's Temple Mount.

Last week marked 50 years since the establishment of the original Kfar Darom, a kibbutz forced to surrender in the War of Independence after an eight-month siege. Residents of the present-day settlement spent a year planning a festive jubilee – to have been held on Sept. 29, but it was cancelled at the last minute.

The reason? Kfar Darom was once again under siege.

For two days residents were not allowed to leave the settlement at all. By the third day, they could do so, but only one person per vehicle; other family members had to travel in an army-escorted bus with protective glass. "The army didn't want entire families in a single car," says one settler, "just in case."

Fifty years later, another siege? Shela Shorshan dismisses the comparison with a laugh. "There is no resemblance between the situation then and now," she says. "It's true we couldn't leave our homes for two days. But in 1948, the members of Kfar Darom were under siege for eight months. Food packages had to be dropped by air. They lost 10 members in battle. When you look at us today, you can't even compare our situation with what it was seven years ago – let alone with 1948."

When Kfar Darom was founded in 1989, in the heat of the intifadah, there were some 20 families – including Shorshan's – living in trailers and relying on saline water.

"When [then Housing Minister] Ariel Sharon proposed building 40 homes here, we thought he was crazy," recalls Shorshan. "What would we do with 40 homes – we only had 20 families. Today they are all full. We haven't even got an empty trailer available for the families that want to join us. We've got running water, electricity, a beautiful Torah institute, a factory, greenhouses – and a new synagogue being built."

Shela Shorshan hates to feel like she's in a state of siege. And when she tours the settlement in daylight and sees the sand and concrete embankments being put up, she can't help but admit that is what is happening. "I'm not prepared to have another fence, another fortification, another wall around me."

Shouldn't she be relieved at the added protection the army is providing?

"No. The more we guard ourselves, the more we show we're afraid We're projecting weakness with all these fortifications. We shouldn't be in a position of defence. They should be." Shorshan rarely invokes the word "Arabs" or "Palestinians."

As for building fortifications, she draws an example from the Bible. "One reason Moses sent spies to the Land of Israel was to see if the people were living freely or in fortresses. Because if you live in a fortress, it shows you are afraid. We build more and more fortifications around us, while they walk around freely.

Shorshan has little patience for people who do not share her brand of idealism.

She believes in the right to settle the entire land of Israel and she has paid dearly for that conviction. Two years after moving to Kfar Darom, her husband Doron was shot to death just a few metres from the settlement. She never considered leaving.

Shorshan was two months pregnant when her husband was murdered. "This is my answer to his death," she says pointing to her five-year-old son, Yair-Doron. "Planting roots.

"When will people stop asking us if we're ready to leave now?" she asks. "Every time there's a tragedy, a bombing, a death, we're asked the same question. Don't you realize we're here to stay? That is the difference between us and Kfar Darom of 1946. We are not going to surrender. And this time, we have a government and an army behind us."

Shorshan says she is not counting on any miracle, just the mysterious processes of history – and the army.

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SIMCHAT TORAH IN HEBRON
A child reads prayers as he sits on the shoulders of his father as hundreds of Jewish settlers march through the streets of Hebron during Simchat Torah celebrations. [Reuter/RNS photo]

Settlers plan to support PM; protest Hebron pullout

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – A group of settlement activists met in Hebron last week and decided that, for the time being, they would demonstrate in support of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and against IDF redeployment in Hebron.

Settler representatives were dispatched to the Erez checkpoint, to screen for journalists a video they made prior to the recent violence in which they predicted that Palestinians would open fire on soldiers and civilians.

David Wilder, a spokeperson for the Hebron settlement, said that beyond this, a large demonstration in support of Hebron is planned within the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, Peace Now, which has organized numerous anti-government protests since the violence broke out in the territories two weeks ago, planned a protest against the government's policies opposite the Knesset on Monday, to coincide with the scheduled Knesset debate.

As far as what action they could take to prevent an IDF withdrawal, Wilder said: "An IDF pullout is almost impossible to combat. If the IDF decides to pull out, it will be very difficult to stop them.

"We will cross that bridge when we get to it, but now we are trying to ensure that we don't get to that bridge."

Belzer rebbe says Likud mistakes led to bloodshed

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The rebbe of Belz, Rabbi Yisachar Dov Rokach, issued a blistering condemnation of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his government, which he said had made mistakes which led to bloodshed.

The rebbe was speaking last Saturday night in a traditional talk given at the end of Simchat Torah, at which he speaks of the events of the day. During the past three months, he told his followers, the government had shown considerable ineptitude, as a result of its inexperience.

Warning against a tendency toward greater militancy on the part of the haredi public, he said the command to live by the sword was a blessing which had been granted to the descendents of Esau, not to the sons of Israel. He warned of the danger in which Israel found itself as a result of the government's action and the fact that the state had become isolated.

Yisrael Eichler, a spokesperson for the Belz Chassidim, noted that although Rabbi Rokach is a member of the Degel Hatorah Council of Sages, he has always taken an independent line and he is considered one of the most dovish of the haredi spiritual leaders. In the past, Rokach had supported the peace process and the Oslo accords.

Knesset speaker appeals for calm as session opens

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon met with the heads of all factions to ask them to ensure restraint and fair discussion during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's political address, which opened the Knesset's winter session Monday.

Tichon described the atmosphere as tense and said he expects the strong disagreements of the last two months to be expressed in a stormy session. But he warned that he would not allow MKs to get away with unruly behavior, even if it meant he had to bar an MK from speaking.

Netanyahu was scheduled to address the plenum in the presence of President Ezer Weizman.

If the opposition goes ahead with its threat to turn the address into a no-confidence motion, the vote will be held next week. Tichon told parliamentary reporters he had not yet received a request for the motion.

Parliamentary immunity is likely to be a major issue this Knesset, with more MKs than ever before facing charges, Tichon said. The Knesset will hold special sessions to commemorate 40 years since the Sinai Campaign, the death of Moshe Dayan and the first anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

The session is also likely to be marked by the annual budget discussions, which start at the end of this month.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Tunnel issue a skirmish in battle over Jerusalem

By GERALD M. STEINBERG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The small war that followed the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel along the ancient street in Jerusalem was not surprising, but the lack of preparation on the Israeli side was. The Palestinians were handed an ideal opportunity to inflict a major political defeat on Israel and the Netanyahu government.

Opinion

In Jerusalem, which has always been the most sensitive dimension of the Israel-Palestinian conflict, the issues have nothing to do with tourism or allegations of structural danger to buildings near the Temple Mount.

The violence is the combined result of three factors: frustration over the change of government in Israel, which halted the march toward a Palestinian state; arms and training received by the Palestinian military in preparation for such an opportunity; and the continuing battle for control of the city.

Jerusalem, as always, was the catalyst for the conflict. The Palestinians claim exclusive historical and religious rights in the Old City, while denying the centrality of Jerusalem to the Jewish people. As Yasser Arafat clearly stated, his goal is to halt "the Judaization of Jerusalem," including the uncovering of ancient Jewish historical sites.

In 1948, after the Arab Legion occupied the ancient Jewish Quarter and expelled the surviving residents, the Palestinians and Jordanian military attempted to destroy and bury all evidence of Jewish Jerusalem. When the Jewish Quarter was retaken in 1967, the area around the Western Wall was filled with dung, garbage and animal carcasses. All the synagogues had been destroyed, a road was plowed directly through the Jewish Cemetery on the Mount of Olives, which dates back to the Second Temple, and 38,000 graves had been defaced or destroyed. The city had been divided, with Jews forbidden to enter the area or pray at the Wall.

After 1967, the Israeli government reversed this damage, "re-Judaizing Jerusalem," to paraphrase Arafat, and the process continues. Despite the bitterness, the Israeli government did not respond to the Arabs in kind, but allowed Muslims and Christians to maintain full religious freedom and autonomy. To avoid friction, the government still does not allow Jews to pray on the Temple Mount.

The political battle, however, continues. The false allegations linking Israeli tunneling with damage to Muslim structures go back to 1974, when the Arabs led UNESCO to pass a resolution condemning Israeli excavations on the same Hasmonean Tunnel. UNESCO appointed an expert group headed by Prof. Raymond Lemaire, UNESCO's representative to Jerusalem, to investigate the charges.

Although Lemaire was expected to find Israel guilty, in his report, he said: "The criticisms that have been levelled at the methods used in the excavations are groundless. The excavations [near the Temple Mount] are being carried out by a perfectly well-qualified team of experts."

With the damage already done, the options and their consequences must be considered very carefully. If Netanyahu agrees to close the tunnel, he will be admitting failure in the battle for Jewish Jerusalem, and may be forced to resign or accept a national unity government.

If he keeps the tunnel open, however, Netanyahu must lead a public relations counter attack, focusing on Jewish historical links to Jerusalem and comparing Israel's open policies with the efforts of the Palestinians between 1948 and 1967.

At the same time, he will have to restore the political balance by redeploying from Hebron and accelerating the pace of autonomy. And for the foreseeable future, all sides must consider the full consequences of any change in the status quo in Jerusalem.

Gerald Steinberg is a senior fellow at the BESA Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

Survivors launch suit against Swiss banks

NEW YORK — A $20 billion (US) class action lawsuit was filed here last week on behalf of Holocaust survivors, alleging that Swiss banks are refusing to return victims' money, jewelry and other assets.

The defendants named are Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss Bank Corp., also known as the Swiss National Bank, and more than 100 unnamed banking institutions and individuals.

Apart from the monetary damages, the suit seeks a full accounting of what became of the accounts and personal property of survivors and their families.

The case was brought by Romanian-born Holocaust survivor Gizella Weisshaus, who lives in Brooklyn. The suit was filed on behalf of all survivors and victims who deposited money and valuables in Swiss banks for safekeeping until after World War II.

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Professor Aviezer Ravitzky, Hebrew University
Mr. Hillel Halkin, Israeli author
Location: Vari Hall "A"
Sunday, October 20
Registration and all lectures will be held in Vanier/Founders Dining Halls, Lower Level
9:30 a.m. FAITH AND RELIGION IN A "SECULAR" AGE
Professor Robert Eisen, George Washington University
Professor Susan Handelman, University of Maryland
Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, Senior Scholar, Holy Blossom Temple
11:30 a.m. THE FUTURE OF JEWISH CULTURES IN THE DIASPORA
Professor Jane Gerber, CUNY Graduate Center
Professor Michael Stanislawsky, Columbia University
4:15 p.m. EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE
Professor Michael Rosenak, Hebrew University
Professor Alvin Schiff, Yeshiva University
8:00 p.m. CHANGING GENDER EXPECTATIONS AND ROLES IN JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE
Professor Paula Hyman, Yale University
Professor Norma Joseph, Concordia University
Monday October 21
9:30 a.m. DEMOGRAPHY AND ECONOMICS: THE INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE
Professor Daniel Elazar, Bar Ilan University
Professor Barry Kosmin, Institute for Jewish Policy Research, London, England
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TAB news

Travel, Arts & Business

Children's opera offers uplifting spiritual message

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — *Brundibar*, the children's opera that was performed 55 times in the Nazi concentration camp of Terezin, tells the simple story of a bullying organ grinder who extorts money from children until his victims unite to give the ogre his comeuppance.

"We win because we stick together," said Czech-born John Freund, now 66, who was shipped to Terezin at the age of 12. "The moral is that together, we can beat any devil."

The driving force behind a production of *Brundibar*, Freund, a retired government accountant, understands only too well how little life imitated art in this instance.

Almost all of Terezin's inmates, including the Jewish orphans in the original cast of *Brundibar* and Freund himself, were eventually shipped to Auschwitz, where most perished.

"*Brundibar* was the one thing that was positive about Terezin," he said. "I loved the music and I knew the boys who were in it – the boy who played the principal part was my roommate. Almost all of the kids were killed in Auschwitz. There were only two or three who survived."

The musical, which was written by Jewish composer Hans Krasa (1899-1944) with a libretto by playwright Adolf Hoffmeister, has been performed often in recent years at Terezin and elsewhere in Germany, Poland and Israel. Still, finding a complete score was a challenge.

"It's not like you can go to any music store and buy it," said Helena Fine, the Toronto-based educator and children's performer who is the producer of this production. Eventually, director Marie Franek was obliged to go to Prague to track down a full score.

A photo from the original Nazi propaganda film for the Red Cross Committee, taken on June 23, 1944.

Forty-five children were chosen from the 85 who auditioned to be in the production, and rehearsals started last January at the B'nai Brith building in North York. B'nai Brith is a sponsor of the production.

"Right now, we don't want to give the kids too much background," said Fine, explaining that the cast members, who are between the ages of eight and 14, haven't been told the fate of the original Terezin cast.

"After the production, we'll take them to the Holocaust Remembrance Centre. Because we saw a production in Prague and all the kids were very sad, they were dragging their faces on the ground. People who had seen the original said, 'No, it wasn't sad at all! It was our happy time.' "

According to Freund and Fine, cast members' parents appreciate *Brundibar*'s special significance and recognize that their children will end up with more than enhanced performance skills from their involvement.

"We're not portraying Jewish people as victims but as very high-spirited," said Fine. "They were faced with very inhumane and difficult conditions, and what did they do? They became involved in the arts. That's a very good spiritual message."

Brundibar is running Oct.19-20 at 8 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Special shows for school children run Oct.14-18 and a matinee on Oct. 20. For tickets call 905-884-2882.

Documentary profiles bombing survivors

TORONTO — *All Hell Broke Loose*, a documentary which explores the experiences of two young people who survived a Middle East suicide bombing, is airing on CBC Newsworld's *The Passionate Eye* on Oct.13, 9 p.m.

Every night when 13-year-old Raz goes to bed he is afraid. Roy, 14, says he'll never ride a bus again. A year after a car bomb blew up at a bus stop in a northern Israeli town, the survivors and family members of the victims are still dealing with their physical and emotional pain.

All Hell Broke Loose attempts to explore how fear, caused by traumatic events, can lead to violent feelings of racism and prejudice in some, while in others, it leads to expressions of tolerance. The fast cutting of interviews with the musical form of a canon, enhances the poignantly expressed feelings of Arabs and Jews.

Israel to allow foreign venture capital funds to operate tax-free

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Foreign venture capital funds, exempt from tax in their home countries, will be allowed to invest on the same terms in Israel, Finance Minister Dan Meridor announced.

This measure will only apply when funds invest in Israeli research and development companies, Meridor said.

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TAB news

Alex Poch-Goldin (left) as Louis and Cassel Miles as Belize in *Angels In America* running until March 1997 at the Canadian Stage Theatre, Toronto.

Jewish characters are linch-pins in play that examines U.S. politics

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It may be that *Angels in America* thunders across the face of history like a comet, but for this reviewer its appeal is in its Jewish content, the humorous yet wickedly accurate picture of a gay, Jewish intellectual and his troublesome life.

Louis Ironson (Alex Poch-Goldin) is a word processor clerk whose lover is dying of AIDS and it is his piercing analysis of American politics that is the play's cement.

What brings it into focus is the cynical and loud-mouthed real life character Roy M. Cohn, another Jew, who gloats over his zeal in sending Ethel and Julius Rosenberg to the electric chair as spies and over his anti-Communist crusades as Senator Joe McCarthy's henchman. If there is a true villain in *Millenium Approaches*, the first part of *Angels in America*, now running at Canadian Stage, it is this man.

And Tom Wood plays to the hilt the man who in real life denied he was a homosexual, said he was suffering from liver cancer, but who died of AIDS. Playwright Tony Kushner's portrait of Cohn may be the strongest and most effective indictment ever penned of the "fixer" in politics.

Angels in America is strong medicine. Don't go if the f--- word offends you. Kushner, himself a gay, Jewish writer and Pulitzer Prize winner, has legitimate dramatic reasons for zooming in on the AIDS crisis as the year 2000 comes into view.

It should be noted that *Angels in America* is about American politics, not Canadian politics. But is the meanness and harshness of that process already seeping into our own?

To come back to the Jewish linch-pin character, Ironson — he is far from a lovable person, but he looks and sounds genuine, full of contradictions, such as when he does not object to a black homosexual calling him "Lou the Jew" but gets up tight when named "Sid the Yid" in a British pub.

The dialogue between Ironson and Belize (Casel Miles) on black-Jewish relations is a candid reflection of that reality in the United States, though for dramatic purposes, Kushner seems to have given the upper hand to the black.

While Ironson is genuine on stage, the same cannot be said for director Bob Baker's decision to cast Patricia Hamilton, otherwise a very fine actor, as the male rabbi who gives a seminal eulogy of Aronson's grandmother to start the play. I've known many rabbis, women and men, whether Orthodox, Conservative or Reform, and none have been as pallid and lacking in fire. Kushner's lines are terrific, they provide a rationale for the whole play, but the execution is not.

Similarly Baker is way off the mark in depicting Ethel Rosenberg (again Patricia Hamilton) as a tall, Waspish figure when she appears as a ghost to torment Cohn in his dreams. "History is about to crack open," she tells him. A wonderful line, but hard to swallow from a figure who is not anything in speech and appearance like the pudgy, short and defiant woman who went to the chair.

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TAB news

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Via Dolorosa Tunnel

Standing in an underground chamber boasting Roman pillars and cobblestones from Herodian times, the group of about 40 tourists in Jerusalem's Western Wall tunnel, including myself, listened as the guide explained that we had reached the end of the tour and had to retrace our steps back some 450 metres to the entrance. This was three months ago.

As most of the people began heading back through this extraordinary series of subterranean passages, the intrepid journalist noticed the locked chain-link fence ahead.

"Where does that lead?" I asked the guide.

"That's an exit. It goes up to the Via Dolorosa. The last time we tried to open it, the Muslims started to riot. Now we keep it closed."

So back we trod, through the various halls, arches and other constructions of Byzantine and Mameluke origin. Again we passed the Great Stone, a 400-tonne massif big as a house. The ancient Israelites were obviously thinking of permanence when they laid down this stone as part of the foundation for the Temple Mount. The Romans couldn't budge it when they brought the Temple down in 70 CE.

Back, back we walked, retracing our steps through time and space. Again we passed the Great Hall, with its excellent scale model of the Temple, and Wilson's Arch, once part of a royal bridge connecting King Hérod's palace to the Temple. Again we heard the reverberating hallelujahs and lamentations of pious Jews in prayer.

Ascending the stairs, we reached the entrance and exited the glass doors into the bright sunlight as another group readied to make the descent into history. Some 400 visitors pass through here each day, but tourism officials assert the figure could easily surpass 1,000 if the Via Dolorosa exit was used.

The Western Wall tunnels are a tourist attraction of special significance to Jews. For centuries, under Muslim and British rule, they were buried, filled with debris, all but forgotten. Serious excavation began only after the Jews won back the Old City in 1967. Since the tunnels permit us to glimpse the two-thirds' portion of the Western Wall that is below ground level, they are a symbol for us that we must look deep beneath the surface of things in order to appreciate our own history and identity as Jews.

Last month, the Via Dolorosa exit was opened and deadly riots ensued. Hopefully, this tragic turn will not deter even a single visitor from seeing the tunnels which, contrary to some distorted claims, do not undermine the Al-Aksa Mosque or any other structure. A visit to these intricate underground passages, which offer a unique glimmer of Israel's ancient glory, is a profound educational experience, not a political statement. No Jewish tourist should depart Jerusalem without seeing the tunnels, any more than he or she would leave without approaching Judaism's holiest site, the Western Wall.

* * *

News From El Al: The Sunday flights that El Al Israel Airlines introduced into its summer schedule have proven so popular that the airline has decided to retain the Sunday option throughout the winter. Canadians may continue to fly El Al to Israel on Sunday, as well as on the regularly scheduled flights on Mondays and Wednesdays.

"The Sunday flight leaves Israel at 1 or 2 a.m. and arrives in Toronto at about 9 a.m.; so you can rest all day Sunday and go to work for Monday," says Moshe Shamai, the airline's new general manager for Canada.

Shamai, who took up his new post on Sept. 15, has been commuting weekly from Toronto to Montreal, administrating the shift of the airline's head office to Toronto, where most of its Canadian customers are situated.

"We will still be part of the Montreal community, but we have to face the fact that our biggest market is in Ontario," he says.

Shamai,46, is a former officer in the Israeli Air Force who studied at the Technion in Haifa, worked as an industrial engineer, and joined El Al in 1978. Since moving to north Toronto, he and his wife and two sons have become involved with the Beth Tikvah Congregation on Bayview Ave.

"Not yet," he says with a nervous smile, when asked whether he has purchased the parkas, boots, scarves, dogsleds and other accoutrements that his family will need for a Canadian winter. "I think everything will be OK. With the warm welcome that we've received from the community, I'm sure that we'll pass the first winter without a problem."

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Telephone specialists open the sales cycle

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Nothing chills the heart of a salesperson more than the prospect of making a cold call.

Ronit Szabadi, president of The Telesales Specialists know this, and as a result, a large part of her 6-year-old business revolves around opening the sales cycle.

"What we do is arrange it so our clients can meet people face to face. We do all the legwork — identify the buying cycle of prospects, reactivate dormant accounts, keep in touch with clients, introduce and entice the prospect to the product, or introduce new products to a targeted audience. This allows my clients' salespeople to do what they do best, close the sale."

Szabadi, who works from her fully-automated North York home office with three employees, says she is an "outsource inside sales department. My client does not have to set up an inside sales department; we do the sales campaign for them. I always stress that we are not telemarketers, we are telesales specialists. We are the openers, telemarketers are the closers. We create the potential for our client and it is up to them to follow it up."

Her clients include hotels, conference centres, consulting and software firms, and she is currently working for the new renovated Park Plaza Hotel.

"We are identifying for them the corporate clients who are willing to use the facilities of the now five-star hotel. They do not have the staff or the logistics to do this and they want it done quickly and efficiently, so they turned to us."

It was while working at Delta Hotels after graduating from Ryerson Polytechnic University in hospitality and tourism that Szabadi recognized how powerful a tool the telephone can be.

"There is an art to using the phone and when it is done right, it can save time and money. When I do the initial legwork, there is a lot more control over the sales cycle. I warm up and identify the prospect, and discover what efforts are needed to close the sale. About 60 percent of the work is done before my clients meet their prospects."

Being able to position telecommunications tools into the sales cycle is a strategic, complex process, says Szabadi. "Many companies have the technology but do not know where to place it in the sales cycle. We can come in and train staff how to use the phone. Through training sessions, we can make every staff member sales oriented, convert a greater percentage of inbound inquiries to sales and take control of the calls. As well, we teach them how to generate more qualified leads, determine a good prospect, eliminate poor leads, lower inhibitions when cold calling and enhance sales skills."

TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Jewish Film Fest News: Toronto journalist **Shlomo Schwartzberg**, who writes frequently on Jewish film, has been appointed the new programmer of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Schwartzberg joins producer **Helen Zukerman** and director of development **Debra Kwinter** as a key staff member of the festival, which is the second largest Jewish film festival in North America. He replaces **Debra Plotkin**, the festival's founding director, who was accepted into the Producer's Lab program of the Canadian Film Centre, where she has several feature film projects under development.

The festival's fifth season runs May 1 to 8, 1997.

* * *

Free Screenings: The Jewish Students Union (JSU) of the University of Toronto has arranged four evenings of Jewish film at Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. Admission is free.

The Israeli film *Braids*, dealing with the Jews of Iraq at a sensitive time in their history, is scheduled for screening Oct. 8 at 5 p.m., to be followed by a keynote address.

The Canadian film *The Quarrel* is offered on Oct. 10 at 6:30 p.m., followed by a talk by **Prof. Sharon Green**.

The Israeli film *The Second Watch*, a short comedy about an Israeli soldier guarding the Jordanian border, is to be followed by the Israeli feature film *Blind Man's Bluff*, about a young pianist who distances herself from her parents and ex-boyfriend, followed by a talk by **Shlomo Schwartzberg**. Oct 15 at 5 p.m.

The modern Yiddish film *Me Ivan, You Abraham*, which depicts Jewish life in Poland in the 1930s, is to be screened Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m., followed by a talk by Ellie Kellman, professor of Yiddish.

For more information, contact the JSU at 416-978-0421.

* * *

Book Signing: Raffi, the legendary children's musician, is slated to sign his new book, *Rise and Shine*, at the Children's Book Store, 2532 Yonge St., Toronto, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. 416-480-0233.

* * *

Joseph to Return: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, starring Donny Osmond, returns to Toronto by popular demand. With lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the musical is a joyous retelling of the familiar biblical story of Joseph and his 11 brothers. Opens Wed. March 12, 1997, at the Elgin Theatre for a limited run.

* * *

Israeli Films Tour Ontario: The Israeli film *The Summer of Aviya* and its sequel *Under the Domim Tree* have both enjoyed long runs in Toronto of 10 and 12 weeks respectively, which are unprecedented for Israeli films.

The films are based on two best-selling autobiographical novels by **Gila Almagor**, the first lady of Israeli cinema. They were directed by **Eli Cohen**, whose features also include *The Soft Kill* and the Canadian-produced *The Quarrel*.

This month and next, the films begin limited runs in Hamilton, Ottawa and London. Both were recently featured at a film festival in Sudbury.

* * *

In Brief: Pianist **Boris Zarankin**, violinist **Adele Armin** and cellist **Kristine Bogyo** perform a rare Chopin trio and other dazzling favorites Oct. 12, 8 p.m. at the Willowdale United Church, and Oct. 13, 3 p.m. at Walter Hall, U of T. Adults $13. Mooredale Concerts, 416-922-3714.

• **Steven Paikin**, host of TVO's Stage 2, presents his documentary video *Return to Warsaw*, Oct. 9, as part of the ORT Special Interest Luncheon at 12 noon at the Primrose Club, 273 St. Clair Ave. W. Couvert $20. 416-787-0297.

Juggling two simchas

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Howard Pechet has to juggle two simchahs in the same week. His father, Eugene, the pioneer Jewish hotelier from Edmonton, is celebrating his 85th birthday and Stage West Hotel Theatre restaurant in Mississauga, of which Pechet is executive director, is observing its 10th anniversary.

But Pechet, 46, takes problems like this in stride. He still remembers, acutely, that when he started producing repertory dinner shows he was shocked to find that his cast had to start rehearsing a new show while still playing the old.

Perhaps he copes because he was born into the hotel and dinner theatre business, though his first ambition was to be an English professor.

He is a nephew of Edmonton-born Arthur Hiller, a Hollywood director of note and president of the Academy of Arts and Science, which stages the Oscar awards.

"Arthur has been an influence on me, no doubt," he said. "He's opened doors for me in Hollywood and brought me in touch with agents for the stars we need in our shows."

In line with his theory that the TV-weaned baby boomers are the big market for his shows, Pechet has hired TV names for his marquees. For example, Pamela Bellwood, of *Dynasty*, is heading up the English comedy *Funny Money*, the 10th anniversary attraction at Stage West, running Sept. 18 to Nov. 17.

He has nothing but admiration for his father who started out as a garment salesman and now owns 19 hotels. "When he was out on the road he used to come back to North Battleford every Saturday because it had the only hotel with a bathtub. He lived in a cabin while he supervised the building of his first hotel. He introduced mixed drinking in Alberta, opened the first hotel with radio and TV, the first one that permitted dancing."

Among the guests at Eugene Pechet's birthday party in Edmonton will be Arthur and Gwen Hiller (his sister) coming in from Los Angeles for the event.

The secret of a successful dinner theatre is to offer good food, and both his hotel and theatre are dependent on the same kitchen, says the younger Pechet.

He decided to build the 242-suite hotel in Mississauga in 1990 because it had a big local population (500,000) to draw on and was close to the intersection of Dixie Road and 401.

Pechet, who also directs the Stage West dinner theatre in Calgary, recently observed his 25th wedding anniversary with his wife, Henriette, who hails from Holland. They have two sons, Jason, 19, a hotel administration student at Cornell University, and David 16, an 11th grader.

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TAB news

Performers flock to rehearsal of Khelem musical

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The simple-minded and good-natured people of the fictional village of Khelem (Chelm) try to capture the moon's reflection in a water barrel. They tend to laugh their worries away. Are they, as tradition contends, the fools of Chelm, or are they really wise?

This is the Jewish folklore around which entertainer Nathan Garnick has built a musical and which attracted 40 performers of all ages (one-third are teenagers or children) to rehearse on summer nights.

The result: *The Simpletones of Khelem* plays one performance Oct. 22, at Leah Posluns Theatre.

"We were astounded at the response to the item in *The CJN* asking for people to take part in a Yiddish-English musical," said Garnick. "We were told we couldn't get people out for rehearsals in the summer but they've literally come out of the woodwork, people we've never seen before, and we're delighted at the number of new faces and young people."

The Simpletones of Khelem is based on two playlets written and directed by Garnick, under the musical direction of Paul Mathew. Some English will be given in the dialogue or lyrics, but mostly they'll be in Yiddish. The Otz Tza Tza klezmer band of young musicians led by Jonna Lightstone will take part.

Nathan Garnick

"Not only does everybody on stage sing, but the audience will be unable to resist singing along with the chassidic melodies," Garnick said.

"It's fine to have Yiddish courses at the university level, I support them, but we need to interest children at a much earlier level."

He hopes the musical will kick start a move to recognize the potential of drama in teaching Yiddish to children.

Many of the teenagers and children in the cast come from homes where Yiddish is spoken, but to a few the language was entirely new. The performers range in age from seven to 70.

"A lot of them have studied music and singing and were delighted at the chance to appear in a show. At the first rehearsal one little boy said, 'Will we get a chance to bow to the audience after the curtain comes down?' "

Tickets are $10 purchased in advance or $15 at the door (*far groyser fardiner*) $4 for students at the door with ID, one *eynikil* (grandchild) under 13 is admitted free with a ticket holder.

For information call 416-635-0720.

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Baycrest awards to assist health care aides

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has launched a new awards program to assist health care aides in furthering their education.

The inaugural Nancy and Sam Ruth Nursing Education Awards were awarded recently to Baycrest staffers Monica Walters, Domingo Cabagyo, Mavis Hope, Janet Tsang and Cecilia Williams.

Health care aides provide personal care services, such as help with dressing and feeding, to residents and patients and are required to complete a health care aide program.

Made possible through an endowment fund established by Sam Ruth, president emeritus of the Baycrest Foundation, and his family, the awards provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships and tuition reimbursements to help recipients pursue further studies related to nursing.

"Health care aides are the staff who spend the most time with clients and make a tremendous contribution to the quality of their lives," says Ruth, who was executive director of Baycrest for 25 years.

"They're the first people they see in the morning and the last at night. Aides provide not only physical care but emotional support in what can sometimes be a stressful situation for elderly people and their families."

Recipients of the Nancy and Sam Ruth Nursing Education awards were (from left, back row) Monica Walters, Domingo Cabagyo and Mavis Hope who were presented their awards by Nancy and Sam Ruth (front row) at a special reception recently at Baycrest Hospital. The awards assist Baycrest Centre health care aides in furthuring their education. Not present are recipients Janet Tsang and Cecilia Williams.

Teva seeks FDA approval for MS drug

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – After 11 months of review proceedings, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries recently received the recommendation of a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advisory panel for its multiple sclerosis drug, Copaxone.

The peripheral and central nervous system drugs advisory panel unanimously recommended that the FDA approve Copaxone, Teva's first original drug, and ruled that it is both safe and effective. Past history indicates that the FDA usually follows the panel's advice.

If Copaxone gets the FDA approval, it will be the first Israeli invented and developed drug to come to the world market.

The next big question, if Copaxone does get the FDA's final approval, is for what uses the drug will be approved.

Developed at the Weizmann Institute, Copaxone is said to reduce the frequency and severity of MS attacks.

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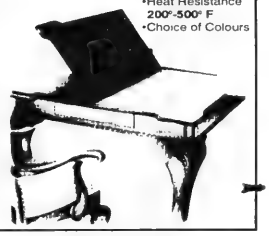

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Montrealers make Maccabiah men's golf team

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — It took two dramatic sudden-death holes.

But after it was all over, Maccabi Canada had six of its first athletes — golfers — picked for next summer's 15th "Jewish Olympics," the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Although they all happen to hail from Montreal, said national athletic committee chair Bob Luxenberg, 14 other golfers from Toronto and Vancouver also competed at the national trials, held at Ottawa's Rideau View Golf and Country Club.

The team will be comprised of Brian Miller, Mike Matthews, Maccabiah veterans Richard Marsh and Sheldon Weiss, and Andrew Harris and Mark Segal.

Marsh, with four Maccabiahs behind him, will be the team's veteran player; Matthews, at age 20, its youngest, and according to Luxenberg, a true phenom since he only took his first swipe at the tee three year ago.

From left, Andrew Harris, Richard Marsh, Sheldon Weiss, Mark Segal, Mike Matthews and Brian Miller are all smiles after winning spots on Maccabi Canada's men's golf team.

The final selection, he said, came after two days and 54 holes of hard-fought, emotionally-draining play and under contantly-threatening skies. Potential team-members had to have a six handicap or better to qualify for the trials.

The team's sixth position came down to a sudden-death face-off between Segal, who had failed to make the team twice before, and Maccabiah veteran Danny Zack of Vancouver, who played with a slight injury.

"It was the 'wiley veteran' versus the 'rookie,' " Luxenberg said. "Segal had never been able to break through in the clutch before."

Adding to the drama was the fact that the Ottawa golf course (veteran Jewish golfers John Holzman and his son Billy are very active at the club) was literally new terrain for the 20 contenders. Luxenberg said a "neutral" site was deliberately chosen so no golfer would have an edge.

In terms of Maccabiah expectations, Luxenberg said the six had a good shot at a team medal.

Although Canada won no golf medals in 1993 (the United States took both the team and individual golds), the 1973 men's team garnered a bronze and a member of the 1989 squad won an individual silver.

Team scores are determined by adding up the best four scores of the six players.

Luxenberg indicated that it's uncertain whether Canada will be able to find the minimum number of women golfers needed to qualify for a team entry, although individual Canadian women will compete.

At previous Maccabiahs, women golfers such as Terrie Brecher, Amy Weiskopf and Ivy Steinberg won several individual and team golds for Canada.

The golf event is played out in Caesaria.

Alumni tournament set

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eight teams of hoops-loving former CHAT students will take to the basketball court on Oct. 13 and 14 in the first-ever CHAT Alumni Tournament in Memory of Israel Becker.

The tournament is a fundraiser to benefit the upcoming Israel Becker CHAT Invitational Basketball Tournament that is slated to tip off in December. Each alumni team will ante up $250 to enter and almost all proceeds will go to the winter event, said Josh Sugar, one of the former students organizing the alumni tournament.

Former students from New York and Winnipeg are expected to participate and there's been some interest from as far as Florida and Israel, Sugar said.

The tournament will take place at the Bathurst Jewish Centre and is open to the public. Teams will play three games each to be followed by a playoff round. The final is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 14 and the public is welcome to attend. A donation box will be available for those wishing to support the winter tournament.

Sugar, who along with Eitan Mammon is organizing the alumni event, said former students dating back to the class of '85 are expected to participate.

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Hoops event honors student

By AMY ROSEN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Almost three years ago, Israel Becker's life was cut short by an automobile accident.

Becker (Bubba to his many friends) was a special person who was heavily involved in synagogue activities. He also had a great love for high school athletics and basketball was his passion. He was a graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

CHAT has decided to organize a basketball tournament for Jewish high schools in Canada and the United States. CHAT teams have participated in such tournaments in other cities over the years and its coaches felt it was time for the school to host its own tournament.

The Israel Becker CHAT Invitational Basketball Tournament was created in his memory.

Rob Eklove and Aubrey Zimmerman are the tournament coordinators. Eklove says this type of tournament is long overdue and he's especially excited about starting it up in honor of his friend.

"It's meant to be a celebration of the Jewish community, bringing Jewish high school basketball teams together in Toronto and fostering new links and friendships among our respective communities," says Eklove. "It's a living tribute to Becker, who embodied those qualities in his commitment to the community and his love for basketball."

Hosted by CHAT, the tournament will bring together teams from eight schools from across Canada and the United States to compete over a weekend.

From Dec. 5 to 8, the weekend will include the basketball tournament, a Shabbaton program for the athletes, a tour of Toronto and an awards ceremony and banquet.

For more information call Eklove at 416-785-7949.

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North Miami Beach, apt. for seasonal rent, Coastal Towers, 1 bdrm., 1 bath, fully equip., modern secur. bldg. 905-886-1780.

North Miami Beach, lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, facing pool, tennis, secur. Plaza of Americas, 163rd & Collins, Dec.1st-Feb.15th,$4800.U.S. 252-2521.

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Sunrise Lakes, Phase 4, 2/2, washer/dryer. 665-1718.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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Hallandale, Jan.-March, 1997, on intercoastal, across the St. from ocean, highrise bldg., gorgeous view, fully furn. & equip. $1500/mo. U.S. 908-247-6744.

Hollywood, Fla., self-contained studio apt. in house,pkg., close to beach. 416-663-2396.

Lake Worth, Poinciana, 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., pool, on golf course, shopping, 3 mos. min., $1,600 mo./U.S. 905-731-7406 (evg.).

Miami Beach, 6969 Collins Ave., 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, fully equipped, 3 mos. min., $1150/mo. U.S. 305-856-6481.

Miami Beach, oceanfront condo., beautiful area, clean & spacious apt., heated pool, 24 hr. security, boardwalk & beach, 3 mos. min., Call Carmen, TRG Realty, 305-531-8628.

C.V. West, Boca Raton, spotless, 1 bdrm., 1 bath, main flr., fully furn. & equip. 905-625-3189.

Delray Beach, villa townhome, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, Fla. room, garden, 3 pools, tennis, rec. centre, season. 905-886-4930.

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135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION

Four Oceanfront Resort Hotels with regular rooms, efficiencies & suites avail. For your special rate, call Tony Rogers 305-866-8965.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

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175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED

For Dec, furn. apt., centrally located,2-4 bdrms.416-661-1861.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, Israeli Organization seeks full time person to join a fast paced office environment. Requirements: excellent **verbal & written English communication** skills, strong organizational skills, excellent inter-personal skills, judgement & initiative, **computer knowledge**- prof. in a Windows environment,basic bookkeeping (Lotus 123 for Windows),**University degree**, exper. in Public Relations or Marketing are advantageous. Interested applicants, please fax resumé to:416-961-3962. Only suitable candidates will be contacted.

Part-time Shammas for Beth Jacob Synagogue, corner of Overbrook & Wilmington, avail. immediately. Should live within walking distance.416-635-9694, Joseph.

PART-TIME SCHOOL SECRETARY. Mature, good organizational skills, WP 6.0 for Windows, 24 hrs. per wk., incl. Sun. mornings. Fax resumé to (416) 449-9831Attn:Marlene Myerson

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Bookkeeper, conscientious, English & Russian speaking, seeks full or part time work. 222-0293.

247 DAY CARE

Quality Day Care in my home, nutritious meals,activities,ages 2-6 yrs. from 8-6pm. Yonge/ Steeles/Hilda area. 223-0457.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail., 245-6546, call after 6pm.

Exper. cleaning lady looking for work, refs. Call 289-4392.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I.D.S. Housekeeping Services, residential & commercial cleaning. Call 905-206-1326.

Mature responsible Jewish lady avail. for seniors or child care, live-out, speaks English, Yiddish & Portuguese, reas. rates. Call 781-4213, lve. msg.

Middle aged woman seeks employment as home caregiver, babysitting, home support or house cleaner. Avail. in evenings or weekends.Will also do meal preparation. Homecare certificate & refs. Call 243-0254.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

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Polish cleaning lady seeks job to clean houses. I have a car. 398-6454.

Pplish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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- No Fee to Employer
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- We have a 100% Approval rate!

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***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors. HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Mid-aged Hebrew speaking stroke/female,seeks caregiver/ hskpr., full-time,Ronit 905-764-8749 or Sandi 905-886-5700.

***Golden Care** is looking for mature people to work with seniors & maybe go to Florida, live-in,must have driv. lic. 665-4229.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Attend./Companion avail Eng/ Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Exper. HCA seeks job, good refs. Sheila. 248-2948.

Exper. woman seeks position with elderly. Has Homemaking Certificate, good cook. Call 416-650-1363 any time.

Nursing Home HCA seeking position to take care of elderly & handicapped,live-out. 284-1876.

RN-HCA seeks employment, private duty, 8 yrs. geriatric exper., refs. avail. 289-1827.

259 SENIORS

Home Support Services for Seniors. Housekeeping, food prep., companions, day program for adults with special needs. Call 416-650-1840.

Live-in help needed for elderly gentleman, must speak Yiddish, Polish or German. 905-277-9169.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1145** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Old fashion romantic male, 40's, with no children, friendly & nice, would like to meet similar younger lady for serious relationship. CJN Box 6827.

That's it, I'm setting up my mother! Attn: All Jewish men, age 50-65, there's a special, beautiful slim woman who needs you now. There's only one catch, you have to send me your photo & PH # so I can make the match.CJN Box 6831.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Successful, Toronto businessman, 51 yrs. old, 5'5" tall, very cute, charismatic, bright, good hearted, is searching for his **Princess.** If you are a petite, very attractive lady, with a good figure, (only women who love music will be compatible), give us a call! Evelyn, Soul Mates Intro. Service, 905-709-3868.

I am a 47 yr. old male, fit, multilingual Sephardic, 158 lbs., 5'10". I have integrity & honesty, and wish to meet a female for serious relationship. CJN Box 6826.

Widower, ret. prof., fit & active, caring,seeks insightful, slim, attr. woman, 65+.CJN Box 6830

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bagel Club, starting Sun Oct. 13th. Come & join us for breakfast & klezmer music. For info. & tickets call 416-650-1840

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Exceptional Ladies Wear required for consignment store. Garb's n Things, 489-8876

Record player in good working condition. 638-7397. lve. msg.

315 CARS FOR SALE

1985 Pontiac Parisienne Stn. Wagon, 8 cyl., 305, fully loaded, $3,500 or best offer, 223-6405.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ORA LINDER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 13, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Habonim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Henry *(Chaim)* Milchman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 13th, at 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SIDNEY HURWICH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 13th, at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACOB EGIT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 13th, at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Farband Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
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TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE UNVEILING DATE

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Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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The Inside Back

About families

Dear Susan,

My 6-year-old daughter has just started Grade 1. She refuses to leave home. She is teary, anxious and clingy when I take her to school, and when I finally get her there, she insists that I stay with her. I feel terribly helpless when this happens. What should I do?

Dear Reader,

While your daughter may appear to dislike school, her behavior is really masking another fear – separation anxiety.

Your 6-year-old is clearly showing signs of not being ready to leave you. You might consider whether she demonstrated signs of separation anxiety during previous developmental stages. How responsive were you or your husband to her anxieties and what strategies did you develop to assist her in overcoming these struggles? You should also think about how attentive your own parents were to your own separation anxiety and what strategies they provided you with.

In my experience, children will often re-enact experiences that their own parents faced as children. This situation provides you with an opportunity to empathize with your child and rewrite that script.

You may start by asking your child what she fears most when she leaves you. When she volunteers the information, do not dismiss it, no matter how insignificant it may seem. Encourage your child to confront her worst fears. Have her think about the best and worst things that could happen if she goes to school and use that to divide the transition to anxiety-free separation into manageable "bites." Make sure that you are going through the adventure together, and that mom and dad will be with her the whole way.

Next, you give your child strategies for overcoming her fears. Reward her for her successes while giving her permission to slide. She needs permission to struggle, yet to feel a sense of mastery or task accomplishment. Your ability to guide her through this process will depend on your own feelings of confidence and security – if you feel helpless, she will surely feel more conflicted about her struggle.

Sometimes having a husband assist in the drop-off helps to define a boundary that is helpful for both mother and child. Time warnings help the child prepare themselves for the eventuality of leaving. Reassure your child you will be picking her up at a specific time. Allow your child to be clingy until she is ready to be more independent, while at the same time decreasing your stay at school.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN SELLS FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

Whirlpool

CAESAR RAVIOLI SALAD

1-9 oz. pkg. cheese ravioli
2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
1 medium cucumber, thinly sliced
1/2 cup purple onions, chopped
1/4 cup black olives, sliced
1/4 cup fresh Parmesan cheese, grated
1/2 tsp. black pepper, freshly ground
3/4 cup Caesar salad dressing
4 cups Romaine lettuce, shredded

Cook ravioli according to package directions; drain. Rinse with cold water; drain. Combine ravioli and next 7 ingredients. Cover and chill. Serve over lettuce.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Light-hearted revue a night of nostalgia

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Thousands of people still recall the *Harry Harris Jewish Hour,* broadcast from CHML 900 in Hamilton every Sunday morning for 30 years, beginning in the 1930s.

Who can forget the cheery *Shalom, abee min zayt zikh* (as long as we need each other) greeting that marked the start of each show?

Fans of the show can take a walk down memory lane with Gloria Valentine and Murray Ellis's version of *Another Sunday on the Harry Harris Jewish Hour,* performed recently as part of Artsweek '96 in affiliation with the North York Public Library.

Ellis, an original host on the show, and Valentine first conceived the *Harry Harris Jewish Hour Revisited* for Artsweek '94 and the audience was so taken with the nostalgic stroll through songs, skits, authentic announcements and social events of the day, presented in Yiddish and English that Ellis and Valentine repeated their performance last year.

This year's version begins with Ellis welcoming the audience to "Hamilton, to the first live studio audience ever to see *The Harry Harris Jewish Hour*, brought to you by the Murray House, 207 Beverly St. And now, Molly Picon, appearing at the Victory Theatre, will sing the *Greene Cousine,* brought also by the Harbord Fish Market who sells herring and white fish at 10 cents a pound."

The ads for such places as Victory Florists, phone number Adelaide 1618, or Rotman's Mens Wear (Speak to Mendel and take it out on the installation plan), made as much a hit with the mostly middle-aged and older audience as Valentine's version of Picon, Jenny Goldstein, Lillian Lux and Gitl Shvantzkopf, direct from Cosmopolitan Opera Company.

The crowd also roared over such oldies as the man who went to the doctor and said, "Doc, I'm aching from arthritis.'" "It's good to know you," the doctor replied. "I'm Rosenbaum from Chicago." Many remembered the woman who wanted a divorce after 58 years because, "enough is enough."

With featured guests Allen Farkas and Michael Lebovic as Dzhigan and Schumacher and Nina Shapilsky at the piano, the just-over-an-hour show is fast-paced and light-hearted – a good evening out for original fans, those who remember their parents listening to the show, or anyone looking for a show with *Yiddishe tam.*

For information on booking *Another Sunday on the Harry Harris Jewish Hour,* call manager Sharon Brooker at 905-669-6191.

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

יום האור של ענת, מאת: אהרן מגד, הוצאת עם עובד/סיפריה לעם.

אהרן מגד נולד בפולין. בילדותו, עלה ארצה עם הוריו. בוגר גימנסיה "הרצליה" וממייסדי השבועון "משא". מאז הופעת ספריו וסיפוריו, זכה בפרסים רבים, כולל פרס אושיסקין, ברנר וביאליק. מחזותיו של מגד הוצגו בתיאטראות בארץ ובחוץ-לארץ.

לכאורה, יום האור של ענת הוא רומאן המספר על עלילות האהבה של גיבורת הסיפור: אורלי אלטשולר.

לקוראים שיקראו את יום האור של ענת כסיפור ריאליסטי על אורלי אלטשולר, בת-עשירים שנמלטת מבעלה בליל הכלולות וכל זאת על רקע מציאות ישראלית של שנות השמונים, לאחר המלחמה בלבנון, צפוייה אכזבה. סתם סיפור ממוצע על בת עשירים ישראלית ונפשה הסבוכה. אלא שכך אין להבין את יצירתו של אהרן מגד.

שני רבדים לרומאן ושתי סמכויות מספרות את יום האור של ענת. אורלי מספרת את מחצית הפרקים ואת המחצית האחרת מספר קול חיצוני, כל-יודע. אין זה סיפור פשוט כלל וכלל אלא רומאן סאטירי המוקיע את החברה הישראלית ומבקש להתריע על סכנה חקרבה ובאה על ישראל. הבנת התחכום הסאטירי שבספר חושפת בפנינו יצירה ספרותית חשובה. את הנימה הסאטירית מגלה הסופר באמצעות גיבורי הסיפור וארוע צעקני אחד: מסיבת החתונה של אורלי.

אורלי, הכלה, נתברכה ביופי פיסי בלבד. מעבר לזאת, מתגלה אצל אורלי רדידות נפשית בנסיונותיה להבין את עצמה ובמיוחד את בריחתה מבעלה בליל הכלולות. היא מדברת על "הטבע השטני שבי", "על כלוב נחשים חבוי בתוכי" ועוד קישקושים פסיכולוגיים מסוג זה. את אחיה, מישאל, אורלי מתארת כמשוקף, מקריח ושמן. בבחורות אינו מתעניין. בחדרו שקוע מישאל בחישובים "מפליג לספירות עלונות שאינני מסוגלת להציע אליתן."

אנו הקוראים מבינים שאורלי פשוט איננה תופסת את יעודו בחיים של אחיה. הוא, הוא הנביא החוזה את הבאות והוא בעצם היחיד שיעניק לאורלי תקוות.

בעוד רוב בני החברה הישראלית שקועים בטיפוח קריירה וצבירת רכוש, ותענוגות, מישאל דואג לעתידו הקיומי של עם-ישראל. בצבא פענח מישאל צפנים במודיעין ומנע אסונות ועתה הוא מנסה להציל את המדינה מאסון. באותיות עבריות רואה מישאל אותות ורמזים על "מצפון תיפתח הרעה."

חלק מהסיפור מתרחש על רקע ארוע החתונה של אורלי וחגי. (ובצד רובי המאהב של אורלי, המרצה הרומנטי מהאונברסיטה). המוזמנים לחתונה הם האולינגרכיה הישראלית; עירונים וקיבוצניקים, אנשי רוח ועסקים, אברכים וחילוניים. לחברה זו אבד מרץ הנעורים והנכונות להיאבק למען מימוש החזון הציוני. התעסקותם הבלתי-פוסקת של אורחי החתונה היא באכילה; "...עומדים בשני תורים, צלחות בידיהם, לקבל את הבשר מן הזוהב." לא עבודת הקודש בבית-המקדש אלא הזלילה ורדיפת התענוגות הם הפולחן העכשווי. להחרפת המשמעות הסאטירית נעזר מגד בהתייחסות לסיפורו הקצר של גיוזף קונרד "נערים", ולצירורו המפורסם של בוטצילי "פרימאוורה". כמו כן מזכיר הסופר מקורות מדרשיים יאלוזיות מהתניך. מישאל, בתניך הוא אחד מחבריו של דניאל. המתנה המוזרה שהובאה לחתונה, "תרנגול אדום נוצה" מזכירה למישאל אגדה בדבר תרנגול ותרנגולת ודברים שנאמרו בקשר לחורבן. "מצפון תיפתח הרעה", פרקי נבואתו של ירמיהו וכן ערכן המיספרי של האותיות "יום האור של ענת" מסתכמות לערכן המיספרי של אותיות הפסוק מספר דניאל "מנא מנא תקל ופרסין". שמו של הרומאן מרמז מכאן על נושאו העיקרי: סרובה של האולינגרכיה הישראלית לקרוא את הכתובת על הקיר המזהירה על סכנה חברתית/מדינית.

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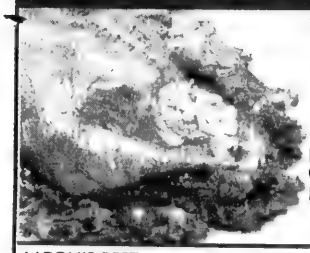

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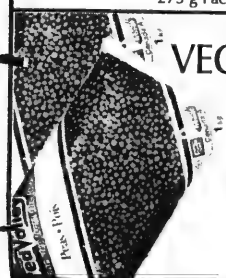

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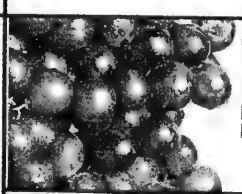

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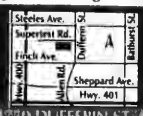

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

New electoral map removes traditional 'Jewish ridings.' *Page 3*

Seniors hit by budget cuts told to fight back. *Page 6*

Holy Blossom Temple honors victims of AIDS. *Page 7*

Coast to Coast

Baron Byng graduates gather for 48th reunion. *Page 23*

Israel & the Jewish World

Battle for Jerusalem is a microcosm of the Arab-Israeli conflict. *Analysis* *Page 32*

Health news

Yehoshua's grandparents on a fundraising trip for group homes for Israeli autistic children. *Page 35*

TAB news

Toronto Senior Strings members are senior in musical achievement. *Page 36*

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Shabbat: Noah
Candlelighting 6:08
Cheshvan 5, 5757
Havdalah: 7:13

Arafat hardens tone

'Things could explode any moment'

By JON IMMANUEL
and DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In his first major speech since the violent clashes last month, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat sharply attacked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week, warning that the Palestinians would not accept peace at any price.

In a 35-minute speech to the Palestinian legislative council in Ramallah, Arafat said, "We opted for peace, but we will not be forced to kneel for peace...Netanyahu has to know that nobody can threaten the Palestinian people...There is no doubt we must be prepared for all contingencies."

The lead story in the Palestinian daily *Al Hayat al Jadida*, which is considered particularly close to Arafat, was an interview he gave to the Egyptian news magazine *Al-Mussawar* with the banner headline, Arafat cannot prevent an intifadah. Arafat warned in the interview that "it could explode at any moment."

Again accusing Netanyahu personally rather than the Israeli government, Arafat said, "Netanyahu is trying to change the agreements, directly or indirectly."

Arafat's chief negotiator Saeb Erekat said that the government is trying "to create two towns in Hebron and that is simply not acceptable."

U.S. officials passed a message from Netanyahu to Arafat this week saying that Israel seeks to resolve the Hebron issue speedily. Despite this, it seems Arafat suspects that

Continued on page 30

President Ezer Weizman greets Palestinian Authority (PA) leader Yasser Arafat last week at Weizman's private villa in Caesarea. Weizman subsequently expressed disappointment at the harsh tone of Arafat's speech later in the week to the PA Legislative Council in Ramallah. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Argentine bomb leads to neo-Nazis

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUENOS AIRES — The official in charge of investigating the July 1994 bombing of the Jewish community centre here is pursuing a lead that links suspects arrested in connection with the case to American neo-Nazi groups, sources close to the case said.

At least one suspect, arrested in December during raids in and around a major military base outside Buenos Aires, was found in possession of a sizable amount of American neo-Nazi literature, the sources said.

Police found hidden at the suspect's residence several books, leaflets and magazines edited by a group called White Aryan Resistance, which was founded by American extremist Tom Metzger.

Sources said Judge Juan Jose Galeano, who is in charge of the case, is investigating the extent of influence that group and other American militia movements may have in Argentina.

Jewish leaders here and abroad have complained about what they describe as the slow pace of the investigation, which has to date provided no satisfactory explanation for the attack.

The bombing that destroyed the headquarters of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Aid Association (AMIA), left 86 dead and more than 300 wounded.

An earlier attack on the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires also remains unsolved. The car bombing of the embassy in March 1992 killed 29 people and left more than 100 injured.

Making his first public statement about the case in months, Galeano apologized this week for the length of time the AMIA investigation has taken.

"It has not been easy. We are not experts in terrorism," he said.

"People must understand that the courts are making great strides in trying to solve the AMIA bombing, and that some of the information is too sensitive to be divulged."

INSIDE

Dreaming with your eyes open:
How to make our schools better. *Perspectives*. Please see page 9.

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Possible tension in Jordan-Israel relations — please see page 29

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

Senior Immigrants

JERUSALEM – As if their longevity was not enough of an accomplishment, two women who recently made aliyah may also hold the record of being the world's oldest immigrants.

The Jewish Agency was contacted last week by the Guinness Book of World Records for information about Rachel Shmashiashvilli, 111, who arrived here from the former Soviet republic of Georgia last week and another 111-year-old woman who came from the Russian province of Chechnya several months ago.

Year of Zionism

JERUSALEM – Keren Hayesod kicked off its Year of Zionism at the historic Mikve Yisrael Agricultural School with a festive ceremony.

The Hebrew year 5757 was chosen by the government as the Year of Zionism to mark the 100th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland, which took place in August 1897.

Qatar Shelves Plans

JERUSALEM – The Persian Gulf state of Qatar has decided to postpone opening its trade office in Tel Aviv because of what it sees as the hard-line political stance of the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

WORLD

Dole on the Mideast

HARTFORD – Republican presidential candidate Robert Dole, who accused President Bill Clinton last week of arranging the emergency Middle East summit as a photo opportunity, has now stated that the peace process should not become an American political issue.

During the presidential debate, Dole also charged the Clinton administration with managing the recent Middle East crisis – and overall American foreign policy – on an ad-hoc basis. He said the administration had not achieved much at the summit.

French Forgive Bibi

PARIS – French Jewish leaders appear to have made peace with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after he spent his only evening in Paris with the French branch of his Likud party.

During a recent trip to France, the Israeli premier angered Jewish community leaders when he declined to attend a traditional dinner for visiting Israeli leaders.

Rabbi Honored

CLEVELAND — Toronto native Rabbi Lawrence Zierler, spiritual leader of Kehillat Yaakov-Warrensville Center Synagogue, will be honored at the shul's annual dinner next month.

The dinner will celebrate Rabbi Zierler's completion of a decade of service in the rabbinate. Rabbi Zierler is the son of David and Marion Zierler of Willowdale.

Synagogue Bombed

BUDAPEST – A bomb exploded outside the Dohany Street Synagogue in downtown Budapest last week.

Police reported that no one was injured and that the synagogue was not damaged.

The bomb was hidden in a garbage can across the street from the synagogue, according to the police.

Shul Goundbreaking

MOSCOW – Russia's prime minister and other government officials provided significant support to the country's Jewish community during a groundbreaking ceremony here last week for a new synagogue.

The synagogue will be erected in memory of the 2.7 million Soviet Jews that perished during the Holocaust.

Holocaust Denial Ban

LONDON – Opposition leaders here have said that if they are elected, they would make Holocaust denial a criminal offense.

The pledge by the Labor party recently came in response to a lengthy campaign by Jewish groups such as the Board of Deputies and the Holocaust Education Trust.

Headstones Overturned

LONDON – Scottish police have been treating the overturning of 94 headstones in Edinburgh's Piers Hill cemetery as a racial attack because only those in the Jewish section of the graveyard were vandalized.

The Jewish section has more than 600 graves, dating back some 50 years.

No one has yet claimed responsibility for the attack, which took place during Yom Kippur.

Creative Writing Contest

NEW YORK – A prize of $1,000 (US) will be given by the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE) for the best original short story on a Jewish theme or topic in the Seventh Annual David Dornstein Memorial Creative Writing Contest for Young Adult Writers.

The contest is open to writers between the ages of 18 and 35. The deadline is Dec 31, 1996. Judging will take place between Jan. 1 and May 30, 1997.

For more information contact CAJE at 261 W. 35th Street, Floor 12A, New York, NY, 10001, 21-268-4210, fax 21-268-4214, e-mail 500-8447@MCIMAIL.COM.

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'Jewish ridings' vanish as electoral map changes

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Changes to federal ridings and provincial ones in Ontario will mean the elimination of some well-known electoral districts in Toronto's Jewish community, and the creation of a new riding where Jewish residents will comprise a sizeable element.

In keeping with increases to Canada's population, which recently broke the 30 million mark, Elections Canada recently released a new federal electoral map. It redraws most ridings and creates a few new ones, based on population shifts culled from the 1991 census.

In the next federal election, in 1997 or in 1998, Canadians will elect 301 MPs, up from 295.

The reverse will be true in Ontario, where voters in the next provincial election will elect 27 fewer MPPs. That's because Premier Mike Harris recently followed through on an election promise to slash the size of government.

But in the federal election, Ontarians will vote for four more MPs, raising the number from 99 to 103.

In the next provincial contest, Ontario voters will pick 103 MPPs, down from 130. The proposed new provincial ridings will have the same boundaries and names as the federal ones, meaning some ridings Jewish voters have become used to — like Wilson Heights and Oriole — will disappear.

The changes will also create a new riding — Thornhill — which will be at least one-quarter Jewish. The new district mirrors the trend of younger Jewish families who have flocked to the suburbs north of Toronto, many of them from Montreal.

Maurizio Bevilacqua

On the federal scene, Canada's most Jewish riding — Mount Royal, held by Liberal Sheila Finestone — will not see its boundaries changed, likely a result of a net population loss in Quebec. The riding takes in all of the Montreal-area cities of Cote St. Luc, Hampstead and the Town of Mount Royal, and is estimated to be 50 percent Jewish.

The Montreal riding of Saint-Henri-Westmount will be rejigged. The new riding of Westmount-Ville-Marie will include a good portion of the city's Snowdon and Cote-des-Neiges districts.

In Ontario, federal ridings will be redrawn but not drastically. A dramatic change will take place with the creation of Thornhill riding, which will be carved out of York North, held by Liberal Maurizio Bevilacqua, and Markham-Whitchurch-Stouffville, held by independent Jag Bhaduria.

York North is currently Canada's most populous riding, at about 260,000, roughly double the average population of a federal riding. It's approximately 10 percent Jewish, Bevilacqua told *The CJN*.

New riding of Thornhill at least 25% Jewish

Thornhill riding will be bounded by Steeles Avenue, Highway 400, Rutherford Road and Highway 404. It will have a population of 95,000, and Bevilacqua estimates it will be 25 to 35 percent Jewish. The riding will be home to several synagogues, day schools and a burgeoning Jewish population.

Bevilacqua plans to run in the next election in the new riding of Vaughan-Aurora. The MP said he's "sad" to be losing so many of his Jewish supporters.

Elinor Caplan

At the provincial level, Thornhill riding will be carved from York Centre, held by Al Palladini, and Markham, represented by David Tsubouchi.

Because Ontario's provincial ridings will conform to their federal counterparts, Wilson Heights, the province's most Jewish riding, will be split between three districts: Willowdale, York Centre and a small part of Eglinton-Lawrence.

Oriole, which is about 10 percent Jewish and held by MPP Elinor Caplan, will be split between Willowdale and Don Valley East. Caplan told *The CJN* she will next run in Don Valley East, which she estimates will be less than five percent Jewish.

Charles Harnick's Willowdale riding will be enlarged to conform to its federal equivalent, now held by Jim Peterson. The provincial riding will include a larger section of Bathurst Street in the Finch Avenue area, currently in Wilson Heights.

The riding of Oakwood will be swallowed up by several surrounding districts, including St. Paul's, the federal version of which has a good sized Jewish population and is represented by Barry Campbell.

As well, the provincial ridings of Eglinton and Lawrence will be partially incorporated into Eglinton-Lawrence. The federal riding of the same name, now held by Joe Volpe, will likely pick up some Jewish voters, as it will be enlarged to include a larger chunk of the north side of Eglinton Avenue between Avenue Road and Bathurst.

Also standing to gain some Jewish constituents will be MP Art Eggleton, whose federal York Centre riding will be rejigged to include the Bathurst-Steeles area and its large Russian-Jewish emigre population.

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From the editor's desk

Testing PA's record against Oslo Accords

During his testimony in Washington last July 23 to the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights of the U.S. Congressional House Committee on International Relations, Prof. Irwin Cotler devoted a substantial portion of time discussing the record of the Palestinian Authority's (PA) compliance with their obligations under the Oslo accords and under the Cairo Agreement (the Israel -PLO Gaza/Jericho Agreement of May 1994).

Cotler anticipated that some committee members might question the connection between the PA's record on human rights and its record on treaty compliance. Thus, he marshalled no fewer than seven reasons to justify the relevance of his eight pages of evidence concerning PLO violations of the peace accords. In his own words, these are his reasons.

"First, and most important, peace and human rights are both inter-dependent and indivisible, we will have both or neither Second, peace and justice are no less interdependent and indivisible; again, as the cases of Bosnia, Rwanda, South Africa reveal, we will have both or neither.

"Third, the question of whether or not there is compliance with the undertakings of a peace agreement is in fact a 'human rights' issue itself. For it goes to the core of whether one is complying with a basic principle of international law - that agreements are binding upon the parties and must be performed by them in good faith. And it goes to the core of respect for bilateral and international undertakings about the most profound of values - a just and lasting peace.

"Fourth, many of the undertakings, as set forth below, have a 'human rights' dimension to them. Accordingly, a material breach of these undertakings is tantamount to a material breach of human rights law.

"Fifth...compliance is vital lest the absence of compliance become the pretext or principle for the unravelling of the agreement.

"Sixth...violations may also threaten international peace and security itself and the whole corpus of human rights within it.

"Finally, the agreements have core provisions committing the parties expressly to the promotion and protection of human rights, and to the implementation of the agreement in accordance with internationally accepted standards of human rights and the rule of law."

Please see The Kirshner File page 11

Not one to avoid detail, Cotler testifies to 11 "principal" violations by the PA, or the PLO as he interchangeably refers to the Authority, of the agreements with Israel. The list is limited to systemic violations which stem from the decisions or actions of the top leadership of the PA. It does not include cases of local failures or mistakes in behavior.

Cotler lists the following violations: failure to confiscate arms and disarm militias; refusal to extradite suspected terrorists; failure to punish [terrorists] using [instead] the PA court system; incitement to terror by top PA leadership; failure to prevent incitement; harassment of suspected former collaborators with Israel; failure to provide information on MiAs; failure to change the PLO Covenant; failure to hold democratic elections and establish a democratic regime; PLO police activity in Eastern Jerusalem; illegal drilling for water.

In Cotler's mind, the violations regarding incitement to terror and the failure to prevent incitement deserved special attention. Not only did he discuss them under the heading of PA violations of its commitments to Israel, he also gave it extensive coverage under his summary of human rights abuses toward the Palestinian population.

Terrorist violence is "the ultimate assault on human rights." Thus, Cotler argues, the commitment by the PA to struggle against terrorism should be subjected to "a fundamental human rights" standard. The PA should be taking active steps to prohibit incitement to hatred and violence. This is the minimum behavior, Cotler points out, required of the PA by the norms of international law. It is also an express commitment made by the PA to Israel under the agreements which it signed, namely, "to take all necessary measures to prevent acts of terrorism."

Cotler drives home the relevance of his testimony.

"Education against terror, or at a very minimum, abstaining from incitement to terror, is a necessary measure to alter historic attitudes which have made engaging in acts of terrorism appear acceptable, if not also legitimate to the broad masses and desirable to the potential recruits for Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other Palestinian terror groups.

"Indeed, it is not surprising, as a forthcoming report by Peace Watch reveals, that given the 30-year tenure of the Palestinian National Covenant...that polls taken within the last year alone indicate that as many as 70 percent of Palestinians support some kind of armed attack against Israeli targets. Moreover, as the report puts it, the knowledge by terrorists that they are acting in a manner encouraged or at least tolerated by the PLO leadership of the PA is likely to embolden Palestinian militants with the sense that they are engaging not in acts of terrorism but in legitimate, nationalistic, even historic acts.

"The question then, and the test of whether the PA is complying with internationally accepted human rights standards on this matter, is this: What is the message regarding anti-Israel violence that has been transmitted by the PA leadership to the Palestinian public, particularly to those young men who are the potential recruitment base for the terrorists?"

Cotler suggests that a proper answer to his own question can be obtained only after referring to the statements and declarations made by the PA leadership regarding the peace process and terror, weighing general statements about opposing terrorism against specific statements praising terrorists, examining whether the PLO Covenant has been amended, looking at what is being taught about terror and the peace process in the Palestinian educational system and, finally, examining the measures taken against those who engaged in inciting terror.

Space does not allow further reference to the myriad of important details contained in Cotlers's testimony about the state of human rights in the territories administered by the PA. I conclude by returning to my introduction to the "Cotler dossier" in my column of Oct.3.

"Against the backdrop of the killing and the mayhem [three] weeks ago in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, a discussion of the state of human rights under the Palestinian Authority might seem somewhat surrealistic. But the two subjects are related."

Cotler conclusively proved the connection.

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Greater Toronto Area

Kalejs suggests conspiracy out to frame him

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the world according to Konrads Kalejs, the KGB is out to get him, witnesses have been pressured to lie about him and immigration officials from three countries have failed to accurately record his statements.

In testimony last week at an immigration hearing, Kalejs added further details to his theory, that, boiled down to essentials, suggests the Russians are attempting to frame him.

Kalejs said the Soviets forged his signatures on wartime documents of the Latvian Security Police Battalion, in which he merely acknowledged receipt of cigarette rations; he said documents attesting to his participation in Latvian killing units were also forgeries; he suggested witnesses in England and Germany who testified against him were old and sick and not reliable; and he questioned the reliability of Soviet witnesses called by his own lawyer for his 1987 U.S. immigration case.

Kalejs, an Australian citizen, was testifying at a hearing to determine whether he will be allowed to remain in Canada. Government officials contend he was involved in war crimes as a member of the Latvian Auxiliary Security Police, more commonly known as the Arajs Kommando (AK) after its leader, Viktors Arajs.

Last week, Kalejs was confronted with several statements given by Arajs, in which Kalejs was described as a member of the notorious unit that collaborated with the Nazis in the murder of approximately 30,000 Latvian Jews. Kalejs denies being a member of the Arajs Kommando and says he didn't meet Arajs until December 1944, after the AK was disbanded, when both were serving as officers in the newly-created Latvian Legion of the SS.

But in one long, rambling statement, given to to the court in West Germany during his 1979 trial, Arajs stated' "First Lt. Kalejs accompanied [SS Gen.] Stahlecker to Russia, where Stahlecker was killed in February 1942."

In another statement to the court, Arajs said that "Kalejs served under [Walter] Schroeder" and that "Schroeder was with the public order police." He also testified that Schroeder "was the top leader of the police and an intermediary between German and Latvian authorities" and that his "principal task was to build up the Latvian public order police force."

Kalejs denied accompanying Stahlecker to Russia, though he admitted serving under him in only one battle. He said Schroeder asked him to organize a Latvian ski unit and he questioned Arajs' credibility, suggesting that from "what I have read about Arajs, Arajs was a sick man ... at his trial."

Referring to the battle of Saniki at which Stahlecker was killed, Kalejs said former AK members were "making up stories" when they testified that the unit took revenge for his death. Earlier testimony indicated that the village was burned down and villagers massacred by the AK company headed by Kalejs.

"If revenge was taken, I don't know about it ... that was not done by Latvian soldiers," he said.

At another point during cross-examination, Kalejs said a witness who testified that the village was burned in retaliation for Stahlecker's death "spent 20 years in Siberia ... He was prepared by KGB people so what he said during the television hearing doesn't mean anything at all."

Kalejs repeated the same allegation regarding several other witnesses who testified on videotape in Latvia, but gave no evidence to support it.

When confronted by a list of half a dozen Soviet-based witnesses called by his own lawyer, Kalejs maintained that they too had been instructed by the KGB.

He provided no evidence to substantiate that allegation, though at one point, he referred to his former brother-in-law, Alfreds Putnins, who Kalejs suggested was pressured by the KGB to change his testimony overnight to make it more damaging to him.

However, evidence earlier in the hearing showed that in September 1987, Putnins testified on a single day during which he said he didn't know whether Kalejs commanded a company of guards at the Salaspils concentration camp or if he even served there.

Hearing that testimony, U.S. Justice Department lawyers confronted Putnins with a protocol he had given two years earlier that was more damaging to Kalejs. In it he said Kalejs commanded the Salaspils guard unit. The U.S. lawyers also pointed out that in 1985, Putnins testified that his wife, Kalejs' sister, told him her brother was a member of the Arajs Kommando.

Kalejs also questioned the testimony of Harry Svikeris, a former AK member who told Scotland Yard that Kalejs was also in the unit.

"Svikeris during the hearings was a very sick man; so you can't depend on what he was talking about at that time," Kalejs said.

He made a similar suggestion about Arajs, who in 1984, while serving a life sentence in a West German prison, identified him as an AK "company commander in February 1942."

During cross-examination by Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh, Kalejs was confronted with a statement by a former AK member that he had appointed a platoon to stand guard while Gypsies were shot.

You must look "at his background, which destroys completely that testimony," Kalejs said of the witness.

Macintosh then pointed to a certificate signed by an SS officer attesting to Kalejs' service in the security police and SD of Einstazgruppe A (a Nazi killing unit) in Locknja. The document stated that from Feb. 18 to April 26, 1942, Kalejs took part in battles at Nasva, Saniki and Rogova.

MacIntosh also read from a report of Einsatzgruppe A that 38 Jews and one Gypsy were shot at Locknja.

To determine the truth of a document, you must know where it came from. "If it came from a place I am suspicious of, then it's not correct," Kalejs said.

Kalejs also questioned the accuracy of several reports prepared by Australian and American immigration authorities. The first, prepared before he immigrated to Australia, records Kalejs' version of wartime events but does not include his claim he served on the Eastern front from January to October 1942 fighting partisans.

"I really didn't know what the elderly, overworked lady put in the form," Kalejs said. "I told her and

[Cont'd. on page 6]

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Greater Toronto Area

Seniors urged to express anger at the ballot box

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the next year or two seniors and others hit by budget cuts to social programs must strike back at the ballot box, Al Gorlick, chair of Alliance of Seniors, said at a rally at St. Lawrence Centre recently.

"The only thing a politician understands is being re-elected," Gorlick told the 500 in attendandce. "Don't try to reason with them, they'll only prevaricate, just say you are angry with what they are doing, and show your anger when you vote."

The federal election is due in a year and the provincial election in two years, he said.

Several Jewish groups brought members to the rally. A protest demonstration planned for the square across the road had to be cancelled because of rain.

The strongest applause of the day came after speaker Judy Rebick declared: "I hope the whole city of Toronto is shut down on Oct. 25." She was referring to labor's protest action on that day against the provincial Conservative government of Mike Harris.

Furthermore, "the federal Liberal government of Jean Chretien has done more to destroy social benefits in this country than the [Brian] Mulroney Tories," said Rebick, co-host of an Ontario TV talk show who described herself as the station's "house radical."

"The right wing in this country is trying to convince everyone that we are the special interest groups. We are the essential and crucial groups who brought in these social services. Don't believe what you read in the papers, that our protests are just a '60s thing. Don't let them privatize us in a dog eat dog society."

Rebick said the Tories in Ontario had turned the clock on labor relations back to the 1930s without even consulting the unions.

Mistrust of politicians has reached such a point in Canada that it worries her that people will bcome apathetic and pave the way for regressive political developments, she said.

"Our two main political parties are on the way to becoming like the Republicans and Democrats in the United States, where there is so little difference between them they could be called Republocrats."

Disadvantaged people in the community are asking for justice, not charity, said Rabbi Dow Marmur, senior rabbi of Holy Blossom Temple. He warned that society must turn away from a "mine is mine and yours is yours" attitude. "For all its appearance of fairness, that punishes those who have little."

In the Hebrew tradition *tzedakah* is a call for justice to the disadvantaged, not charity. "The claim that charity will replace compassion is false," Rabbi Marmur said.

The so-called crisis in the funding of the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is a "fake" said Dan Benedict, co-chair, Ontario Seniors Coalition, a retired auto worker. "The cost of CPP to the government is less than in any country in the Group of Seven." He warned that any government ministry that could reduce old age security benefits could do the same to the Canada Pension Plan.

"The Ontario government is most open in attacking social benefits," he said. "The federal government is not so open, but it is collaborating."

Resolutions were approved calling for maintenance of the CPP, restoring the universality of old age security, closing corporate tax loop holes, maintaining rent controls and making post-secondary education education accessible. The resolutions will be sent to Chretien and Harris governments.

Kalejs suggests conspiracy

[Cont'd. from page 5]

I didn't know what she wrote there."

MacIntosh later pointed to a 1956 U.S. immigration document in which Kalejs lists his occupation during 1942 as "farmer." MacIntosh suggested Kalejs didn't mention his service during 1942 to steer away from suspicions of involvement in war crimes.

Kalejs maintained he answered all questions truthfully, but "I don't know what they wrote down."

(Earlier, he questioned the notes of a Canadian Immigration officer who recorded Kalejs' claim that the Russians, and not the Nazis, had murdered 27,800 Latvian Jews.)

MacIntosh also confronted Kalejs on his claim that U.S. authorities put up roadblocks to the testimony of a Latvian witness, who Kalejs said would have helped his case. MacIntosh showed Kalejs a list of Latvian witnesses that his U.S. lawyer wanted to question and pointed out that the "very important" witness was not on the list.

"I'm not a lawyer, but somebody goofed there," Kalejs said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Victims of AIDS honored at Holy Blossom

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Those who have died of AIDS were honored by friends, loved ones and family at a recent memorial service sponsored by Holy Blossom Temple AIDS committee.

Beginning and ending with *Hinay mah tov umah na-im, shevet achim gam yachad* (How good and pleasant it is when people sit together in harmony) the service included prayers, candlelighting, readings, songs, personal remembrances and a candle-lit Kaddish and reading of names in the temple's courtyard.

One by one, people stood up to talk, their voices sometimes cracking, about loved ones who died from AIDS.

"Let us help keep alive the memory of people who have touched our lives. There are friends who touched us deeply and there are sons, lovers and those we cared about but didn't get to know well enough," said one.

Another said that a "thief has paid me a visit twice and stole the lives of two friends. AIDS is not prejudiced, it knows no sex, race, color of skin or geographical boundaries."

Andrew Cohen spoke about Kael Shriar, a past co-chair of the committee, who succumbed to the disease last winter, and said that the stigma, isolation and rejection is the worst part of AIDS.

"Let us honor Kael's memory by a renewed commitment to the fight against the disease and to live life to its fullest."

In a reading entitled In Strength for Those Who Mourn, the reader spoke to G-d and asked that he "fill us with trust in You, and turn us again to the tasks of life. And may the memory of our loved ones inspire us to continue their work for the coming of Your kingdom."

Council rebukes judge

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian Judicial Council has mildly rebuked the chief justice of the Federal Court for his conduct in a case involving three alleged Nazi war criminals.

Justice Julius Isaac's conduct was "inappropriate but not serious," a three-judge panel concluded in an eight-page decision released last week.

The finding, coupled with a report prepared for the Justice Department by former Ontario chief judge Charles Dubin, stands in marked contrast to a decision by Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen. Cullen stayed the cases involving the three alleged war criminals on the grounds of perceived interference in judicial independence.

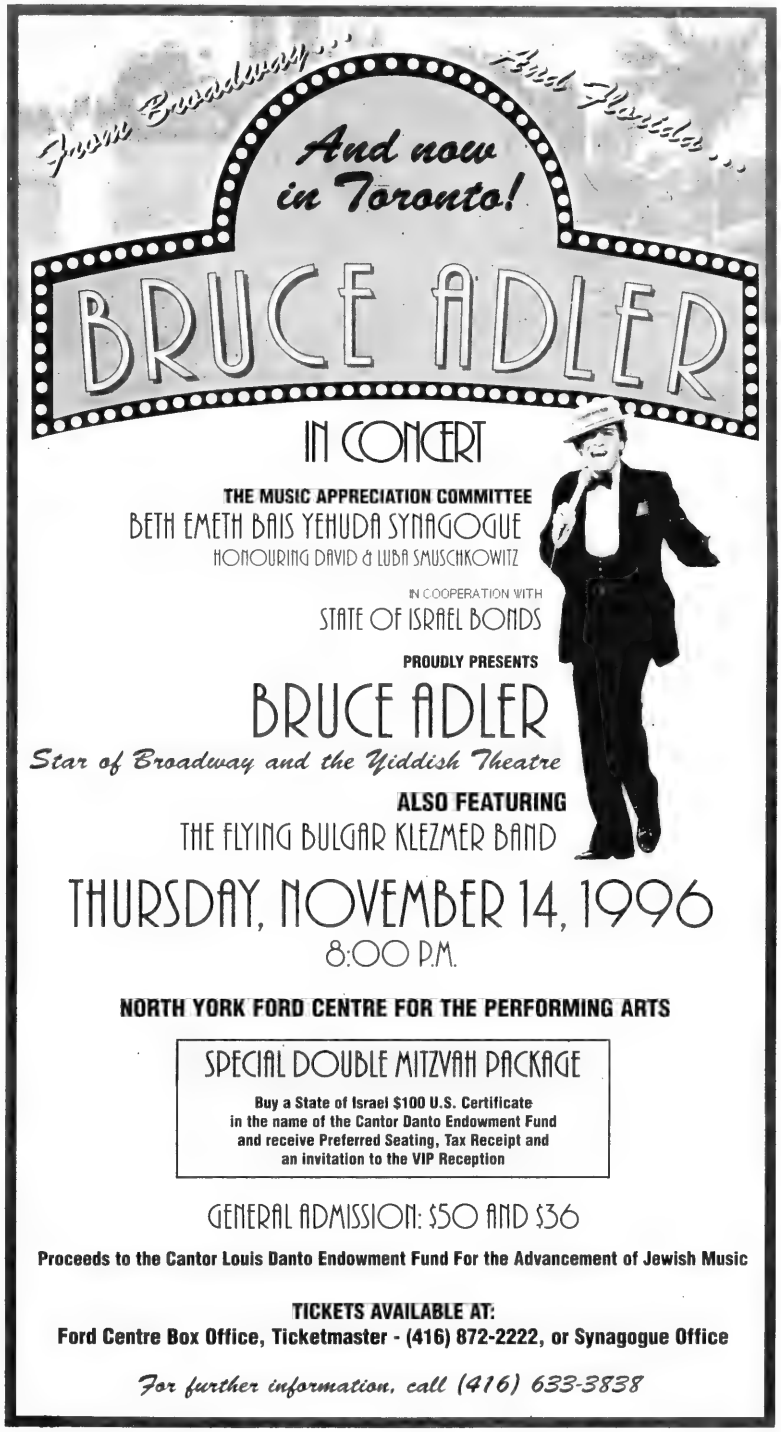
The "interference" dates back to March 1, when Ted Thompson, assistant deputy attorney general, met with Isaac to discuss the slow pace of proceedings in the cases.

The Judicial Council found that in his capacity as administrator of the Federal Court and in light of an "institutional history of significant problems of delay in the court," Isaac "could not ignore the issue" of delay.

"The panel concluded there was nothing secretive or clandestine about [the] meeting with Thompson ... The meeting was held in good faith ... and without any intention to favor any party."

Commenting on the Judicial Council's finding, Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber said, "We've stated from the beginning that the decision by Cullen was an extreme overreaction.

"We continue to call upon the government of Canada to consider a reference of the appeal [of the three alleged war criminals] directly to the Supreme Court of Canada."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If not conscience, law

Swiss banks may finally be brought to account for the immorality of their practices. Last week, a small story appeared on the wire services reporting that a $20-billion (US) class action lawsuit has been filed in New York by Gizella Weisshaus on behalf of all survivors and victims who deposited money and valuables in Swiss banks for safekeeping until after World War II. The defendants in the action are Union Bank of Switzerland, the Swiss National Bank and a number of other institutions and individuals.

The lawsuit comes in the wake of many recent revelations and developments concerning Jewish property stolen by the Nazis. Last month the World Jewish Congress released documents describing how, after the war, American troops found caches of horded valuables containing every conceivable artifact of ritual and religious significance hidden in the salt mines in Merkers, Germany. Included in the property found was melted-down gold from the teeth of some of the victims. Indeed, the *Jewish Week of New York* recently reported that about two tons of gold are still being stored at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

Three weeks ago, the Swiss parliament was shamed into taking steps to establish an independent commission to investigate the fate of all the assets stolen by the Nazis and stashed in Switzerland. As Liki Nabholz, one of the sponsors of the Swiss legislation creating the commission, said, "The entire moral reputation of our country is at stake. The facts must not be suppressed but be laid, once and for all, on the table."

When they do come to light, as surely they will, those facts will likely reveal greed's ugliest, most horrific face. The World Jewish Congress estimates that Swiss banks, to this day, hold as much as $7 billion in assets and interest belonging to Jews murdered by the Nazis. The Swiss Commission is expected to get under way in April and will have unrestricted access to all records. What conscience could not do, perhaps the law will.

Shame on TVO

Last week, TVOntario (TVO) aired a program, called *It's a boy*, ostensibly a documentary, but actually an undisguised polemic on the subject of ritual circumcision. It was reviewed by *The CJN* (Oct. 10) and described, charitably, as "not entirely balanced."

On TVO's behalf one can say at least that there was no pretence at fairness or sensitivity or understanding or depth. The use of the term "barbaric" in connection with the rite was proof of that. But that is all one can say on behalf of TVO.

The Canadian Jewish Congress referred to the program as "unadulterated propaganda...anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim." The Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies in Toronto pointed out that "it was totally inappropriate for an educational, government-financed station to launch an attack on one of the oldest and holiest of Jewish and Muslim religious practices."

We agree with their criticisms. TVO acted shamefully.

In the Jewish world, and if we dare also to say, the Muslim world, circumcision is not subject to debate. It is not submitted to scientific scrutiny or medical opinion. It is not an elective procedure. It is, simply, done. It has been, simply, done for more than 3,500 years. And will be for at least another 3,500 years. Ritual circumcision is a sign, a proof, a commitment. Whoever rails against the practice – secularist, humanist, atheist – does so in vain. Throughout history, many have travelled in that circle, most of them intent on causing harm to the Jews. But as history has proven, they can no more discredit the *brit milah*, then they can the rainbow, another of God's mysterious, millennial signs.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"If you go to bed without supper, you'll arise without having slept."
(Yiddish Proverb)

ALL THOSE CYNICAL RIGHT-WINGERS
WHO PREDICTED THAT THE PALESTINIANS WOULD WAIT 'TIL THEY HAD CONTROL OF THE WEST BANK AND THEN ATTACK US...
...WERE WRONG!
THEY DIDN'T WAIT!

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Oct. 14, 1783 Jewish Loyalists were granted lands in the Eastern Townships of Quebec.
(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC, 1995)

First Yiddish will in Montreal

As a researcher and preserver of history, I discovered a short but intriguing paragraph while compiling a bibliography of early Canadian Hebraica. On a back page of the *Montreal Gazette*, dated Feb. 24 1916, appeared a concise story of the first Hebrew last will and testament ever probated in Montreal.

Azriel Wolofsky, junk dealer and relative of *Kanader Adler* publisher Hirsch Wolofsky, willed his worldly goods to his seven children: two parts each for the sons and one part each for the daughters. But before his wishes could be granted, the holograph will had to be translated for the court.

Rabbi Hirsch Cohen, grandfather of poet, composer and troubador Leonard Cohen, translated the will into English, and declared it to be an accurate translation. The declaration and signature were authenticated by Hirsch Wolofsky in his capacity as commissioner of the Superior Court.

The only inaccuracy in the *Gazette* story concerned the will's language — it was Yiddish, not Hebrew. Nevertheless, it was the first Yiddish will probated in Montreal.

Eiran Harris
Montreal

Why this man loves Israel

I used to own a taxi and one day I took two Israeli businessmen to the airport. I couldn't help but overhear the discussion of the two men, which of course was in Hebrew. Even though I didn't understand the language, the force of energy that passed between them was unmistakable. It sounded like any minute my car was going to explode. I was totally flabbergasted at the energy of these two young men.

Each and every Israeli is a hero in my eyes, no matter what field he or she is involved in. When you are able to see banana trees, flowers and vegetables growing where a few short years ago there was nothing but sand and stone, it is a testament that our people have what it takes to create a modern miracle. Anyone who has a curious mind can see that miracles are still happening. The very fact that we have a homeland for our wandering people, makes me feel very humble and at the same time very proud.

Alexander Jakab
Montreal

Minorities are potential allies for Quebecois

Tragically and shamefully cowed by the secessionists, Ottawa still fails to give meaningful, effective support to Quebec's anglophones and other minorities in their lonely struggles against the restrictive language laws. Small wonder that they feel neglected and abandoned by the present and previous federal governments. By its self-imposed impotence, its failure to seriously oppose the language laws for the past two decades, Ottawa has witlessly encouraged the secessionists.

Ottawa cannot afford to delay any further its duty to assure Quebecers that their rights as Canadians will be defended, particularly the right to remain Canadian, flag-waving is not enough. Ottawa must articulate clearly what it means to be a Canadian. it must define those Canadian rights and freedoms which it will defend against provincial encroachments.

Time will prove how counter-productive are the language restrictions. Freedom of expression for one language can not flourish at the expense of state-imposed restrictions on others. Realistically, however, the language debates are unlikely to be resolved until the Quebecois feel secure in their cultural identity, unthreatened by the dominant cultures of our continent. The minority communities are no threat to the Quebecois. On the contrary, they empathize with and support the desire of the Quebecois to promote and protect their linguistic and cultural identities, because that is exactly what they want for themselves. The course of history will be changed when the Quebecois come to recognize and appreciate the minorities as potential allies against the more urgent threats of U.S. cultural domination.

Harry J. Waisglass
Professor of Personnel & Industrial Relations (Retired)
McMaster University

Synagogue in Mount Sinai hospital

The construction of a synagogue within the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre is a welcome addition to that institution. The new chapel will surely provide Jewish patients, veterans and staff with the spiritual comfort of regular services, availability of minyans and opportunity to observe *yahrtzeit*.

For the record, however, the Sunnybrook synagogue is not the first ever built in a hospital. Shortly after the competition of Mount Sinai Hospital at 600 University Ave., a beautiful synagogue was constructed in the northeast corner of the building on the University side. Donated by Faye and Joe Tanenbaum, it was consecrated on Oct. 26, 1975. Flanked by stained glass windows, the chapel seats 40 and contains a magnificent ark whose bronze doors were carved by sculptor Sorel Etrog. The synagogue continues to be used by Jewish patients, families and staff not only from Mount Sinai but from neighboring University Avenue hospitals as well.

Lesley Marrus Barsky
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Dreaming with your eyes open

By ALEX POMSON

What do people dream about? Unfulfilled wishes, difficulties at work, heartache and heartburn? Or perhaps things so strange it would take a team of dream analysts to interpret. Anecdotal evidence suggests that among those working in schools and other related educational institutions, it is common for professionals to dream about playing a major role in a new school – a school where they take charge or where things are established the way they want, where they open the school gates on the very first day for the first group of students to arrive at class.

It's not only teachers who fantasize in this way. If you offer most parents the chance, they will tell you what is wrong with their children's school, how it could be better and how, if only things were different, their school could be improved.

These are not even mysterious night-time hallucinations; they are widespread, socially-acceptable imaginings. Looked at cynically, one could argue that all of this confirms that there is no such thing as a perfect school, or that schools are subjected to a paralysing level of criticism, that there are few other public institutions which are subjected to so many calls for change. More positively, one might argue that these "dreams" point to a widespread sense, shared by parents and teachers, of what powerful instruments schools are, and of how much care should be taken in designing and developing them.

Over the last three decades, Jewish educators have been granted a number of opportunities to act out their fantasies – in the nicest sense of the word. For, despite a decline in the absolute number of young Jewish people receiving some form of Jewish education, there has been a phenomenal growth in the number of Jewish day schools in North America and in other parts of the world. Over 350 new day schools have opened in North America in the last 30 years.

This is especially remarkable when one considers the relative costliness of this form of schooling compared with what is still (in statistical terms) the majority route to Jewish education, via the Jewish supplementary system, usually in combination with free public schooling. In the greater Toronto area alone, three new day schools have opened in the last twelve months. In London, England, (a city with a declining Jewish population) the number of places for students in Jewish day schools has increased by more than 20 percent in the last 10 years.

Given that this phenomenon has been growing over the last 30 years or more, it has attracted a great deal of interest among those conducting research into Jewish education, in terms of its causes, consequences and potentialities. In fact, one of the foremost researchers into this phenomenon, Dr. Alvin Schiff, will be participating in the York University/UJA Federation continuity conference on Oct. 20.

Less widely reported or discussed, is the question of how one actually goes about creating a new school, not so much in terms of finance, organization or politics, but rather in terms of curriculum, that is, the range of planned educational experiences a school might provide, inside and outside the classroom. Who, for example, decides what a school's curriculum will look like? How do they decide? Does a group of people ever sit down with a blank piece of paper in order to map out what such a curriculum would look like and how it might be delivered? Does a curriculum evolve through negotiation between parents, boards and teachers? What tools do such schools use in order to judge how they are doing when they are still so new?

Answers to these questions might provide helpful information for all those involved in launching new schools of whatever denomination.

I must confess that over the last three years, I have been living in a fantasy world. Every day in that period I have set out for an educational wonderland where, as vice-principal, I was able to contribute to the nurturing of a completely new school. In fact, I must admit that I was even lucky enough to sit down with a blank piece of paper, in order to draw up, together with colleagues and collaborators, a picture of the kind of Jewish educational experience our new school might provide.

This was exciting for a number of reasons. Most of all, because the school, the King Solomon High School, was the first free Jewish high school (grades 7-13) to be established in one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe.

For those unfamiliar with Anglo-Jewry or with the delights of the English educational system, that last sentence might require some explanation. First, in north-east London, in the borough of Redbridge, there is a Jewish community of approximately 20,000 people who make up between eight and nine percent of the total local population. This makes it one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe. Secondly, in England, secondary education runs from Grade 7 through Grade 13. Thirdly, in England, denominational schools (whether Catholic, Jewish, Methodist or Protestant) are entitled to receive 90 percent of their capital funding and all of the funding for their non-religious education from the government, if they meet certain established criteria. This means that a high proportion of Jewish schools in England are free.

The King Solomon High School opened in September 1993 as a community school serving the Jews of Redbridge. It was organized with an Orthodox Jewish ethos, but welcomed students from every imaginable Jewish background. To that extent, it is probably best compared to the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Where it significantly differs from any Canadian equivalent, however, is in its cost to parents. Because it is a state-aided school, parents are entitled to make only a "voluntary" contribution towards their children's Jewish education. The maximum they pay is equivalent to $1,000 a year.

The school opened with 85 students in one grade. At the start of the 1996/7 academic year it had close to 650 students in six grades. When the school is fully grown it should contain approximately 1,000 students over seven grades.

How did this come about? In political terms, through a fortunate combination of luck and judgment; in communal terms, through a great deal of skilful lobbying; and in financial terms, through a great deal of generosity from a small number of far-sighted individuals, families and trusts.

Educationally, how was it possible to develop a curriculum which attracted parents and stimulated students? In retrospect, it seems that it was not ultimately the quality or the richness of our educational ideas that mattered most. More important than either curriculum theory or innovation was the quality of the school's personnel. Without individuals who wanted to contribute their own ideas and were unafraid of not knowing how things might turn out, and above all, who could build trusting relationships with students and colleagues, it is hard to see how the project could have succeeded.

This is an important point. For people often express dissatisfaction with schools in terms of programs, assessment policies or textbooks; however, we found that these things were secondary to the quality of teaching staff and the relationships they established with their students.

Rabbi and Talmid by Edouard Moyse

The teacher instructs his pupil, educating him, teaching him in a gentle, loving way.

King Solomon High was fortunate. The school's principal, Alastair Falk, is a talented and inspirational educator. His skill in identifying and appointing able personnel, as well as his confidence and capacity to encourage their development was/is at the bedrock of the school's success. Research into successful schools often works its way back to the central role of the principal and that was certainly the case here, where the school had no recent graduates or examination results for parents to view.

Indeed, at first the school possessed very few buildings for prospective students to inspect. A great deal, therefore, depended on the principal's being able orally to communicate his vision of his plan for the school and how he hoped it would develop.

What was it like starting from scratch in this way? Well, starting with a blank piece of paper was of course liberating, but it was also oppressive. We could do what we wanted, but we also recognised that we had no predecessors we could blame for whatever went wrong.

Furthermore, we soon became aware of a fascinating if paradoxical piece of research which suggested that new schools were among the more conservative educational institutions. It would seem that people who heavily invest in new ideas, structures or strategies will be among the most reluctant to change them. This served as an important warning, particularly as new colleagues joined the school with each year.

Above all, this was an opportunity to be creative. When nothing is fixed, you can manipulate everything: the length of lessons, the timing of the calendar, the relationship between different subjects in the curriculum, the content and context of lessons, the division of resources. It was possible to direct and develop a bewildering but powerful array of variables. It was possible, for example, to marshal an unusually diverse collection of resources and strategies in the construction of a b'nei mitzvah program. It meant, also, that students might prepare for Pesach through the collaboration of the *limudei kodesh*, music, technology, art and English departments. In schools with established curricula, constructing innovative programs of this sort almost always involves too much upheaval to be worthwhile.

Three years after the school opened, many questions remain unanswered. Most significant and most problematic are those questions relating to success. What, above all, was the school's impact on the community and on students? This is the kind of question to which everyone wants answers. What difference has full-time Jewish schooling made to the continuity and commitments of adolescent students?

One of the great attractions of the King Solomon project is that questions like these can be examined in what others have likened to laboratory conditions. Because so few young Jewish people in the area previously received Jewish secondary schooling, it might be possible to examine, with limited experimental interference, the scale and shape of the school's impact. It may take a few years to do so, but since my relationship with the school now primarily exists within this research dimension, I can at least look forward to a few more years of dreaming with my eyes open.

Prof. Alex Pomson was vice-principal and head of Jewish studies at King Solomon High School from 1993 to '96. He is now a professor in the Faculty of Education at York University.

Opinions

The need to restore confidence

By Shira Herzog

These lines are written before the outcome of the current round of talks between Israelis and Palestinians at the Erez Junction. But it is already evident that the violent clashes of September 1996 will be remembered as a watershed in the Israeli-Palestinian relationship and in the life of the Netanyahu government. This is a snapshot in time of the Israeli mood in the aftermath of these trying and tragic events.

Something strange happened to Israeli public opinion as a result of the opening of the Hasmonean tunnel and the ensuing bloody confrontations in which Palestinian police fired at Israeli soldiers. Many who had not voted for Benjamin Netanyahu voiced serious concerns about the viability of the Oslo accords, while many who had voted for Netanyahu voiced concerns about the ability to deliver on his campaign promise of "peace with security."

These apparent contradictions were further illustrated in the polls, which showed 80 percent of Israelis committed to a continuation of the peace process, while 66 percent of Israelis believed that giving arms to the Palestinian police was a mistake. At the same time, polls also showed that 79 percent of Israelis were concerned about the situation, and over 50 percent were dissatisfied with Netanyahu's handling of it.

The great mystery for Israelis on the right and left remains the nature of Netanyahu's game plan. The committed right wants to believe that he is committed to freezing the process where it is. The committed left wants to believe that he will surprise them with a pragmatic approach to continuing the process. But neither side is sure. In the centre, there are hundreds of thousands of Israelis who did not want to choose between peace and security. They wanted both and Netanyahu promised both. They voted for him for that reason and as the polls show, they still want both. Netanyahu needs both the centre of the Israeli political map and the right, to ensure his political future. He cannot get re-elected by either group alone — and therein lies the difficulty. He can make promises to both, but once he starts to act, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to deliver to both.

As the story of the decisions leading to the opening of the tunnel became known, it became clear that the issue was less the "what" and more the "how" and "when." Even many of those who felt that the tunnel should be opened, including senior officials in the security service, had argued that it should be done as one step in a package deal with the Palestinians, so as to diminish their anticipated opposition. The questions that were raised after the fact had to do with the decision-making process in the Netanyahu government, specifically the exclusion of the senior military and security echelons from the final discussion on this.

As the details of the engagement with the Palestinian police became known, it became clear that this was one possibility that had unfortunately been overlooked in scenario-building exercises. And while it was a nightmare come true to see the firing power of the Palestinian force directed against soldiers with whom they had undertaken joint patrols only hours earlier, it also was clear that the existing fabric of cooperation had had tangible results. Indeed, in some cases, Palestinian police restrained the demonstrators and assisted in the rescue of Israeli casualties.

While many observers compared the events of the last few weeks to the intifadah of nearly a decade ago, the situation is different in several respects. First, as grudgingly as the recognition may be dawning on the new Israeli government, there is an acknowledgement of Arafat as their partner in a difficult, intricate and complex process. Second, for better or worse, Netanyahu is scrutinized by a world that is measuring him against four years in which Israel enjoyed the "dividends of peace," admittedly without a complete peace. He knows this, and therefore repeatedly stresses his commitment to the peace process, even as he emphasizes that his approach differs from that of his predecessors.

But Netanyahu is subject to a new pressure that didn't exist 10 years ago. Israel's economic prosperity of the last few years has been fuelled by significant foreign investment on the Tel Aviv stock exchange, directly into the economy. Israel now has partners from the international investment community who have a real stake in the outcome of political developments. These investors voted for peace with their money because of their perception that Israel was a stable country, negotiating for peace with its neighbors. In politics, perception is everything. Netanyahu, a master of the media game, knows this better than anyone. His statements in Washington and since his return indicate his understanding that this confidence must be restored at home and abroad.

Listening to Professor Said

By Morton Weinfeld

I recently had occasion to hear Columbia professor Edward Said speak at McGill University. The talk was part of Said's visit to McGill as a prestigious Cummings Lecturer. (When the Cummings family endowed the annual series, one presumes they did not have Said in mind.) The lecture I heard dealt specifically with the Middle East conflict, and was timely in that it took place only days after the eruption of violence between Israelis and Palestinians.

I knew that Said, a longtime militant defender of the Palestinian cause and opponent of the Oslo accords, would have little favorable to say about Israel. I had read his writings over the years. Still, I decided it would be interesting to hear him in person. And it was.

The room was packed with several hundred listeners, mainly students. My guess is that 95 percent of the audience was of Middle Eastern origin. It seemed to me that there were very few Jews, students or faculty.

Said is a polished speaker. His charisma for Arab audiences flows in part from his status as a highly recognized expert on western culture in an Ivy League university — even the enemy recognizes his talent. He has the biting intelligence and caustic wit of a stereotypical New York Jewish intellectual, except he is not Jewish. The crowd was solidly enthusiastic, as Said disparaged both Yasser Arafat and the Israelis with equal relish. I cannot know how typical this audience was of the Arabic or Palestinian academic diaspora. But if it is typical, Arafat's constituency is disappearing fast.

Said displayed the intellectual's contempt for the politician, who must on occasion practise the "art of the possible." He derided Arafat as an "African king," the kind of traitor who did the dirty work of the colonial master. While there is no denying Arafat's authoritarian rule — he has banned two of Said's books — Said's ridicule would be directed at any Palestinian leader who would accept an Oslo-like agreement.

Of course, the Oslo accords have not ushered in any golden age for Palestinians. Oslo is not the end of a process; it is designed to build mutual confidence over time. Palestinians and militants like Said may not wish to wait, but they have no choice. Fifty years elapsed from the first Zionist Congress to the founding of the Jewish State.

Said is an equal opportunity critic. He argued there is no essential difference between Labor and Likud. He described Benjamin Netanyahu as "gross," using the inflection of my teenage children. I found his demeaning comments about Yitzhak Rabin particularly distasteful. Said views life from a well-furnished New York apartment provided by Columbia University with all the trappings of an upper class American intellectual. Rabin views life through six feet of earth.

Said began his lecture by saying he had no solutions to offer. But by the end of his presentation, the echoes of that familiar if unrealistic refrain, a one-state solution (secular democratic state) could be heard clearly. To his younger listeners he urged engagement in building up the nascent Palestinian institutions — universities, hospitals, through a kind of *Sherut La'am*. He used the model of the building of Jewish institutions in the Yishuv, such as the Hebrew University. There was certainly no call to violence.

Said sees nothing worth emulating in dictatorial Arab states such as Syria or Iraq. He was scathing in his denunciation of the corruption of the Palestinian Authority and of the failure of mobilization among the Palestinian diaspora. If that part of his message leads to greater democratization of a future West Bank state, it ironically might serve the cause of peace. But the thrust of his rejectionist vision may breed cynicism and despair, from which little that is constructive will flow.

The disputed Jerusalem tunnel

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

The Temple Mount tunnel was unquestionably the spark that ignited the recent violence in Israel. It is, therefore, worthwhile to look at this archeological dig in some detail. When was it originally built and where precisely is it located?

The tunnel dates from ancient times and goes back to the period of the Hasmoneans, more than 2,000 years ago. It served as an aqueduct and was part of a large draining system that became covered by the debris of two millenia. In the 19th century, its existence was discovered by Charles Wilson and Konrad Schick, but the tunnel remained buried until 1987, full of mud and water.

I remember when it was being excavated. The archeologist in charge was Dan Bahat and that particular part of the tunnel system measures about 80 metres in length, seven metres in height and has a width of a little more than one metre. When it was first made accessible to the public, my wife and I descended into it and saw the huge boulders forming the foundation of the Western Wall. It was difficult to move around, however, since in that narrow space, people were both coming and going.

Many of the readers of this column will be familiar with the Western Wall (*Kotel Hama'arivi*). Picture yourself as standing before the Wall, facing it as if in prayer. When you look to the left, you will find buildings that border the Western Wall Plaza, and the entrance to the tunnel (as we saw it years ago) is right there. The tunnel thus does not run under the Temple Mount, but its western side goes all the way to the Via Dolorosa, thus opening into the Muslim Quarter. It was anticipated that many visitors would traverse the tunnel and either enter into it from the Muslim Quarter or exit there, creating new opportunities for commerce.

It is important to realize that the tunnel never ran, nor does it run today, *under* the Temple Mount; it runs alongside it, and for the last 1,000 years, it has not endangered the physical security of the Mount and the mosques erected upon it. Putting out the news that the tunnel might lead to the destruction of Muslim holy sites was a surefire means of inciting the religious fervor of Muslims.

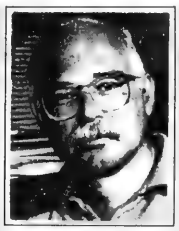
The struggle over the project is therefore a symbolic one: Jews consider it as just another historic site which interferes with nothing else, while Muslims perceive it as touching upon their own sacred locale and, therefore, an intrusion into their religious privileges. More, they perceived the Israeli government as asserting the Jewishness of the whole city, and this implication was clearly and quickly understood by the Arabs.

The real issue is, therefore, the tension surrounding the peace process, and the tunnel was the spark that ignited the blaze. I believe that Israel had the right to proceed with opening the tunnel, but the question is whether it was the right time to do it. In retrospect it is obvious that, in a highly charged atmosphere, it was not. It handed Arafat a perfect pretext to orchestrate a network of violence.

The Kirshner File

Both sides violate Oslo accords

Israel and the PLO have signed two interim agreements since May 1994 which set out the powers, responsibilities and obligations of both sides.



By Sheldon Kirshner

It is disheartening but not surprising that there have been violations — Palestinian and Israeli — of the Oslo accords. Prone to differing interpretations, and subject to circumstances on the ground, the complex pacts are vulnerable to manipulation and procrastination by the respective parties.

The previous Israeli government, led by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, called the PLO to account in instances of grave noncompliance, but overlooked minor infringements.

The new Israeli government, whose mantra is "reciprocity" and whose slogan is "peace with security," has been more stringent with respect to demanding full compliance. Benjamin Netanyahu, the prime minister, has said that each side must comply equally. And if Palestinian abuses continue, he has warned, he will not proceed to final-status negotiations.

Dore Gold, Netanyahu's foreign affairs advisor, claims that Palestinian violations "could fill an encyclopedia."

Recently, the Tel Aviv daily *Ha'aretz* published a government research paper which cites about 20 examples of Palestinian noncompliance, ranging from the serious to the mundane.

In contravention of the accords, the Palestine Authority (PA), headed by PLO leader Yasser Arafat, is building an airport in the Gaza Strip. The PA has also failed to inform Israel of bills passed by the its legislative assembly and has allowed Palestinian visitors in the autonomous areas to stay longer than permitted.

In addition, the PA has been oblivious to the counterfeiting of Israeli products in the West Bank and its agents have abducted Palestinians in places under Israel's control.

But in Israel's view, the most egregious violations turn on incitement, terrorism, the PLO national covenant and East Jerusalem.

Most recently, Israel accused Arafat of unleashing his police force against Israeli soldiers in the gravest fighting in the territories since the Six Day War. There is no tangible evidence that the PA issued clear-cut orders to its policemen to fire on Israeli troops. But non-violence remains a cardinal canon of the peace process.

Defying the letter and the spirit of Oslo, Arafat and his associates have expressed support for holy war, described Hamas terrorists as "heroes" and "martyrs," and characterized Israel as "the main enemy."

Be that as it may, the PA has refrained from terrorism, condemned terrorism, prevented a number of terrorist acts, cooperated with Israel in the battle against terror and arrested Palestinians identified as terrorists. But contrary to a promise he made after last winter's series of suicide bombings in Israel which claimed the lives of 59 people, Arafat has not banned the military wings of Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

The PA is obligated to extradite wanted terrorists, but its record is not encouraging. So far, the PA has ignored 10 of 14 requests submitted by Israel and refused four.

Last summer, the Palestine National Council amended the PLO's covenant, removing references to Israel's destruction and armed struggle. The Israeli government of the day, as well as the United States, praised Arafat. The present Israeli government, however, is skeptical that the objectionable clauses in the charter have indeed been abrogated. And it is reserving judgment with regard to the new covenant, which should be ready soon.

The accords ban political activity on the part of the PA in Jerusalem. Nevertheless, the PA — which claims East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state — has engaged in such activities, prompting tension between Israel and the Palestinians.

* * *

There have been a number of Israeli violations.

By rights, Israel should have deployed from Hebron six months ago. Peres postponed the planned deployment twice, after the suicide bombings last February and March and on the eve of last May's general election.

Netanyahu claims that he is committed to deployment, but demands modifications and has resisted all pressure by the PA, the Arab states and the United States to tie himself down to concrete deadlines.

Netanyahu has grown more adamant since Joseph's Tomb in Nablus was stormed by Palestinian police and civilians last month, resulting in the deaths of six Israeli soldiers. Netanyahu now demands greater security guarantees for the 450 Jewish settlers in Hebron.

The PA considers the expansion of Jewish settlements in the territories as a flagrant transgression of the accords. Article 31 of the second Oslo agreement states: "Neither side shall initiate or take any step that will change the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip pending the outcome of the permanent status negotiations" (which have yet to begin in earnest).

Israel claims that the expansion of settlements does not change the legal status per se of the territories.

Covenant controversy

The PA contends that Israel's objective is to turn the territories into a patchwork of non-contiguous Palestinian cantons and thus block the formation of an independent Palestinian state. Netanyahu has made no secret of his unalterable opposition to such an entity. (By contrast, the Labor party seemed resigned to a demilitarized Palestinian state in the greater part of Gaza and the West Bank).

For reasons which it has yet to clarify, Israel has not implemented a clause in the accords permitting the Palestinians "safe passage" from Gaza to the West Bank.

Israel's military siege of the territories, triggered by the suicide bombings last winter, is also a problem.

The closure, the PA says, contradicts articles in the accords which call for the unrestricted movement of industrial goods and agricultural produce between Israel and the territories and prohibit collective punishment against the Palestinians.

Israel's rationale is that it is responsible for overall security and is therefore duty-bound to keep terrorism in check.

Contrary to the accords, Israel has not released more Palestinian prisoners. And in the judgment of the PA, Israel has further violated the agreements by having confiscated Palestinian land. Israel counters that the expropriations are connected with the construction of bypass roads, which are mentioned in the agreements.

Two important items of unfinished business loom large as well.

By the terms of the accords, Israel is obliged to make additional withdrawals from the West Bank in the coming months and to negotiate Jerusalem's final status.

These are problematic questions. The Israeli government has yet to address the issue of further withdrawals, and Netanyahu has declared that Jerusalem "is out of the package."

In conclusion, both sides are required to refrain from unilateral actions which contravene the Oslo accords. But neither the PA nor Israel has lived up to this solemn undertaking.

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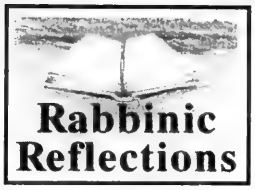


Differences divide us

By RABBI DANIEL KOMITO GOTTLIEB

This week we read about the Tower of Babel. "All the earth had the same language and the same words ... And they said, "Come, let us build us a city, and a tower with its top in the sky, to make a name for ourselves; else we shall be scattered all over the world." (Gen. 11:1-4)

And then, the response of the Holy Blessed One: "If, as one people with one language for all, this is how they have begun to act, then nothing that they may propose to do will be out of their reach. Let us, then, go down and confound their speech there, so that they shall not understand one another's speech." (Gen. 11:6-7)

One can only wonder what the problem might have been. For on the surface, it appears that all was going well. The people, working in harmony with one another, set about to build their tower, and their ability to communicate with one another and cooperate with one another led to the success of their endeavor. And yet God responded by "confounding their speech" and "scattering them over the face of the whole earth." (Gen. 11:9)

Midrash suggests that God was unhappy with their motivation — that they had set out to make a name for themselves — and that perhaps they had lost their perspective as they applied their combined talents and energies in mastering the technologies of their day — building a city and a tower with its top in the sky.

One only needs to consider the questions currently surrounding genetic engineering, nuclear and chemical weapons, experimental drug treatments, synthetic fertilizers and the like, to realize the potential excesses of a world in which nothing we propose to do would be out of our reach.

And so humanity is scattered, and challenged by differences in language and culture, values and objectives.

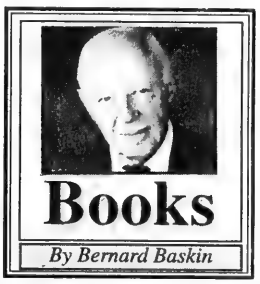
Even more significant for us is the reality that we, in our families and among our loved ones, often seem distanced from one another, and separated by barriers of language and common pursuit.

And in the Jewish world, we are also scattered and challenged by many differences. We have seen in our global Jewish community, in Israel and in our local community, how differences among us can, at times, create barriers that make communication and cooperation more difficult. And on occasion, deep divisions have had a tragic impact upon us.

So let us begin to learn each other's languages, open our hearts and minds to the thoughts and words of others. Let us begin to seek an understanding of individual differences among our loved ones, discover a new respect for the sincere commitments of our neighbors and celebrate diversity within our community.

We need not return to a time when all have the same language and the same words. Indeed, it appears that this is not God's will for us. But neither must we continue to be confounded and divided by our differences so that our speech becomes unintelligible to one another.

Rabbi Komito Gottlieb is the rabbi of Temple Kol Ami, Thornhill, Ont.



Commentary a delight

The Haftorah Commentary, by W. Gunther Plaut. Translated by Chaim Stern (U.A.H.C. Press, $55.95).

It should be said at the outset that this is a superb work of scholarship that fills a longtime need. It is the first translation and commentary in English to deal with the complete cycle of the 85 prophetic sections (haftorot) chanted in the synagogue during the Sabbath and holiday morning services. Most people are familiar with the haftorah as the centrepiece of the bar or bat mitzvah ceremony.

The translation into modern English by Rabbi Chaim Stern is clear, precise and gender neutral. Rabbi Plaut's commentary draws on the insights of traditional interpreters of the text as well as from the latest findings in archeology, history and linguistics.

Additional helpful features of the book by Rabbi Plaut include biographical sketches of the various prophets, page-long essays on religious, social, moral and ethical issues raised by the particular texts, as well as sections called "Gleanings" which adduce pertinent comments and nuggets of wisdom from the midrash and modern sources.

The essays deal with an astonishing array of subjects: Elisha's miracles, the Holy City, divorce as a metaphor, biblical poetry, friendship, the meaning of the vision and so forth.

Rabbi Plaut explains that the commentary is necessary because "I estimate that, until now, 75 to 80 percent of the haftorah readings were incomprehensible and held little or no meaning for most Jews, as the complete texts were only available in Hebrew and limited translations."

Since some of the haftorot are difficult to understand even with commentary, or are irrelevant to the Torah portions, the Rabbi has added 50 suggested additional readings drawn from both the prophetic books and from the Writings, the third segment of the Torah. These include selections from Psalms, Job and Proverbs.

The word haftorah means "ending" or "termination." It refers to the selection from the Former or Latter Prophets which follow the reading of the Torah portion. Just when this practice arose is uncertain. Some scholars suggest that in the days of the Maccabees (second century BCE), the Syrians issued a decree that prohibited the public reading of the Torah. To circumvent this edict, the reading of the haftorah was instituted.

In the days of the Mishnah, the haftorah readings for the festivals were fixed. The readings for the Sabbaths, however, were not determined until the early medieval period. Evidently, until then, they were chosen by either the head of the synagogue or by the individual readers.

The criterion for the choice of a particular haftorah was its appropriateness as a follow-up to the reading from the Torah. A common or similar theme was sought. Thus the Torah reading that contains the Song of Moses has as its haftorah a prophetic selection that contains the Song of Deborah. The episode in Numbers describing the incident of the twelve spies sent by Moses is paralleled by the passage in Joshua concerning the spies dispatched by him to search out the land. The Book of Jonah was chosen for Yom Kippur because it deals with forgiveness. The haftorah for the Sabbath that deals with the theophany on Mount Sinai is Isaiah's vision in the Holy Temple described in Isaiah, Chapter Six.

For about a third of the haftorot, however, this criterion is abandoned and the choice is determined either by the calendar or by events in Jewish history.

Although this volume contains over 900 pages, it is admirably designed: sturdily bound, easy to handle and with large, clear type.

This landmark work will be welcomed by all Jews seeking increased enlightenment about an important portion of the Hebrew Bible. It deserves widespread use and study and belongs in every Jewish home as a companion volume to Rabbi Plaut's *The Torah: A Modern Commentary* published in 1981, which has sold over 300,000 copies.

Jewish Life

Travelling in the paths of Spanish-Portuguese ancestors

By RUTH RAIZELL FRANKEL-GRANER

Guest Voices

Recently, I returned from a Jewish historical tour of Holland and England led by Prof. Yom Tov Assis of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. When I am asked, "What was the highlight?" I find myself saying, "Everything!" But in fact, there is one day which stands out from all the others.

July 9, 1996 — Early morning in Holland. Slightly overcast. We have been travelling down the Amstel River for almost an hour. Kneeling sideways on the floor of our large river boat, one of the younger women takes out her flute and plays *Yerushalayim shel zahav* (*Jerusalem of gold*). There is not another boat to be seen and the gentle sound travels unimpeded across the waveless, grey water. The shore, too, except for a few cars, is all but deserted. Only occasionally does a windmill or house appear, and once, a woman on a bicycle.

Our destination this morning is the ancient cemetery at Ouderkerk, the Beth Haim. For three days, we have been travelling — by bus, train, plane and on foot — in the paths of our Spanish-Portuguese ancestors, who, driven from Spain, deceived in Portugal, forcibly converted, and in every hideous way deprived of their right to exist as Jews, had found a new home here, in the Netherlands.

In 1614, on the "threshold of a golden century," the Jewish community was permitted to purchase a piece of land for burial purposes, far beyond the city of Amsterdam.

This is the point we have almost reached — where the Amstel River meets the Holendrecht.

One of the men in the group of 32 people finds his flute. Another song, *If I Forget Thee Oh Jerusalem*, propels us forward and "New Jerusalem," as Amsterdam was known 400 years ago, grows farther away.

If you listen, within the full and measured notes of the flute, you can almost hear the solemn rustle of the heavier garments worn by those who travelled this route centuries ago, not in respectful wonder as we do, but as they would have done, mourning and in sorrow. Beth Haim was and is still a place where community members could be remembered, grieved for and honored.

We disembark at the place where the two rivers meet. On the street across from our procession, a man and a woman, each with a separate easel, are sketching the Ouderkerk, the building constructed at this confluence. It is, I suppose, far more

impressive to those who are unaware or unconcerned, than the field of uncut grass towards which we are heading. (Our ancestors would have had a more direct route, for much later, we come across the iron gates which lead directly to the water's edge. It takes only a little imagination to see solemn figures from the past landing, shifting ponderous burdens ready for burial.)

As we move into the green field, a few white marble tombs emerge, flung — the headstones of Sephardim lie horizontally on the ground — across what appear to be an acre or two at the most. There are, in fact, over 30,000 people buried here. The cemetery, in use right up to the present, is much larger than it appears.

The rabbi who will act as our guide greets us, enthusiastic about his work — the preservation, expansion and exposition of centuries of tradition. He carries with him a small scrubbing brush and a basin of water to wash away the debris which conceals or obscures the inscriptions on the tombs.

We stop at the gravestone of the mother of Baruch Spinoza, and further on, at that of his father. As for Spinoza himself, I lingered to take photographs of these markers without the backs or feet of the group members and missed the reference to his final resting place!

Several metres from us, a small group of hired workers struggle to maintain the cemetery, which is slowly sinking into the marshy ground. Several of the tombstones have been resettled and cleaned. They are of thick, white marble, deeply carved with distinctly non-halachic images. Death appears frequently as a skeleton, sometimes wielding an enormous scythe. Skulls with large black and hollow eyes, cherubs and angels, although generally not seen in Jewish cemeteries, are common here.

Nevertheless these gravestones demonstrate the sincere desire of a people who, after five generations of existence as Christians, were struggling to return to Judaism.

Inscriptions on the stones are written in Ladino — a Judeo-Spanish language — and in Hebrew. There are biblical scenes, and names such as Benjamin, Rivka, Moses, Mordechai, Jacob, Judah, Abraham and Isaac.

Quite often a scene has been carved which links the name of the deceased with a biblical event. The gravestone of Moses de Mordechai, for example, shows the biblical Mordechai astride a horse, being honored as in the Purim tale.

Dates on some tombstones read: 5427, 5460, 5463, 5509. In a few months we will welcome the year 5757!

Most of the group on this tour are former Americans, now permanent residents of Israel. In addition, we have with us at least three survivors of the Holocaust.

One of them was a child here in Holland. With her presence, and that of the other survivors, the many residents of Israel — whether sabra or those who have made aliyah — the Americans, Britons and Canadians, the ancient biblical scenes and the Hebrew letters and Ladino inscriptions on the tombstones, the click of each state-of-the art camera or whir of a camcorder, the newest songs about Jerusalem as well as some of the oldest, we stand in the morning sunlight in what is truly a Beth Haim — a house of life — merged in the endless interweaving of time and history, each element a part of the glorious tapestry of our Judaism.

"SHALOM" "PEACE"

An original ink painting by Julie Staller-Pentelik, uses a watercolor technique to infuse the richness of Jewish tradition with an imaginative contemporary style. It is one of seven works by the talented Baltimore-based artist to appear in the new Art Calendar published by Women of Reform Judaism for the Jewish year 5757.

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CJN16

Greater Toronto Area

Four men find market for Jewish humor

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Do you know a good Jewish joke?

Four Toronto men sure do and they are riding the crest of a boom in Jewish humor, one that attracted 700 people to Beth Tikvah Synagogue recently.

The four comics are Alf Kwinter, a lawyer, Jackie Gelman, a commercial paper salesman, Jack Markle, co-owner of a Markham sign company, and Norman Gilbert, a life insurance agent.

Gelman, whose parents ran a grocery store in Kensington Market, says he is "glatt kosher" because he tells his stories in Yiddish and the others are only kosher-style. Kwinter, who, like the others, does his bit as a volunteer for charity, says he is not sure where one of his careers starts and the other finishes. "A judge often says to me, 'Mr. Kwinter you must be joking.' "

Markle, born and raised in Winnipeg, says he started telling jokes to overcome shyness. He likes the one about the forgetful elderly Jewish man who approached somebody at a wedding reception and asked "Was it you or your brother who died?"

From left: Jack Markle, Jack Gelman, Alfie Kwinter and Norman Gilbert.

Gilbert likes to tell dialect stories and he can spin them out. His best jokes are gathered when he and Markle are working out on a treadmill at the Fitness Institute, talking to other members. Sometimes he hears good ones in the steam room, not always repeatable.

The four comics are a palpable hit. (They're available, even for out of town, for charity events, 416-441-1273.) They're appearing Oct. 19 at Beth Torah, where Nathan Naymark is being honored, Adath Israel on Nov. 24, and a return visit to Beth Tikvah, Dec. 12. Kwinter talked at Temple Emmanu-el Men's Club on Jewish humor.

They had their first big hit at Beth Sholom when three of them entertained 300. Later Gilbert joined the group at Markle's invitation.

It's probably giving away a secret but they all have index cards categorizing types of jokes. But the need for new material is so great they also make up their own. "I've heard every Jewish joke, bar none," says Gilbert.

Markle admits that in preparation for a night at a synagogue he'll go over his collection of jokes about cantors and rabbis. One of his favorites is about the priest and rabbi who entered the pearly gates at the same time. The priest got a Chevrolet and the rabbi a Cadillac to drive around heaven. Pointing to the rabbi, St. Peter said, "He's *mishpachah.*"

Kwinter likes jokes in both Yiddish and English while Gelman, a master at Yiddish storytelling, says certain jokes which sound vulgar in English don't when told in Yiddish. The boom in Jewish humor he ascribes to the desire of Jewish people to "come home again" and the end of an era when it was embarrassing to admit to being Jewish.

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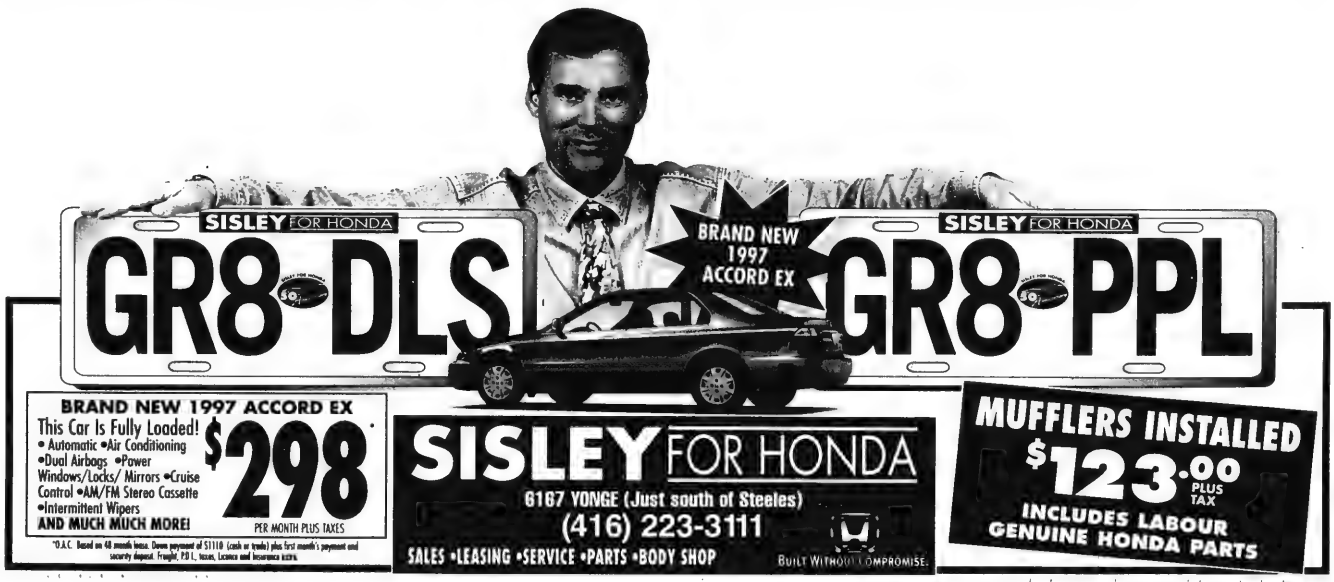

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Greater Toronto Area

Settlers not extremists, says Yesha leader

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Benny Kashriel

TORONTO — Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip, Judea and Samaria may take a hard line, but they are "not the extremists depicted in the media," says Benny Kashriel, mayor of Ma'aleh Adumim and deputy chair of Yesha, the umbrella organization for local and regional councils of the aforementioned areas outside of Israel's Green Line.

A longtime Likud party member, Kashriel, 45, spent two days in Toronto to speak at the offices of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) and Canadian Jewish Congress and meet with local community leaders to lay the groundwork for a group of Ma'aleh Adumim supporters here. His trip also included stops in Los Angeles and New York.

Kashriel has been urging Israelis and Diaspora Jews alike to stand behind Benjamin Netanyahu. Condemnation of the hardline Israeli prime minister only serves to weaken the Israeli government, Kashriel believes. "When we are divided, we don't have any chance to withstand the challenges that our enemies or anyone will give us."

The mayor believes that with a united populace in Israel, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat will realize he has no choice but to compromise and reach a peace agreement.

Kashriel, a native of Ashkelon, and his American-born wife Rhonda have lived in Ma'aleh Adumim, just five miles east of Jerusalem, for 14 years. The town was established in 1975 under the auspices of Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's then prime minister.

Kashriel emphasized that Ma'aleh Adumim was built on government land. "No Arab land was taken. No Arab family was evacuated," he said.

Three years ago, Ma'aleh Adumim was named the most beautiful city in Israel. "For young couples, it's the best place to raise their children," said Kashriel.

A $4.5 million (US) library, which Kashriel hopes will become an international Jewish resource, is under construction, and plans are in the works for a new hotel complex. The city's industrial zone houses 100 factories. "A strong Ma'aleh Adumim will make Jerusalem ten times stronger," he said, referring to Judea and Samaria as the "east security belt of Jerusalem."

The father of three, former director-general of Afridar construction and development company, left the business world when he became mayor in 1992, following a stint as deputy mayor.

He would like to see Ma'aleh Adumim and other Jewish towns outside the Green Line become "a legal part of Israel."

Prior to the intifadah, said Kashriel in an interview, the inhabitants of his town — 80 percent of whom he describes as "right-wing but not extreme," 17 percent of whom are English-speaking immigrants and only 20 percent of whom are religious — had a good relationship with their Arab neighbors.

"We went to Jericho restaurants [seven miles away] and talked with local Arabs. We went shopping there and they came shopping in Ma'aleh Adumim." Jewish settlers no longer go to Arab towns, said Kashriel. "It's dangerous for us."

The Arabs continue to shop in Ma'aleh Adumim, however, and the town — Yesha's only settlement to have achieved the status of a city, with 21,000 inhabitants and growing quickly — provides employment to 1,000 Jericho Palestinians, Kashriel told an audience of some 50 people at a BBC luncheon.

Some 1,000 Jerusalemites also commute to Ma'aleh Adumim to work in its industrial park, he added.

On an informal basis — "over a cup of coffee, not officially" — Arabs from a nearby town have expressed a desire to be part of Israel rather than a Palestinian state, Kashriel claimed.

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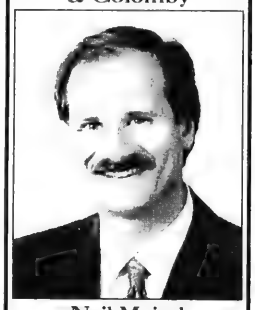

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A Classic Address

Greater Toronto Area

New Jewish show promotes culture, tradition

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Television watchers may have noticed a new Jewish show on Vision TV. *Canadian Jewish Focus*, a 30-minute mix of news, interviews and features, premiered Sept. 8 in the Sunday, 4 p.m. slot.

Hosted by Shimon Zer-Aviv and veteran Toronto radio personality Marsha Lederman, the show covers local events, news from Israel, interviews and personality profiles.

There's also plenty of Hebrew spoken (by Zer-Aviv), with English subtitles.

The show is meant to fill a void in ethnic and religious Canadian TV programming by promoting Jewish culture and tradition, assistant producer Barbara Goldman-Sarfati told *The CJN*.

The hosts take the viewer on remote locations as well as use a set. Segments focus on holiday observance and ceremonies, food preparation, community news, music, dining, travel and panel discussions. Visiting Israeli dignitaries are interviewed.

It's produced independently of Vision, and sponsors are welcome.

"We're pleased something is happening in the Jewish community," said Vision executive producer Richard Landau. "Part of our job is to represent all faiths, so we're delighted with the show."

The program reaches a potential audience of 125,000.

Canadian Jewish Focus airs in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia Sundays at 4 p.m.; at 3 p.m. in Manitoba, and at 5 p.m. in Atlantic Canada and Alberta.

The show is the third stab at Jewish TV programming in the past year, two of them now out of the picture. An earlier attempt, *Jewish Magazine* — a pilot of which aired on Vision last March — has fizzled.

That program showed promise, with its hosts, author Morley Torgov and *Toronto Star* columnist Elie Tesher, and a professional production team. But it encountered financial difficulties, and there are no plans for instalments in the foreseeable future.

The show is being "retooled," said Janice Maser, one of the producers, with the possibility of different hosts and a new production staff. Although there was plenty of community interest, there were problems with sponsorship and funding, Maser said.

According to Landau, "the community support [the show sought] didn't materialize."

Maser says there's still room for a Canadian-Jewish TV show that has broad appeal and is entertaining and relevant. No date has been set for *Jewish Magazine*'s renewal.

There a Catch-22 when it comes to getting a Jewish TV show off the ground, she pointed out. Networks want a high-quality product with financial backing, but sponsors are reluctant to get involved without a commitment that the show will actually be broadcast.

Meantime, *Jewish Journal*, which broadcast six episodes on Metro Toronto's Rogers Cable TV last spring, has been discontinued.

The CJN had a segment on the show, with reporter Frances Kraft summarizing the previous week's news.

Producer Doris Epstein said it's being canned because Rogers has restructured its multicultural programming, meaning *Jewish Journal* would have been cut back to just 12 episodes a year, "and that's not enough to build a viewing audience."

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Community Matters

Sephardic culture rediscovered

UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity has awarded $170,000 in its second round of grants for continuity projects. The following four page Community Matters supplement, prepared by Adi Neuberger, profiles the 16 grant recipients and how they will benefit the community.

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A Sephardic learning centre is inviting young adults and newly married couples to embark on a journey of Sephardic self-discovery. "We want to spark enthusiasm for learning about our heritage," says Jack Buzaglo, a volunteer with Medrash Torah Vehayim, who is working on attracting more young people to the Institute's learning sessions. "People of Sephardic background," he adds, "have the opportunity to understand, for example, why brides take part in the Henna ritual before the wedding ceremony and why Sephardim, unlike Ashkenazim, eat rice and legumes on Passover." Learning about the meanings of different customs and rituals in the Sephardic tradition, adds Buzaglo, "can be a catalyst for their own personal growth."

The Institute, which recently received a Jewish continuity grant from UJA Federation, offers both Jews of Sephardic and Ashkenazi background evening classes in Gemara, philosophy, women's studies and Lifecycles. The Lifecycles course, which explores Sephardic traditions and customs from birth to death, has become increasingly popular among young adults, according to Medrash volunteer Mercedes Bendayan. "Lifecycles deals with modern aspects of everyday life and which can be an entry into a deeper understanding of Sephardic heritage."

"Many people are aware of the ancient customs," observes Rabbi Amram Assayag, "but few understand the reasons behind them."

Eli Toby (left), a member of UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity, presents a cheque to Jack Buzaglo, Salomon Beldeb, Joe Boussidan and Abraham Benzaquen.

UJA Federation grant expands family education

Jewish education is becoming a family affair thanks to a new program for parents and their children.

The Mishpacha Educators Training Institute, sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education and the Supplementary Schools Principals Council, will train Jewish educators to teach families about Jewish laws and customs.

"Parents today want to learn along with their children in order to enrich their home life," says Karen Goodis, one of the project coordinators. "The role of the Institute is to develop interesting programs for parents and kids."

The first training session for teachers will begin in January with an outside facilitator who specializes in multi-generational education. Five Sunday afternoon sessions will follow from February to June.

Once training has been completed, each participating school will implement its own Jewish family education program.

"It's a great chance for parents to have a hands-on experience with their children and assume the role of Jewish educators," explains Dr. Ira Schweitzer, Director of Education for Temple Sinai.

Temple Sinai's grade five Sunday school class on a visit to old Jewish Toronto.

Bar and bat mitzvas with a special touch

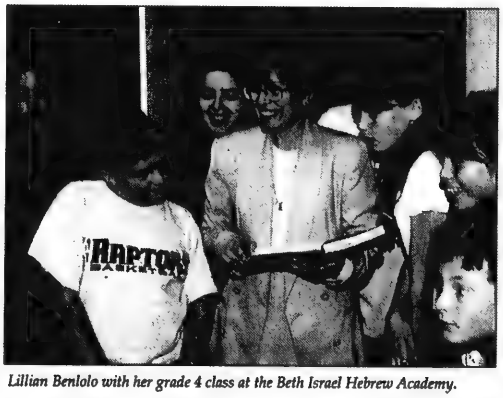
The Beth Israel Hebrew Academy is helping hundreds of young adults make the most of their bar mitzva and bat mitzva experience.

The school's *Bar and Bat Mitzva Sheli* program offers students classes in prayer, Jewish laws, Israel and Hebrew language, in addition to the Torah and Haftorah portions they must learn before the big day.

"It's an extension of their bar and bat mitzva," explains Lillian Benlolo, Director of the Academy. "By studying more than just their required portions, the students gain a deeper understanding and get more out of the whole experience."

Another innovative aspect of the program, according to Benlolo, is how it brings Jews in Thornhill and Richmond Hill closer together. "Our unique approach and personal touch makes us like a small family here."

Benlolo's efforts at building community, assisted by a UJA Federation continuity grant, also extend to helping families find synagogues for bar and bat mitzva celebrations.



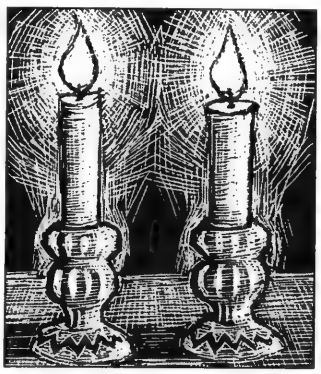
Lillian Benlolo with her grade 4 class at the Beth Israel Hebrew Academy.

For the love of Shabbat

A love of Shabbat is uniting a small group of Jews from different beliefs and backgrounds.

They meet once a month on Friday evenings, light Shabbat candles and recite kiddush before discussing the Torah portion of the week and other selected readings.

"We compress a whole day of Shabbat into two hours," explains Allan Shiff, who founded Yedidai Shabbat (Friends of Shabbat) just over two years ago. "Traditional readings provide an important connection to the past and to the rest of world Jewry."



Aside from meeting to study Torah and share Shabbat, the group gets together to feel more involved with the Jewish community.

"Most of us don't belong to a synagogue," says Shiff, "so Yedidai Shabbat helps us feel like we belong."

The continuity grant from UJA Federation will help Friends of Shabbat to expand its membership.

Community Matters

Storytelling enriches Jewish life

The art of Jewish storytelling is enjoying a revival, with the help of a UJA Federation continuity grant. But the real story is the role tales play in encouraging a renewed appreciation of Jewish culture.

Jewish Storytelling Arts, a non-profit organization that performs puppet shows and conducts storytelling sessions, symbolizes this surge of interest.

"People learn best from stories," says Leslie Robbins, one of the organization's co-founders, "and Jews have a tremendous heritage from which to draw interesting stories."

The group, which also participates in the annual Toronto Jewish Storytelling Festival, is well known for its use of Sholem Aleichem's Yiddish writings and I.B. Singer's folktales. Life-like puppets appeal to both adults and children in hospitals, schools and synagogues.

"Jews are intimately connected with stories," explains Robbins, "and stories connect us with our values."

Leslie Robbins (left) and Greg Paskaruk with Jewish Storytelling puppets, The Rabbi and Meshka, the Kvetch.

Bridging generation gap

A Toronto youth organization is using modern media to build bridges between generations and help families explore Jewish values.

The National Council of Synagogue Youth's (NCSY) L'Dor V'Dor (Generation to Generation) program is showing excerpts from contemporary TV shows such as *ER*, *Seinfeld* and *All in the Family*, to trigger discussion between parents and children about contemporary topics.

Following the professionally moderated discussion, everyone will join together to relate the topics to classical Jewish readings.

"It's a fantastic opportunity to talk about Jewish values," explains Glenn Black, Director of NCSY, Canada Region. "We're taking this very important exercise to peoples' living rooms, the heart of the Jewish home, so that everyone will feel at ease."

Black says TV was chosen as the communications tool because "it's a favorite pastime of teenagers and a good way to communicate Jewish thoughts."

"You would be surprised how little most parents know about the values their own children hold."

(from left) Elaine Marco, Rebecca Sydney and Rachel Hemi at Whirly-Ball, NCSY's first regional program of the year.

Song and dance teach kids about community

Children of all ages and backgrounds are singing and dancing their way to a closer relationship with Israel.

They belong to a program called *Kids Sing Israel*, which meets on Sundays to explore Jewish life through the universal language of music.

"Children love music," explains program coordinator, Adela Gertner, "so it's only natural that we use it to teach them about their heritage."

In addition to song and dance, the kids, from toddlers to age 12, learn about the holidays and Israel by organizing a mock seder, visiting a matza factory during Pesach, planting trees on Tu-Bishvat and participating in other community events such as the UJA Federation Community March for Israel.

Gertner hopes to increase her group of youngsters with the help of a grant from UJA Federation, because she is convinced "music is the thread that connects everyone."

Kids Sing Israel members were proud participants in the 1996 Community March for Israel.

Calling all volunteers

An ambitious recruitment effort is underway to help enlist volunteers on behalf of people with developmental handicaps.

Norman Beck shakes the lulav and etrog on Sukkot with the help of Sol Fleising, Director of Finance at Reena.

Reena and Yachad, an arm of NCSY (National Council of Synagogue Youth), are joining forces at the grass roots level to find young adults interested in becoming involved with Jewish programming for developmentally handicapped clients.

According to Arlene Margolis, what makes this intiative so unique is that volunteers will benefit as much as those whom they are helping. "Sometimes," she says, "by offering to help, you gain more than you give."

Margolis, a volunteer coordinator for Reena, plans to go out to universities, high schools and social groups to identify volunteers who not only want to work with people who have developmental handicaps, but also want to explore their Jewish roots. "We hope this will be an education for the entire community in Judaism and helping one another."

Margolis would like to see the expansion of holiday programming such as a Shavuot learn-a-thon at Shaarei Tefilla Synagogue and a Tu-Bishvat barbecue.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Community Matters

Grant provides comfort for converts

The Conservative movement is offering a warm welcome and a helping hand to the newest members of the Jewish community.

The Rabbinical Assembly is beginning its new Outreach to Jews by Choice project in order to encourage converts to become involved with Jewish communal life and reinforce their Jewishness.

"These people, who have made a very strong commitment to Judaism, can greatly enhance our community," says Rabbi Irvin Beigel, program coordinator. "It's also a way to offer them the practical advice and suppport they need."

Claudette Edgehill, who completed her conversion last August, is looking forward to becoming a mentor within the outreach project. "It will be great to be more exposed to the Jewish community and to help other converts find their way, especially during the holidays."

Other outreach features include shabbatons and study sessions.

"Ongoing study," says Beigel, "will help converts maintain their commitments and enhance their Jewish experience."

Carole Sterling, a member of UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity with Rabbi Irvin Beigel.

Families facing east receive support

Jews in Durham region, east of Metro Toronto, won't feel as isolated, thanks to a new family outreach program.

Jewish Families of Durham was created a year ago to find ways of bringing Jews living in the area, which includes Pickering, Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa, closer together.

Matthew Surkis, one of the group's co-founders, estimates 100 Jewish families living in Durham, adding that "many are unaware that others exist."

The group, which meets monthly, has organized Chanukah and Purim parties and a breaking of the fast after Yom Kippur. It also plans to open a Sunday school for children.

"Being such a small minority," explains co-founder Joanie Gertler, "means we have to work really hard at being Jewish."

Jewish Families of Durham will be intensifying its advertising campaign, with the help of a UJA Federation continuity grant, in order to attract more Jewish families.

"Our goal," says Surkis, "is simply to socialize with other Jewish families and provide Jewish education for our children."

Matthew Surkis, Joanie Gertler (centre) and Pat Comm, founders of Jewish Families of Durham.

Enhancing Jewish identity

Jews are being encouraged to express their individual Jewish identities by an organization calling itself Tzavta.

Tzavta, which translates from Hebrew as "together," is modelled after a centre for Jewish intellectual, cultural and social activity in Israel.

Here in Toronto, Tzavta runs similar programs in order to celebrate Jewish holidays and cultural events in an inclusive and participatory way.

"We're providing a forum for progressive Jewish thought," explains Tzavta co-founder Mitzy Clement.

Programs, which include political panel discussions, dedication to Jewish heroes during Chanukah, holiday celebrations and Israeli folk dancing, are carried out with what Clement describes as "a humanistic appproach, in open fashion."

"A lot of us feel very Jewish," says Clement, "and Tzavta encourages more expressions of that Jewishness."

Three young Tzavta members celebrate at last year's Chanukah party at Earl Bales Park.

Welcoming newcomers

Three community agencies are reaching out to Jewish Russian teens arriving in Toronto.

Jewish Immigrant Aid Service, BBYO and the Bathurst Jewish Centre are pooling their resources for their New Arrival Outreach program. JIAS will provide the names of new Russian immigrants, the BJC will supervise programming, developed by BBYO, which will provide contacts with Canadian teens.

"This outreach will create a vehicle for Russian teens to socialize with their Canadian counterparts and become acquainted with Canadian Jewish culture," explains Deborah Pinsky, Executive Director of the BJC.

Pinsky hopes "Russian teens will feel less isolated and alienated if they are more included in programs with other Jewish teens."

(left to right) May Delume, member of UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity, with Karen Nusbaum, Director of Community and Family Services at the BJC, Perry Romberg, Executive Director JIAS and Deborah Pinsky, Executive Director of the BJC.

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Universities combine to market Israel

For the first time seven Israeli universities are working together to attract Canadian students for a one year overseas study program.

The Study Israel Consortium, which includes Bar Ilan University, Haifa University, Tel-Aviv University, Technion, The Hebrew University, The Weizmann Institute and Ben-Gurion University, is embarking on a bold new marketing initiative to convince post-secondary students that a year in Israel will improve their job prospects.

"Go further with education" is the motto being used in the design of funky new washroom (yes washroom) ads that will appear on campuses across Canada.

According to Michael Litvack, a representative of Canadian Friends of The Hebrew University, approximately 650 Canadian students participate in overseas Israel programs each year; 50% reside in Toronto.

"We've really got a great marketing concept," says Mark Rubinstein, the Canadian Overseas Program representative at Tel-Aviv University. "Students will be able to dial one number and gain access to information on all the available programs."

The consortium will also be participating in six Study Israel Fairs and will be working closely with UJA Federation's Jewish Campus Services to get their message across.

~

Ron Barkovsky (left) and Avi Kalev hanging out in front of Tel-Aviv University's Overseas Student Program office.

Alternative shul seeks permanent address

The largest Jewish gay and lesbian congregation in Toronto is looking for a permanent place to hold High Holiday services for its growing membership.

Keshet Shalom, which was founded in 1991, has been using the Wallin Lounge at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre for its Shabbat services for the last two years and during the High Holidays some members have been attending services at the Downtown Reform Minyan.

"The BJCC and Minyan have been very accommodating and generous," says Michelle Crawford-Bewley, Immediate Past President of Keshet Shalom, "but we would really like to have our own space where we can be recognized as an individual group."

The congregation, with a membership of 70, organizes monthly Shabbat celebrations, Chanukah and Purim parties, a Tu-Bishvat seder and a Jewish film night.

"If there is one way almost all Jews choose to observe their religion, it's by celebrating the High Holidays," says Crawford-Bewley. "We're trying to bring more people back to the High Holidays."

Morty Caplan and Michelle Crawford-Bewley.

Dialogue connects young Canadians and Israelis

A new program, supported by a UJA Federation continuity grant, for young Jewish adults is something Israelis and Canadians can talk about.

Youth for Israel, (YOFI) was created by the Israel Program Centre, in conjunction with Habonim Dror, to fill a void in creative programming for Jews in their mid-to-late 30s, and to foster better understanding between Israelis and Canadians.

"There is virtually nothing for young Jewish adults once they've graduated," explains Michael Soberman, Director of the Ontario Israel Experience. "This dialogue will provide an interesting, challenging and socially appealing way for this group to interact."

YOFI, which has met four times in the last year, discusses religious, political and cultural issues and relies on word of mouth to attract participants.

"We ask everyone who comes to bring a friend next time," explains YOFI planning committee member Heidi Brown, who believes the program will "help bring Israelis living in Canada closer to their Canadian counterparts."

Michael Soberman and Heidi Brown.

Judaism steeped in reality

The Morris Winchevsky School is offering an alternative Jewish connection by relating traditional Jewish culture to modern daily life.

The school, housed in a community centre of the same name, after one of Jewish history's most celebrated poets, was founded in 1928. Secular Jewish families have been drawn there because of its humanist orientation toward Judaism.

"Our way of celebrating Jewish heritage," explains Maxine Hermolin, the school's Executive Director "is by linking Jewishness with the real world."

Relating the story of Passover to the struggle against apartheid and the war in Bosnia to the Holocaust are some examples of the Winchevsky approach.

Using a UJA Federation continuity grant, the school plans to begin a Family Sundays program involving parents and children and expand its adult education classes.

"We're providing a true alternative for secular Jewish families and mixed cultural families," says Hermolin. "Tolerance and respect have a lot to do with it."

Maxine Hermolin and David Abramowitz.

Senior Care worker loves his 'good feeling kind of job'

Spotlight

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Arnold Foss, supervisor of program development and volunteer recruitment at Senior Care says he has a "good feeling kind of job."

"All the work done for our clients makes them feel special and at the same time, the volunteers are engaged in something worthwhile. They feel good about themselves and the seniors feel good because they know the volunteers are working because they want to — because they enjoy it," he says.

Foss, 40, came to the agency, formerly Coordinated Services for the Jewish Elderly, 15 years ago. The agency's mandate is to provide specialized services, such as home support programs, caregiver relief, volunteer visiting or live-in worker placement, for those seniors who wish to remain in their own homes.

Student, senior paired up

He started out administering the agency's Meals on Wheels program from Baycrest Hospital and now, in addition to recruiting, training, recognizing and retaining volunteers, he is in charge of specialty volunteer programs.

One of his favorites is the agency's intergenerational program run in conjunction with the Jewish and the North York boards of education.

The pen-pal program was conceived in an attempt to involve young children with our clients who are homebound. A student and a senior are paired up and they correspond all year. At the end of the year, the seniors are picked up and brought to the school to meet their pen-pal.

"It really is an emotional moment. These people have become friends. They've shared feelings and experiences with each other. A lot of these kids have grandparents who live elsewhere, so there is not a lot of contact. Their pen-pals really fill a niche for them and to finally meet is just incredible. There are a lot of smiles and tears of joy. It is certainly the highlight of my year."

Arnold Foss

The birthday card program, in which students make cards for the agency's clients, is another successful venture, he says.

"One woman wrote in that she cried when she received her birthday card. It was the only one she received. A simple idea like that provides an uplifting feeling for people."

Also part of Foss' job is helping to run Habayit Shelanu, a seniors' building at Spadina Road and Davenport developed by Senior Care. He works with the board of directors, assists with the tenants' council and provides a liaison between tenants and their necessary services, such as cleaning, transportation and obtaining wheelchairs.

"It's good to see these seniors living independently in their own homes. It makes our work seem worthwhile," he says.

Working with the volunteers is a give-and-take situation, Foss says. "They bring with them their own experience and knowledge base and we learn a lot from them. They feel great about what they're doing and the seniors enjoy being with them. Our clients tell us time and time again how happy they are. I'm blessed every day at least 1,000 times."

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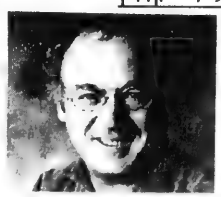


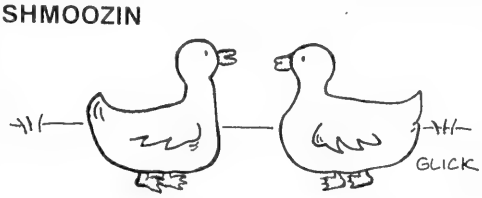
מכתב לרומניה:

בישראל פועלים כיום עשרות אלפי עובדים זרים, רבים מהם בתוקף אישורי עבודה חוקיים של משרד העבודה. מאוד מקובל, למשל, שנשים מדינות הגוש הקומוניסטי לשעבר עובדות כמטפלות בזקנים ובמוסדות למפגרים, שכן מעט מאוד ישראלים-יהודים מוכנים לעסוק במקצועות אלה. יום אחד הודיעה הסוכנות שמעסיקה עובדים אלה לאשה ישכרה את שירותיהם כדי לטפל באימה הזקנה, כי במכתבים ששלחה המטפלת הרומניה לחבריה ומשפחתה ברומניה היא כותבת שעבשיו היא מבינה מדוע היטלר הרג יהודים. ואיך יודעים זאת? המכתבים חזרו מרומניה חתומים, אחרי שלא נמצא כנראה הנמען, ובסוכנות העבודה פתחו אותם במקום להעבירם חתומים לידי הנמרת שכתבה אותם העיתונות העברית היתה מלאה במשך יומיים בדברי זעזוע מהרומניה והתבטאויותיה, והיא כמובן תועלה בקרוב על מטוס ותישלח הביתה. אבל איש בעיתונות (ממש אף אחד בישום עיתון) לא שאל את שאלת השאלות: ומה עם העיקרון המקודש של כל-כך של סודיות, פרטיות, זכויות הפרטי איך זה שפותחים את מכתביהם של אנשים בלי רשותם? אבל בישראל של '96 זכויות הפרט הן עדיין עניין שולי וזניח. כפי שהתריע לאחרונה שר המשפטים החדש דן מרידור. הוא דרך אגב, איש נאור וצעיר, ויש לו דעות מאוד ברורות איך צריך לקדם את זכויות הפרט בישראל. דרך אגב, היטלר והנאצים: שמם ניישא בפי כל פעמיים בישבוע לפחות, כשהיהדות החרדית מאשימה את השמאל. את השוטרים ואת מי לא. שמפריע להם להשתלט על המדינה. שהם נאצים. והם אומרים זאת בקולי קולות לכל מי שרק רוצה לשמוע. אז מה. רוצים ממטפלת רומניה שכותבת דברים כאלה במכתביה האישיים?

ישראל -בולגריה:

יש הרבה דרכים להכיר מקום, להבין את האנשים ולהיכנס לראש שלהם. אחת המקומות שקרובים יותר לעצבים החשופים של ה"עם" הוא מגרש הכדורגל. אז הלכנו. בני ואני עם חברים לראות את ישראל נגד בולגריה באצטדיון רמת גן. בילדותי הרחוקה הלך איתי אבא שלי פעם אחת לאצטדיון רמת גן, ועד היום אני זוכר כל רגע מהאירוע הזה ארבעים שנה מאוחר יותר. איימו עלינו שאנחנו הולכים להיכנס למקום פראי ומסוכן. אבל הסדר היה מופתי, ועל כל צופה היה שוטר או איש ביטחון, אמיתי או מתיימר. אחד מהם, בכניסה, בדק בכלינו כנהוג בארץ הקודש, ומאחר שהזהירו אותנו שלא להביא פחיות שתייה כי "בבית"ר ירושלים זורקים אותם על השופטים" הבאנו רק בקבוק קולה גדול מפלסטיק. "מצטער, אמר איש הביטחון המתחזה- אסור להכניס פקקים, כי אפשר לזרוק אותם על המגרש". הוריד לנו את הפקק והשאיר בידינו בקבוק קולה נטול פקק. אנחנו נכנסים לאצטדיון ומה הדבר הראשון שאנחנו פוגשים? איש שמוכר קולה עם בקבוקים עם פקק.... סיפור אולי מצחיק. אבל הוא גם מגלם את תמצית חוסר הארגון, חוסר המשמעת והבולשיט הישראלי. כל אחד "יודע". לכל אחד יש "דיעה", אבל הסך הכל לעתים די מטומטם וחסר הגיון. המשחק עצמו היה חלומו האירוטי של כל אוהד. הבולגרים הובילו מבעיטת עונשין מ-11 מטר כבר בדקה הראשונה(!) אך ישראל השוותה ולבסוף ניצחה. נורא קיף להיות בין האוהדים של נבחרת ישראל כשהיא מנצחת. אבל היו כמה דברים שמאפיינים את ישראל של הכדורגל ב- 1996. הקהל עדיין 99 אחוז גברים, בכל הגילים כשהוכרז ההמנון הבולגארי שרק הקהל שריקות בוז קולניות הנשים היחידות מבין ארבעים האלף בקהל היו כמאה נערות צעירות ארוכות רגליים שנישאו את הדגלים ובהפסקה שעישנו את הקהל בריקודים דרום אמריקניים. המאצ'יאוס המזרח תיכוני במיטבו. אפרופו דגלים - הנערות נישאו את דגלי ישראל ואת דגלי התאחדות הכדורגל העולמית. לא היה באצטדיון אפילו דגל בולגארי רשמי אחד. והדגלים היחידים של האורחים נישאו בידי קומץ האוהדים שלהם. חוסר נימוס וולגאריתי פשוט לא עלה לאף אחד לראש שצריך. אני יודע שבכל כנס שאני משתתף בו ויש בו נציג ישראלי - דואגים שדגל ישראל יתנוסס בראש התורן. סך הכל היה כיף. חזרנו עייפים אך רצוצים.

SHMOOZIN



"In English we are ducks. In Yiddish we are *katshkelekh*. I think that we are much cuter in Yiddish."

From coast to coast

Former Baron Byng grads gather for 48th reunion

By CELINE MIGDAL
Special to the CJN

MONTREAL – The old classrooms are filled with shelves of donated clothes and odd and ends that will be useful to someone in need, but the building no longer looks or feels like an institution of learning.

Nineteen old friends and former classmates and their spouses recently gathered at the old school in Montreal to celebrate the 48th reunion of Baron Byng High School, class of 1948, Room 41.

They renewed old friendships and exchanged memories of days gone by. The reunion started at the ancient Baron Byng building on St. Urbain Street, in what was once the old Jewish neighborhood, an area made famous by one of the school's best known alumni, novelist Mordecai Richler, whose graduating class this was.

Now the classrooms are no longer recognizable and there was much discussion about the location of Room 41. However, the rooms and corridors hold a lot of memories for former students, despite the fact that the building is no longer a school. It was sold in 1980 and now functions as a food and clothing depot and headquarters for Sun Youth.

Richler was the class president. "I'm delighted to meet old friends I have not seen for a long time, everyone seems to have done well," he said.

"They also seem to remember more of my squabbles with teachers in the old days. I had my share of those and the strap was applied liberally. I also spent a lot of time being absent and outside the principal's office."

Although Richler said he has been back to his old neighborhood on St. Urbain Street near Fairmont, he added, "I have not, however, been in touch with most of my classmates during the past 48 years."

The early part of the reunion took the form of a tour of the "old school" and a lunch on the premises. Memories of old pranks and boyish high spirits, such as hiding classmates' reading glasses and teachers' hearing aids, mixed with nostalgic reminiscences.

The late afternoon activities included a guided tour of the surrounding neighborhood and dinner.

A video of reminiscences about the school and its students, prepared by former teacher Frances Katz, 89, who is ill and was unable to attend, proved to be the highlight of the evening, according to Richard Rosenberg of the organizing committee.

Stanley Cadloff, also on the committee, described his old high school as "a place where cultures clashed. The teachers, who were mainly Scottish and English, faced a totally foreign lot of rowdy, young boys from a different culture. Our backgrounds were strange to the teachers. But what we had in common, though, was love of learning. Our parents were keen for us to learn and urged us on and the teachers wanted to teach us."

Baron Byng graduates consistently scored first in the provincial exams, and the school had many students in the top 20 percent for more than 20 years.

However, there was also resentment: Don Goldberg remembered that when the State of Israel was declared in 1948 and the students marched around the school yard singing Hatikvah, the class teacher, Mr. McLetchie, was singing, "There will always be an England" at the top of his voice.

The students were 99 percent Jewish. One of the few non-Jews was the late Joe Stracina, a former member of the Montreal Allouette football team. Three other members of the class have also died.

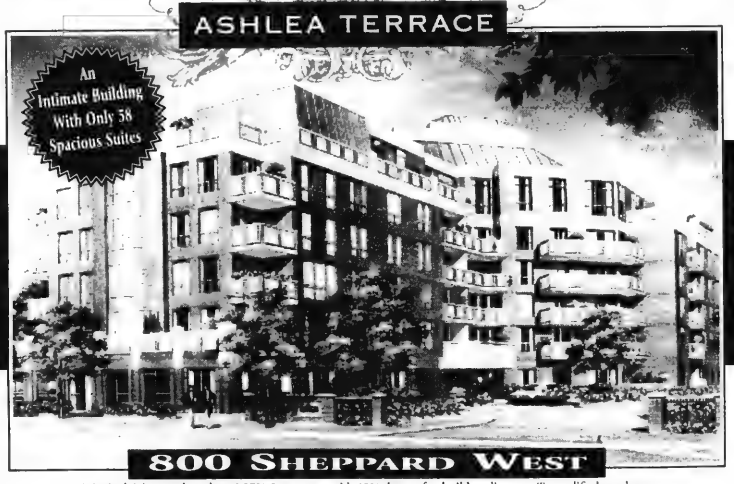
FROM THE DIASPORA TO JERUSALEM

An ancient ossuary with a Greek inscription of the name of the carver and the place where he worked, Beirut. The artifact is part of an exhibit, From the Diaspora to Jerusalem, on display at Hamilton's McMaster University until Nov. 6. The exhibit comprises Second Temple period ossuaries, jewelry, clay lamps and glassware from recently discovered family tombs in Jerusalem's Kidron Valley, and is the only archeological exhibition traveling outside Israel during the Jerusalem 3000 anniversary.

Look who is becoming a TORONTONIAN

GRAND OPENING

ASHLEA TERRACE



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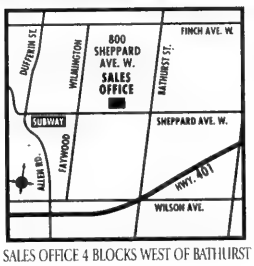

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Oct. 17, is deadline for Oct. 31 issue, and Thursday, Oct. 24, is deadline for Nov. 7. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Oct. 17

HOOKED ON WELLNESS

Live Well ... Feel Well, nutrition, fitness, alternative medicine, breast health, 7:30 p.m. Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Sponsored by Jewish Women International of Canada.

Friday, Oct. 18

YEDIDAY SHABBAT

Yediday Shabbat: Friends of the Sabbath Shabbat celebration combining traditional and humanistic elements, discussion, song, readings. 488-0688.

SJA SHABBAT

Secular Jewish Association Shabbat ceremony and Oneg Shabbat, pot-luck dinner, bring a dish to share, 7:30 p.m., 1 Overland Dr. RSVP 489-5759.

Saturday, Oct. 19

COMEDY NIGHT

A Comedy Night, dinner, dancing, the Four Comics at Beth Torah Congregation to honor **Nathan Naymark** for his many years of dedicated service, 7:30 p.m. $60. Reserve 782-4495.

Sunday, Oct. 20

GIVENS MEMORIAL

Philip Givens memorial evening dedicated to the memory of Yiddish author **Shalom Aleichem** on the his 80th yahrzeit, presented by Yiddish Kultur Geselschaft and Committee for Yiddish, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

ART AUCTION

Auction of oils, lithographs, limited edition prints by well known artists, preview 6:30 p.m., auction 7:30, Shaarei-Beth El Congregation, 186 Morrison Rd., Oakville. 905-849-6000.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) opening meeting, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Charles King** 783-7872.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Adath Israel Singles Group (35-55) brunch, **David Young**, North York school board trustee, speaks on Public Education Reform — How it Impacts on You, 11:30 a.m. $8 prepaid reservations 635-5340 by Oct. 18, 2:30 p.m., $10 at door.

JEWISH MUSICAL THEMES

Faye Kellerstein illustrates Jewish musical themes by American composers, accompanied by **Amy Gilbert** at Temple Emanu-El. Breakfast 9:30 a.m., program at 10. **Carole Robertson** 905-707-8987.

GIGANTIC RUMMAGE SALE

Aviva branch, National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, gigantic rummage sale of housewares and wearing apparel, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St.

Monday, Oct. 21

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Associated Hebrew School Parents' Association presents **Julius Ciss**, executive director, Jews for Judaism, 8 p.m., Kamin campus.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, general meeting, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Lawyer **Henry Silver** speaks on Wills, Powers of Attorney. **Lil** 905-771-8386 or **Sheila** 665-3333.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

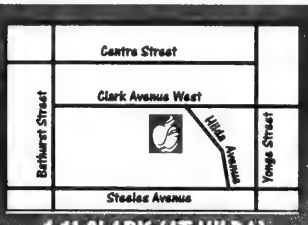
Tuesday, Oct. 22

THE PRINTED WORD

Beth Tzedec's Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library symposium, The Printed Word, 7:30 p.m. Panelists author **Erna Paris**; **Howard**

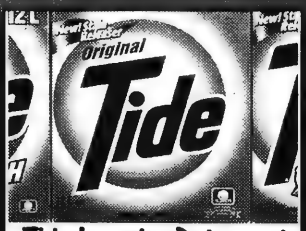
[Cont'd. on page 25]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
• KOSHER MEAT • KOSHER FISH • KOSHER DELI • KOSHER GROCERY • KOSHER BAKERY •



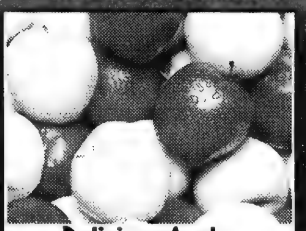
441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

Medium Ground Beef
Glatt Kosher, 7.85 kg
356 lb.



Tide Laundry Detergent
Powdered, Assorted Varieties
6 L or 12 L box
747

Roast Beef
Levitts, From the Deli
2.75 /100 g
1249 lb.



Delicious Apples
Red or Golden, Product of U.S.A., Extra Fancy Grade, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Chicken Thighs
Kosher, Back Attached
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168 lb.

Sugar Kake Cookies
Assorted Varieties
350 - 400 g pkg.
.99

Turkey Roll
Levitts, From the Deli
2.92 /100 g
1329 lb.

Romaine Lettuce
Product of U.S.A.
each
.99

Red Tilapia
Fresh
8.80 kg
399 lb.

Tradition Ramen Noodles
Chicken or Oriental
79 g pkg.
.49

Honey Cake
From The Bakery
450 g
349

Raspberry Buns
From The Bakery
pkg. of 6
239

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Aster, publisher, *Mosaic Press*; **Mordechai Ben Dat**, editor, *The Canadian Jewish News*. Moderator **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

BREAST CANCER
Scotiabank and Mount Sinai Hospital's Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre Dialogue on Breast Cancer, led by top clinical and research experts, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Mount Sinai. Reserve. 586-8338.

SESSION ON SLEEP
Why It Is Good To Sleep, **Dr. Morty Mamelak**, director of Sleep Laboratory, Baycrest Centre, sponsored by Baycrest Wellness Education Group, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Wagman Centre. Register by Oct. 22. **Judy Chu** 785-2340.

SIMPLETONES OF KHELEM
Nathan Garnick Productions presents the Yiddish Theatre School Ensemble in *The Simpletones of Khelem*, comedy, klezmer, song and dance in Yiddish and English, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $10 in advance, $15 at door, students $4. Tickets at Lasting Impressions, 635-0720.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
Shaarei Tefillah Congregation Institute of Adult Jewish Education fall session on Contemporary Issues and Halachah with **Rabbi Moshe Stern** starts off with Physician Strikes — Halachah, 8 p.m.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON
Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood opening luncheon, 12:30 p.m., features a wandering fashion show. Try on and purchase clothing. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

ABOUT COMMUNICATION
Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders meeting, Communication Disorders — Let's Talk About It, speech-language therapist, **Jehan Shehata**, 7:30-10 p.m., Shaar Shalom Synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd. **Carol Ferguson** 905-841-6768 or **Karyn Farber** 905-764-2776.

Wednesday, Oct. 23

WHY BELIEVE IN G-D?
Pride of Israel adult education class, Why Believe in G-d?, **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, 8 p.m.

HADASSAH-WIZO BAZAAR
Hadassah-WIZO's 72nd annual bazaar, miles of aisles of bargains, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Automotive Building, Exhibition Place,

THE PEACE PROCESS
Canadian chapter, Non-Resident Fellowship of the Israel Medical Association general meeting, Israel 1996: The Peace Process Continues, **Yehudi Kinar**, consul general of Israel, 8 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 24

JEWS OF ONTARIO TOWNS
B'nai Brith Halton Peel features **Susan Jackson**, Jewish Federation of Toronto, speaking on Jews of Ontario Towns, 7:30 p.m., Peel Board of Education, 5650 Hurontario St. **Joyce Aster** 905-678-9691.

And What Else Is New...

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Women's Institute of Torah Study classes: Partners in Study, Jewish subject of your choice, private teacher; Mysticism, **Esther Zirkind**; Maimonides, **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin**. Register 905-881-2012.

BEREAVEMENT SERIES
Six-week discussion series for persons who have recently lost a spouse begins Monday, Oct. 21. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am. $60. A Jewish Family Life Workshop run by Jewish Family & Child Service. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

BETH TZEDEC WORKSHOPS
Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library workshops: Hebrew Calligraphy: Practical and Mystical, **Ruth Stern Warzecha** Nov.4-Dec. 2; Creative Writing, **Kenneth Sherman**, Nov. 7-28; Genealogy — Your Family Tree on Computer, **Nathan Abromowitz**, one session Monday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m. 781-3511

WINCHEVSKY CENTRE
Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.: Drama, **David Abramowitz**; Yiddish Song Circle, **Allan Merovitz**; International Folkdancing, **Sheree Rasmussen**; Klezmer Music, **Martin Van de Ven** ; Yiddish Reading Circle; Moving to Music Exercise Group, **Honey Rose**. Preregister 789-5502.

MASONIC DIVINE SERVICE
Seven Toronto districts — Freemasons' Masonic Divine Service, Sunday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, **Rabbi Philip Scheim** and **Cantor Yehuda Rottner** officiating. All Masons, their families and friends invited.

INSIDE OUT
A 16-week support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth (ages 14-19) Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m., 122 Keewatin Ave., sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service. **Danny Firestone** 482-3023 or **Karen Searle** 638-7800, ext. 240.

MODERN HEBREW COURSE
University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies introductory course to Modern Hebrew, conversation, oral comprehension, Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., through Dec. 18. Recommended for those planning a vacation in Israel. Register 978-2400.

VENDORS WANTED
Giftware, crafts, antiques, collectibles for Na'amat Pioneer Women's annual bazaar and auction, Sunday, Nov. 17, Toronto Congress Centre, 650 Dixon Rd. 636-5425 or 493-1089, fax 636-5248.

COUNTER-MISSIONARY
Jews for Judaism's Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, Wednesdays, 8 p.m., through Dec. 4, Albert Latner Jewish Public Library, 4600 Bathurst St. $18. 789-2851.JD-83.05

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto (BAYT) Sisterhood Israeli folkdancing, women only, Mondays beginning Oct. 21, 8-9 p.m. beginners, 9-10 p.m. intermediate. $5. 905-886-3810, ext. 127.

A NIGHT OF LAUGHS
Na'amat-Aviva chapter presents A Night of Laughs at Comedywood, Bathurst/Steeles, Saturday, Oct. 26, Doors open 7:30 p.m., showtime 8:30. Silent auction. $12. Partial tax receipt for two or more tickets. 636-5425.

KOFFLER GALLERY
A Young Girl at Ghetto Terezin, 1941-44, drawings by **Helga Weissova Hoskova**, on view at Loggia Gallery, Koffler Centre of the Arts, through Oct. 27. Exhibit organized by A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York.

AT BETH TIKVAH
Beth Tikvah Synagogue programs: The Vanishing Diaspora, **Gerald Zeidenberg**, Thursdays, 8 p.m., Oct. 17 and 24; Adult Heder, **Tsipi Krupat**, Yemen, Sunday, Oct. 20, 9:45 a.m.; The Practice of Kashrut, **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, Monday, Oct. 21, 8 p.m.; Genesis: A Living Conversation, **Henry Alkin**, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 8 p.m.

BOOK SALE
Annual book sale, University College, University of Toronto, 15 King's College Circle, Oct. 19-23. Doors open 10 a.m. except Sunday (11 a.m.) 978-0372.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: The Self-Confident Woman, begins Oct. 24; Successful Step-parenting: Learning to Step Together begins Nov. 7. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800.

DISCOVERY SEMINAR
Aish HaTorah's Discovery seminar exploring Judaism's relevance, Saturday night Oct. 19 through Sunday, Oct. 20, Aish HaTorah Dan Family Community Centre, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Reserve 905-764-1818.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Shopping in Buffalo and theatre — *Cabaret*, Sunday, Oct. 20; vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat, Nov. 4-25; alternative to Miami is Arizona. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 24 is bingo and social games. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dance Oct. 19; Buffalo shopping Oct. 22; Atlantic City, New York City, Oct. 27-31; Thornhill Square Mall, Nov. 4; Dixie Mall, Mississauga, Nov. 14; Casino Rama Nov. 21; Las Vegas Nov. 24-28; For information on *Beauty and the Beast* 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami, four, six, eight weeks, Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Young at Heart Florida trip to Sagamore Hotel, ocean front, efficiency, because of tax increase, one month $1,674, six weeks $1,835, two months $2,735. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Literary Luncheon, readings by author **Dr. Philip Loren**, Monday, Oct. 21, 11:30 a.m. Register.

Bea Levis, co-chair, Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens Organization, discusses medical care, pensions, Monday, Oct. 21, 1:15 p.m. **Sheila Zane** or **Sharon Zeiler**.

New Trends in Dentistry, **Barbara Siegel**, North York Public Health Department, Dental Division, Thursday, Oct. 24, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, Israeli cultural club, seventh anniversary party, dinner and dance, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m. **Anna**.

Osteoporosis Support Group, **Mairwen Thornley**, director of physiotherapy, Branson Hospital, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1:30 p.m.

Movie, *Jolson Sings Again*, Sunday, Oct. 20, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, Sunday, Oct. 20, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Songs from across the world, **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Centre Court Cabaret at Bloor JCC, literary readings, dance, film, comedy, music, mime theatre, Thursday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club musical afternoon and fall birthday party, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2 p.m. Visit to new CBC Building, harp concert, tour, CBC Museum, Thursday, Oct. 24, Reserve by Oct. 22. **Judy** 924-6211.

Oneg Shabbat luncheon, cantorial soloist **Phyllis Greenberg**, Friday, Oct. 25, 12:15 p.m., Senior Adult Services, BJC. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

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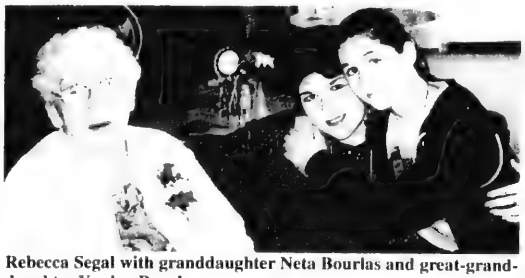
Saskatoon's oldest Jewish resident celebrates 100 years



Rebecca Segal with granddaughter Neta Bourlas and great-granddaughter Yarden Bourlas.

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

SASKATOON — Rebecca Segal Saskatoon's oldest Jewish resident, recently celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by children, grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

The party was held in a corner of the dining room of the nursing home where she has lived for the past couple of years. Sam Gross, her son-in-law, reports that she received letters of congratulations from the offices of the Queen, the governor general, the prime minister, the premier of Saskatchewan and a couple of local MLAs, one of whom joined the family in celebrating her birthday.

Segal was born on Sept. 23, 1896, in Romania, the youngest of five children of Moshe and Leah Davidner. The family came to Canada in 1905, settling in the Jewish farm colony in Lipton, Sask. Her two older brothers had gone ahead and prepared a cave in the side of a hill that the family called home for the first two years in Canada. For the next 25 years, the pioneers lived in a house built of logs and sod.

In 1920, Rebecca married Joseph Segal. They settled first in Regina then moved to rural Saskatchewan where Joseph was alternately a butcher, a trucker and operator of a patent medicine, confectionary and gift shop.

Segal and her husband had five children - Hye, Marjorie (Cohen), Harold, Gertie (Gross) and Jerry. The family moved to Saskatoon in 1959. Segal is a lifetime member of Hadassah in Saskatoon. She lived in her own home until 1990 and in a seniors condominium until two years ago.

She was widowed in 1979 and her daughter, Marjorie, died in 1989. She has 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES Jewish Singles Play! Sunday, Oct. 27th, 7:30 p.m.,** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. Ages 26-40, 41-69. ***Bridge, Rummicube, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo.** 7:30-8:00 p.m. Prizes. Refreshments. $5. **55 couples have already met! Free Introductions!** Mollie, 733-3634.

A Grand Singles Night with dancing & dinner, Friday, Oct. 18th at 8:30pm for singles 30-55 at Metropol Restaurant, 72 Steeles Ave. West. $20.00 admission fee. For reservations call Lili 416-739-7371.

ADATH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE SINGLES GROUP, 35-55, (Bathurst & Wilson) invites you to a Sunday brunch, Oct. 20th at 11:30 am, with our guest speaker, David Young, North York School Board Trustee - Ward 6. Topic: "Public Education Reform - How it impacts you". $8.00 prepaid reservations at the Synagogue office (416) 635-5340 until Fri., October 18th at 2:30 pm. Dress code in effect. $10.00 at the door. VISA accepted.

BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM SINGLE PARENTS GROUP presents **ABC's OF FIRST AID.** Speaker: Linda Spires, R.N. Thurs., Oct. 24th at 8 pm. 55 Yeomans Rd., North York. $5.00 at the door.(416) 633-5500.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIME OUT! presents its second sensational season! Great way to have fun, meet new people and keep fit. Teams and individuals welcome. **FREE** T-shirt for the first 50 to register.
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Darren, Mark & Ari invite you to....**Nightmare on the Danforth.** Friday, October 25th, 9:00 pm, ZOO Club, 2714 Danforth Ave. Halloween Costume Bash. Live to air broadcast on 103.5 fm. Tickets: $12.00 Advance/At door. TicketMaster 416-870-8000. Ari Huber, Mark Brodkin, Darren Budd, 416-733-1419.

Film Night, *"About the Lost Tribes"* with documentary award winning filmmaker David Ostriker. Sunday, Oct. 20th, 8pm, JRC, 18 Rockford Rd., Cover $5.00. Refreshments served. For info. call 416-222-7105 ext. 31.

Jewish Contemporary Singles offers a personal and private approach to dating. Call today! (416) 484-9733.

Jewish Singles Parents & Single Friends, 30ish - 40ish are invited on Sun. Oct. 27th to Table Talk with Rabbi Mitch Mandel (Aish HaTorah). A great way to meet & dialogue, *"Lust, Love & the Sports Channel"*, Refreshments & Nosh, $10.00, reservations pref., 905-881-0376,register 1:30 pm, 2:00 pm program begins promptly.Lipa Green Bldg.,4600 Bathurst St.,4th flr.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1155** registered. Averaging an engagement every 6 wks. 398-7068.

NEW IMAGE 50+ SINGLES is having a dance on Sat. Oct. 19th at Earl Bales Community Centre. **D.J. Phil Allenbick.** Refreshments. Prizes. Paid-up Members $5., Non-members $7. **FREE Dance Lesson from 7:45 - 8:15 pm. AND.....Sunday, Oct. 20th** is a **Mix & Mingle,** at 7:30 pm, **tapes by Murray Jacobs.** Refreshments. Paid-up Members $2., Non-members $4. **Membership is now due!**

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From coast to coast

CJC-P helps promote cross cultural understanding

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Assisted by a provincial government grant of $20,600, Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region (CJC-P), will publish Face to Face, a group of four resource manuals to promote cross cultural understanding through outreach.

B.C. Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh, on advising CJC-P's chair Dr. Michael Elterman of approval of the grant, said "multicultural activities such as yours are crucial in realizing goals contained in British Columbia's Multiculturalism Act ... I wish you all the best for the successful implementation of your project."

CJC-P says its four manuals for Face to Face will cover Hate Propaganda and Racially Motivated Crime; Human Rights; Multiculturalism; Interfaith.

The project will require one full time staff person plus "many hours donated by lay persons in the Jewish community."

Each manual will include accessible and updated material on each of the issues — including briefs, legislation initiatives and audio-visual presentations about the issues that will trigger dialogue.

Each manual will be self-contained to provide workshops and training on the issues. Each manual will provide the tools to develop community-based input and responses to the issues.

A target focus of the project, says CJC-P, will be youth and leadership development as well as visible minority women. Congress notes that the CJC umbrella covers some 32 faith and family service agencies, many of which serve a clientele "that is far from being exclusively Jewish. Comprehensive training of their staffs, volunteers and boards of directors go a long way in promoting harmonious relations among all users of these services."

The project, says Congress, "will serve the broadest segments" of B.C.'s population. It could serve as a resource for law enforcement agencies, legislators, interfaith agencies, NGOs, ethnic communities and the media." CJC-P will provide training to Jewish and non-Jewish agencies as well as other public organizations involved in like-minded activities.

Watch for our GRAND OPENING details in the CJN Oct. 24...

Actors at Hand
presents
VIRTUAL REALITY
Holocaust: Memory and Meaning
by Eli Pfefferkorn
at Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto
(Eisendrath Auditorium)
Sunday, October 20 at 8:00 p.m.
and Monday, October 21, at 8:00 p.m.
Admission free - Donations welcome
Proceeds will help endow a Holocaust Essay or Story prize at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto

NA'AMAT TORONTO
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Partial tax receipt
Reception with stars following performance
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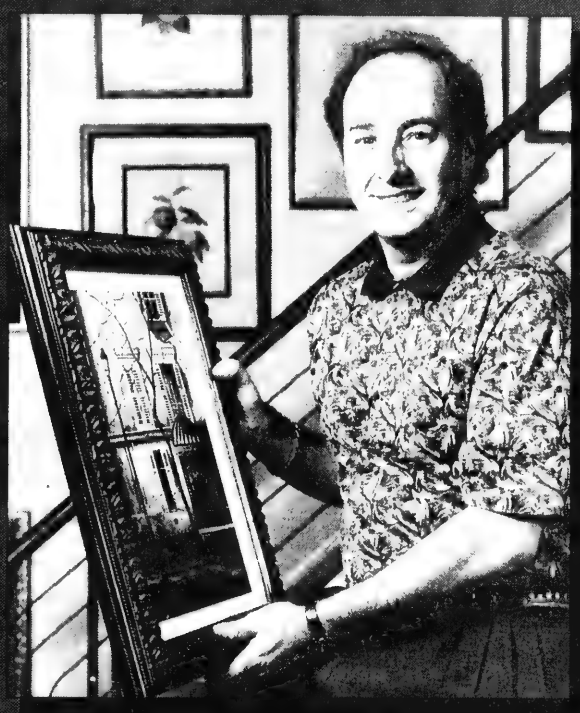
Jeff Fine's business is art. Representations of reality. But when Jeff discovered the actual picture of Jewish poverty in our community, he was shocked. Nearly 23,000 people living below the poverty line.
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FOR OUR CHILDREN. FOREVER.

Campus news & views

Story of the Shack revisited

By ELANA LAVINE

LONDON – In Grade 3, I spent a good half-hour drawing a crayon picture of a sukkah. I remember slaving over that particular picture and taking it home to my parents. That day also included a Sukkot play, a final lesson on traditional Sukkot customs and some singing. The topic over the dinner table that night was What I Did Today for Sukkot.

This, of course, was back in my day school days, when each Jewish holiday carried with it hours of lessons, singing and arts and crafts, culminating in a big colorful assembly and maybe even an early noon dismissal. Now that I am in university, what each Jewish holiday carries with it is purely up to me.

I don't have my Hebrew teachers anymore, nor do I have my *machberet* (notebook) with my childish scrawls titled The Importance of Sukkot. However, like many of my Jewish friends at the University of Western Ontario, I have properly celebrated Sukkot thanks to "the Shack."

The story of "the Shack" is like a fairy tale. Once upon a time, a student was making her way through campus when, on Western's official shmoozing ground aka the Concrete Beach, she spotted an odd little shack roofed with some loose bamboo matting.

Hmm, she thought, vagrants setting up camp? A refugee protest? A real estate office for a back-to-the-wild lifestyle condominium? Asking inside, she was told that this was a sukkah. The Jewish people celebrate a festival that includes sitting inside a sukkah, making blessings and eating festive meals.

After expressing her thanks, she headed over to meet her friends at the library and told them of her visit to the Shack. "It's actually called a soo-cah," she explained, "and it's for Jews."

One of her friends got up from the table smiling. "They built a sukkah out there?" she asked. "Man, I have to go see that."

So she did. The sukkah visit included the blessing over the lulav and the etrog, and two blessings over the large piece of honey cake she was given: one for the cake and one for sitting in the sukkah to eat it.

She vaguely recalled writing all of this in some old, smudgy notebook and dancing round a sukkah when she was 10. This seemed like eons ago and this year she hadn't even known that Sukkot had begun.

The story of the Shack has since repeated itself many times. Some of the people who came to the sukkah could say the blessings beautifully and shake the lulav like a pro; others were coached. Some actually said no to the cake. The sukkah, however, was a visual reminder to a lot of Jewish students that even though the daily hustle and bustle of university whirled round as usual, is was Sukkot for us – even if we had all forgotten our *machbarot* at home.

Elana Lavine is a student at the University of Western Ontario.

Engineering student honored by Waterloo U

WATERLOO – Jason K. Levy, a PhD student in Engineering, Systems Design, University of Waterloo, is being recognized by the University of Waterloo for his outstanding academic and teaching in the Engineering Faculty at the University of Waterloo.

The prestigious Alumni Master's Gold Medal is a university-wide award given annually to the outstanding master's student in the university.

He has also received a prestigious research scholarship from the National Science Council for continuing his PhD research.

Levy and his family are members of the Beth Jacob Synagogue in Kitchener and his father is a professor at York University. His grandparents, Phillip and Betty Shulman live in Toronto.

Levy will be officially recognized for his scholarly work at the Oct. 26 fall University of Waterloo, convocation.

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of
Still The Night
Written by Theresa Tova
Featuring
Theresa Tova & Liza Balkan
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For further details please contact
The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
at 905 - 660-6028

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Israel seeking to mend fences with Jordan

By DAVID MAKOVSKY AND LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is considering dispatching his foreign policy adviser Dore Gold to Jordan in the coming days, in a bid to mend fences with King Hussein, officials say.

Hussein has made blistering attacks on Netanyahu in recent days, charging the premier with "arrogance."

"It's inevitable that there will be disagreements here and there, even with friends. It happens even in the best families," Netanyahu said last week. "But I have no doubt about our commitment to peace with Jordan, developing political and economic relations with them, and a dialogue with them. I see King Hussein as an important partner."

Hussein's anger with Netanyahu began after not being consulted by Israel on opening the Hasmonean Tunnel exit in Jerusalem, and continued during the Washington summit which ended without conclusive results.

Improving ties with Jordan is key for Netanyahu, who has expressed pride in what he considers to be a special relationship with Amman. Gold has also been a big advocate of close Israel-Jordan ties. The meeting has been delayed for a few days due to Hussein's visiting abroad.

In an interview published last week in the London-based daily *Ashraq al-Awsat*, Hussein blasted the Netanyahu government and questioned whether the region was headed to war.

"The main question now is what are we going to do? Does Israel want to return to the fortress mentality and an arrogant feeling of power? I've had the chance to know the Israelis quite well and I'm worried about them," King Hussein said.

"What worries me most is my feeling that those with limited perspectives are affecting the chain of events, driving it in the opposite direction of peace. It worries me that the minority can terrorize the majority in the region," he said.

"I just hope that he [Netanyahu] realizes that he has to deal with Arafat and the Palestinians as equal partners and not as one who is of a lower level, that he has to look down upon," Hussein said.

Sources confirm remarks reported in this week's edition of *Newsweek* whereby at the final lunch of the White House summit headed by President Bill Clinton, Hussein turned to Netanyahu and looked him in the eye, saying: "What is needed is not arrogance, but wisdom and vision. My friend Yitzhak Rabin had that wisdom and vision. I hope that one day you might have it, too."

Looking at Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Hussein continued, "This man and I have had our differences. But this man has courage. He wants to help our people." There was no bilateral meeting between Netanyahu and Hussein during the Washington summit.

In related developments, King Hussein telephoned President Ezer Weizman last week to invite him to visit Jordan.

Weizman responded that he would be happy to come to Amman after coordinating the visit with Netanyahu. His spokesperson Batya Keinan confirmed the conversation.

Only progress in the peace process will lead to a warming of relations with Jordan, Hussein reportedly told Weizman. He also expressed satisfaction at last week's meeting between Weizman and Arafat, and at the president's upcoming visit to Cairo.

With files from Batsheva Tsur

Israel set to ease closure

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israel's defence minister said Israel will significantly ease the closure, removing the seal around most Palestinian-controlled cities, allowing in 35,000 laborers, and opening all the crossings in the Gaza Strip. Troops, however, will be kept at their current reinforced levels so that they can quickly respond to any eruption of unrest.

Yitzhak Mordechai ordered the steps after assessing the situation with top army and security commanders.

The number of Palestinian workers from the territories allowed into Israel will be raised to 35,000, more than double the current 14,000. Mordechai also decided to lift the internal closures in the West Bank except in Nablus.

The closures had been eased last week around most Palestinian-controlled cities, but now the residents of those cities will be allowed to travel freely throughout the West Bank. The external closure imposed in 1994, which has barred most of the two million Palestinians from Israel, remains in place.

Mordechai also ordered the Karni and Sufa crossings to resume full operation to ease the movement of goods in and out of the Gaza Strip. The Defence Ministry stressed that all steps will depend on security considerations.

A WALK IN THE TUNNEL
Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Yigal Bibi (left) tours the newly-opened exit to the Hasmonean tunnel. Subsequent to the tour, the rioting struck in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza. [*Israel*]

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"Netanyahu is leading us to the edge of the abyss"
---Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, spiritual leader of the Shas party
Globe & Mail, Friday, Sept 27, p A-1

Binyamin Netanyahu ran for Prime Minister of Israel on a platform of strengthening Israel's security. He said that the way to ensure safety for Israel was to slow down negotiations with the Palestinians.

Netanyahu did NOT seek, nor did he receive, a mandate to undermine the peace process. But that is precisely what he has done by the following actions:

- **authorizing the expansion of Israel's settlements in the West Bank;**
- **demolishing Palestinian homes and community facilities in East Jerusalem;**
- **sidestepping the Oslo treaty, whose obligations he promised to honour;**
- **continuing the unnecessarily restrictive closure of borders, thus depriving many Palestinians of their former livelihood;**
- **ruling out national independence for the Palestinians.**

Prime Minister Netanyahu is sending a clear but dangerous message: forget about negotiating a just and secure peace. Both Israelis and Palestinians are now captives of his Greater Israel ideology. Both peoples stand to lose. Both deserve better.

NOW more than ever, Peace Now needs your support.

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Thornhill, Ontario L3T 7R4
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Please make a financial contribution to help further the cause of peace.

Arafat lashes out at Netanyahu

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Netanyahu is seeking to drag out the talks beyond the U.S. elections.

Perhaps as a sign of progress, top Palestinian and Israeli security officials met to discuss Hebron away from the Erez junction.

The meeting, believed to be held in the Tel Aviv area, between army planning branch head Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz and the two heads of the PA Preventive Security, Col. Jibril Rajoub and Col. Mahmoud Dahlan, reportedly included U.S. special Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross. Mofaz was reported to have said that redeployment in Hebron has been accepted as a political decision by the government.

"What we seek in Hebron are security arrangements which are completely compatible with the peace deal," Netanyahu said in a speech to business executives in Tel Aviv. "They have nothing to do with reopening the agreements."

In a statement released last week, Ross announced that the peace talks would move from Erez to Taba and Eilat, where discussions will be held on a rotating basis.

Furthermore, he said, "both sides agreed that they are not reopening or renegotiating the [Oslo 2] agreement and that they are discussing the mechanisms and the modalities for how best to implement the agreement."

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Prime Minister Netanyahu bows his head after laying a wreath Oct. 10 evening at the Israeli Armoured Corps Memorial where thousands of fallen Israeli soldiers' names are engraved on panels. Netanyahu laid the wreath in front of the name of his brother Yonatan (Yoni). [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Deri meets Arafat's No. 2

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Knesset Member Haim Ramon, who arranged a "secret" meeting last week between Shas leader Aryeh Deri and Arafat's number two man Mahmoud Abbas, said that it was easier to hold such meetings now than before the elections.

Ramon told Israel Radio that "meetings like this should have taken place before. But before the elections, Shas's voters would have been more critical of it. Today, after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shook Arafat's hand and claimed he was enchanted by him, it was easier."

Ramon said Abbas - who was curious about Deri, Shas and Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef's positions - asked to meet Deri. Ramon approached Deri, who after consulting Yosef and advising Netanyahu, was glad to come to the meeting.

"It's important for Shas, which is the second largest party in the coalition and a moderate party, to meet the number two man in the Palestinian Authority," he added.

Ramon said Abbas' main complaint was that for the past three months, until this past week, no negotiations were being held with the Palestinians at all. Dan Shomron, the head of the steering committee for negotiations with the Palestinians, came to one meeting and said he was not authorized to do anything, Abbas told Ramon.

"There are many problems between the two sides. If Netanyahu had said let's sit down and solve them, the Palestinians may have been more flexible on the Hebron issue. But when nothing happens, then bloody events occur," Ramon said.

"I'm glad Deri came to the meeting and the two got to know each other and talk. Only direct talks can advance the peace process. Creating confidence between the two sides - that's the essential element which is missing between the Palestinian Authority and the prime minister and his people."

Britain detains 15 Israelis seeking asylum

London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON – Of the 15 Israelis now seeking political asylum in Britain, six had earlier been expelled from Jerusalem's Ohr Somayach Yeshivah for missing too many classes.

"They were good boys, but they were very lazy," said Rabbi Eliahu Essas, director of Russian-language programs at the yeshivah.

The men, who came to Israel from the former Soviet Union, are seeking asylum because they were allegedly harassed for their right-wing views by Israeli security forces. They also claim that the security forces had placed them in administrative detention.

The men, who are between 19 and 27 years old, are thought to have arrived initially at Heathrow Airport.

As of late last week, they still were in various detention centers in Britain.

After the six students were expelled from the yeshivah, it was revealed, some of them apparently formed a "commune" with the other nine men, also thought to be pupils at the school, and went into business together.

The group's spiritual leader is a 29-year-old Russian immigrant active in Israel's National Religious Party. The group is believed to have run a video rental shop in Israel as well as a building renovations and cleaning business.

In an unrelated incident, 10 Israelis were flown back this week after a reported attempt to claim asylum in Britain was rejected by the immigration authorities.

The Israelis are members of a family that came to the Jewish state several years ago from the former Soviet Union.

Family members later told an Israeli journalist that they had not sought to claim asylum in Britain and that there had been a misunderstanding.

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Political tensions beset Jerusalem

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

It was merely the tip of the iceberg.

Last month's disturbances in eastern Jerusalem over the status of an archeological tunnel running from the Western Wall to the Muslim Quarter were just one more unsettling sampler of the political tensions which beset Israel's capital.

Mideast Analysis

Final status talks on Jerusalem, as called for under the terms of the Oslo accords, have not even begun. But the posturing and the manouevering are well under way.

Israel claims title to all of Jerusalem, including the eastern, mainly Arab-inhabited sector it annexed in 1967. The Palestinian Authority (PA) wants East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state, and may demand the return of what it describes as Arab property in the western, Jewish half of the city.

The battle for Jerusalem, revered by Judaism, Islam and Christianity, is really a microcosm of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

As Israel and the PA lock horns over Jerusalem, it is far from certain whether the present Israeli government will even agree to address the topic in formal discussions.

In a recent interview with *Al-Quds*, a Palestinian daily published in East Jerusalem, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, "There is no way we are going to agree with the Palestinian Authority on the final status of Jerusalem. It looks like it is one of those unresolved issues."

Netanyahu's statement was in line with Likud thinking. Less than two weeks before Israel's May 29 general election, he declared that he would not feel compelled to honor arrangements on Jerusalem negotiated by the Labor government and the PA, headed by PLO chieftain Yasser Arafat.

Not surprisingly, the Palestinians have reacted vehemently to Netanyahu's suggestion that Jerusalem may not be on the agenda.

Faisal Husseini, the PLO's senior official in East Jerusalem, has warned that peace talks will collapse if Jerusalem is removed from negotiations.

"Israel," he warned, "must pull out of all East Jerusalem, in accordance with United Nations Resolution 242. If Israel has claims in East Jerusalem, they can be discussed in negotiations, along with our claims in West Jerusalem."

Resolution 242, the cornerstone of Mideast diplomacy since the Six Day War, envisions an Israeli withdrawal from territories captured during the Six Day War. Jerusalem is not explicitly mentioned, but the Palestinians consider East Jerusalem as occupied territory.

Israel takes a completely diametrical view of the matter, and the vast majority of Israelis agree that Jerusalem in its entirety should be Israel's indivisible and undivided capital.

The previous Israeli government, headed by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, adopted the position that Jerusalem was "religiously open but politically closed."

Israel passed a law banning PA political activity in East Jerusalem. It forced the Palestinians to sign a declaration pledging that its offices in East Jerusalem were in no way connected with the PA. It tried to pressure foreign dignitaries to avoid Orient House, the nerve centre of the Palestinian movement in East Jerusalem.

The current Israeli government has not only continued this policy but tightened and expanded it.

In addition to insisting on Jerusalem's territorial integrity, Netanyahu has categorically ruled out any idea of "multiple sovereignty" in Jerusalem. And several months ago, he gave the PA an ultimatum: either close three of your offices in East Jerusalem or face the prospect of no further talks on Palestinian questions. The PA succumbed to Israel's pressure.

Israel also asserted its claim to Jerusalem by other means.

It forced a member of the recently convened Palestinian legislative council to sign a letter stating that the office in his home was not connected with the PA.

It demolished a Palestinian community centre in East Jerusalem being restored without a building permit. Evidently, the Likud mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert, ordered the demolition without bothering to inform Netanyahu. As a result of the furor caused by this embarrassing incident, Netanyahu urged Olmert to act with restraint when dealing with demolitions.

But this mixup in communications didn't stop Olmert from subsequently announcing that Israel intends to channel significant funds into Jerusalem "to deepen" its sovereignty over the entire city.

As part of its campaign in Jerusalem, the present Israeli government is encouraging Jews to buy real estate in Arab neighborhoods and trying to counter the PA's growing influence in public Arab schools.

Netanyahu has failed to carry out an election promise to close Orient House. However, he and his ministers have made it clear that foreign diplomatic visits to Orient House will not be tolerated.

The Week in Israel

Oct. 7

• *Yediot Achronot* reported that Palestinian security forces arrested an alleged suicide bomber on his way to Jerusalem to blow himself up on a bus.

• The former coach of Israel's national ping-pong team, Alexander Redalis, was accused of spying for the former Soviet Union. Israeli newspapers disclosed that Redalis has been detained for the past three months.

Oct. 8

• President Ezer Weizman and Chairman Yasser Arafat concluded talks at Weizman's home in Caesarea with a call for an end to violence and renewed efforts to advance the peace process.

• Arafat reportedly escaped death when two jeeps in his convey travelling to meet Hosni Mubarak collided. One Palestinian officer was killed; four others were wounded.

Oct. 9

• An earthquake whose epicentre was in the Mediterranean about 100 kilometres southwest of Cyprus was felt in Israel and in other parts of the Middle East. It was reported as having registered 6.1 on the Richter scale.

Oct. 10

• The *Jerusalem Post* reported that Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, former energy minister Gonen Segev and two Tsomet activists, Haggai Ashur and Sami Shenfeld, were indicted yesterday in Haifa Magistrate's Court for violating the Privacy Protection Law by allegedly using confidential IDF information to threaten an activist into leaving the party.

Oct. 11

• Former Labor justice minister David Liba'i announced his resignation from the Knesset. He said his decision was connected to a law forbidding Knesset members to hold other jobs at the same time. His seat will be filled by Eitan Kabel, a former adviser in the housing ministry.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

On Nov. 6, runners from Israel and around the world will participate in the *Jerusalem Marathon*, a 26-mile runners' course through the streets of Jerusalem.

Israel & the Jewish World

'Does Israel really understand the Middle East?'

By RON TIRA
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Look at what Israel gave Egypt and what it got and answer this: Does Israel really understand the Middle East?

Opinion

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been hailed in certain circles, including much of the world media, as a "champion of peace." His admirers credit him with "trying to dampen Arab skepticism about Israel, assuring [his] citizens and...neighbors that it can be trusted" (Douglas Jehl, in the *New York Times*).

A closer look at what's happening, though, reveals a reality that could hardly be more different.

In the Camp David accords, Israel agreed to give Egypt the whole of the Sinai, with its strategic depth, oil fields and air bases, as well as willingly evacuating settlements for the first time in its history. In addition, it agreed to recognize the Palestinian people and enter into the autonomy agreement. In exchange, Israel contracted for what could in contemporary terms be called a "full peace."

But what is the actual content of this peace?

During the almost two decades that have passed since the Camp David accords, Israeli-Egyptian trade relations have not only seen no meaningful development; they are in fact non-existent. What limited economic activity does exist is one-sided – a few Israeli investments in Egypt and Israeli tourism.

A similarly disappointing reality can be seen in other areas such as cultural relations and the Egyptian state-controlled media's attitude to Israel.

Adversary

Throughout this period, Egypt has concentrated on an impressive military buildup; estimates are that its army is the strongest and most advanced of Arab forces. It is certainly much stronger than anything required to defend Egypt against other neighbors like Libya or Sudan.

The Egyptian army's "reference-enemy" – meaning the projected adversary against which the Egyptian forces train, equip themselves and are deployed – remains Israel. The expensive tunnels constructed under the Suez Canal were built to accommodate far more "traffic" than the most optimistic civilian-use predictions could require.

The most troubling fact, however, is that Israel did not acquire a political ally in Cairo. Egypt, which found itself politically reinforced by its peace with Israel, mainly in the United States, has been leading every possible political battle against Israel.

It has pressed Arab and African countries not to normalize ties with Israel, lobbied Washington against aiding Israel in absorbing Russian immigrants, pulled every possible string in its Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty campaign, opposed Israel in international forums and continually sided with Israel's opponents, including in times of crisis like the recent one.

The fact that Mubarak has never honored Israel with a state visit is dismissed by many Israelis as meaningless, and yet it is highly significant in Arab culture.

Sometimes one might even be tempted to think that for Egypt, "diplomacy is the continuation of war by other means," to paraphrase Klausewitz, a military theorist.

This Egyptian political attitude has spanned both Likud and Labor governments.

It is interesting to compare this with Israeli-Syrian relations. From the end of the Yom Kippur War till today, Israel has enjoyed a peaceful border with both Egypt and Syria – and yet Israel has paid no meaningful price to Syria. In fact, Syria has a better "peace" (in the sense of absence of war) with Israel than with any of its other neighbors.

In spite of a formal peace with Turkey, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan, each of these four Syrian borders has seen more violence than the post-'73 Israeli-Syrian border.

Unlike the "rehabilitation" resulting from Egypt's peace with Israel that has brought it American economic and military aid, Syria continues to weaken on both these accounts – a good explanation, perhaps, of Syrian "peaceability." Consequently Damascus wields far less political weight against Israel than does Cairo.

In spite of recent rhetoric by Egyptian leaders amounting to a proclamation that Egypt's peace is conditional upon Israel's meeting new demands, the likelihood of an immediate eruption of violence with our southern neighbor is nonetheless very low.

Having said that, one must be watchful of Egypt's impressive military capabilities. Ever-increasing Egyptian internal unrest, not to mention the recent assassination attempts on Mubarak's life, raise more questions about the possible use such military capability might be put to in future.

The Egyptian army's dependence upon the United States is only a limited comfort, particularly in view of the internal Egyptian political struggles and the possibilty of a crisis erupting in the region. After all, Iran fought Iraq with American equipment years after American aid was no longer available.

The most fundamental and troubling question that remains is this: If Israel gave Egypt "land plus" and got in exchange a naked peace, a reinforced political foe and an increasingly powerful potential military adversary, does this mean there is something wrong with our perception of the Middle East?

SHEILA COHEN ז"ל

In loving memory of Sheila, who died two years ago, on 3 Cheshvan 5755, but whose love and compassion and generosity and kindness and sense of fun touch us to this day. At the rising of the sun and at its going down, we remember her.

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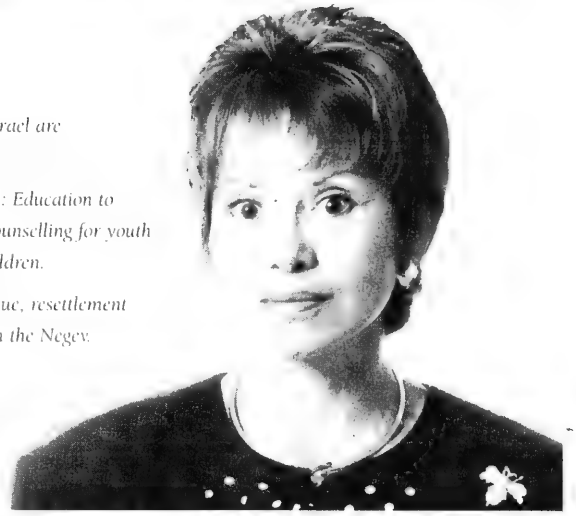

Sherry Cooper

UJA Federation supports programs and services in Israel dedicated to Jewish rescue, social services, and education. But they are not enough. Needs are growing, and demand must be met if Israel is to stay healthy and strong. Resources can come from only one place: Our community. Each and every one of us.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Portugese Jews prepare to mark expulsion anniversary

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

LISBON, PORTUGAL — The tiny Jewish population in this mainly Catholic country is gearing up for a series of events Dec. 4 and 5 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews from Portugal.

On Nov. 17, an exhibit on the history of the Jews in Portugal will open in the Tower of Portagem in Marvao. This Portugese town, six kilometres west of the Spanish border, once served as a transit point for thousands of Jews fleeing the Spanish Inquisition.

Scheduled events for Dec. 4 and 5, to be attended by local and Israeli dignitaries, include a special session of the Portuguese parliament, the dedication of a monument in Lisbon and ceremonies to be held at both the Dona Maria II National Theatre and the Shaare Tikve Synagogue in Lisbon. The courtyard synagogue, built in 1902, is noteworthy for its decorative columns and the imposing two-storey arched backdrop framing its Aron Kodesh.

In Belmonte, a mountain town some 325 km northeast of Lisbon, a new synagogue will be inaugurated on Dec. 4. The town of 3,500 people has a Jewish community of at least 150 people, most of whom are Marranos (a term not considered pejorative in Portugal), who have kept Jewish customs in secret for centuries, or former Marranos who have formally converted to Judaism.

Despite its size, the Belmonte community is a significant one; by way of comparison, the Jewish community of Lisbon, Portugal's capital, officially numbers only 300 adults (and an unknown number of children) — less than one percent of the city's total population of one million inhabitants.

Although a Jewish presence in Portugal predated the establishment of the country in the 12th century, there was no Portuguese Jewish population per se from the time of the expulsion until a century ago, when Jewish immigrants, mostly from North Africa, began to arrive in the country.

Benjamin Oron

The Jewish population swelled to about 2,000 people during World War II, when the country served as a temporary haven for Jews fleeing the Nazis.

Today, Jews in Portugal — including a sprinkling in the Algarve (Portugal's southernmost province) and a handful of cities elsewhere — are "quite integrated," according to Benjamin Oron, Israel's ambassador to Portugal since 1993.

Portugal's active Muslim community, about 25,000 strong, apparently coexists harmoniously with the Jewish community. In a recent meeting with North American Jewish journalists in his Lisbon office, Oron said the head of the Islamic community attended a memorial service for slain Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and that some local Jewish leaders paid their respects when a former Islamic community leader died. The majority of the Muslims in Portugal are Indo-Pakistani in origin, he added.

There is no "hard-core" or "institutionalized" anti-Semitism in the country, said Oron, although there are some "far right organizations which are very marginal."

If local graffiti are any indication, the anti-racists are far more vocal than the right-wingers.

Samuel Lavy, a Lisbon economist who led Sukkot services at Shaare Tikve for about three dozen men and two dozen women, said that he has not experienced anti-Semitism, but has encountered profound ignorance about Jews among his Catholic counterparts.

The Portuguese government was very receptive to suggestions from the Israeli embassy about marking the 500th anniversary of the expulsion, said Oron, whose office took the initiative in arranging a commemoration.

Israeli-Portuguese diplomatic relations opened relatively recently, as it was only in 1974 that Portugal became a democracy after almost five decades of dictatorship under Antonio de Oliveira Salazar.

In 1977, Israel's small consulate in Lisbon was converted into an official embassy, but it wasn't until 1991 that a Portuguese embassy was established in Israel.

For the past five years, the two countries have had "normal and balanced" diplomatic relations, including trade and high-level visits, said Oron.

"From 1986, when Portugal joined the European Union, diplomatic relations were [progressively] upgraded," he added. "Our trade relations compared to other countries are still very modest, but are growing steadily."

Portuguese exports to Israel have grown from $60 million (US) two years ago to about $100 million. In the other direction (Israel to Portugal), trade has remained steady at about $60 million.

Perhaps coincidentally, the Portuguese prime minister, social democrat Antonio Guterres, elected last year, had a Jewish grandmother — a well-known fact in Portugal.

Actually, some locals say that every fifth Portuguese has some Jewish blood running through his veins. Others find that estimate too conservative and put the figure at one in two.

As if to underscore the point, a flight attendant on our return trip, on discovering that a group of Jewish journalists were on the flight, let us know that her grandmother was Marrano.

It wasn't until she moved to the United States as a teenager that Carminda Widmer, now an employee of Delta Air Lines (working recently on a combined TAP Air Portugal/Delta flight), met Jews who practised openly and subsequently discovered her grandmother's secret.

Frances Kraft was in Portugal recently as a guest of the Portuguese National Tourist Office and TAP Air Portugal.

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Group home for autistic Israeli kids planned

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Yehoshua is one of Harold and Vivian Zigelman's 11 grandchildren. He has reddish hair and freckles, and is very affectionate. He lives with his parents and five brothers and sisters in Efrat.

But he is heartbreakingly unlike their other grandchildren, because he is severely autistic.

Autism is a neurological disorder, which renders its victims unable to interact with the world around them.

Yehoshua was three when he was diagnosed, the Zigelmans told *The CJN* on a recent trip to Toronto, part of a fundraising swing which will include New York and Florida.

"At 18 months, he could recognize the letters of the alphabet and numbers between one and nine, Vivian said. "Then he lost the ability to name the letters — we don't know if what happened was he lost the ability to recognize them."

He also began to display the repetitive behaviors typical of children with autism — running around in circles, rocking, flapping.

His behavior is erratic and he has to be watched 24 hours a day, 60 minutes an hour, Harold said. In a flash, he will run away. "We have found him in an Arab vinyard, and once near a swimming pool."

What is more difficult for the family, they said, is that "the other children have to live behind locked doors," as Vivian described it, because, without realizing what he is doing, he can be violent.

"Life in the home is completely regimented, so that Yehoshua can be taken care of."

These children can stay at home while they are young. Many autistic children in Israel go to Dekalim, a school operated by Alut, the National Association for Autistic Children.

The school provides a structure to their day and training in basic life skills. The problem is that it only takes youngsters up to 17 years of age.

At the same time, it is harder and harder to keep older children with autism at home, since they are bigger and stronger and the potential for danger to themselves and others is greater and the toll on the rest of the family becomes unbearable.

There are at least 14 families in this situation, the Zigelmans said, including Yehoshua's. They want to establish a group home, where their children will be able to live in safety and dignity for the rest of their lives.

"The government, under the health care system, is mandated to take care of these people," Vivian said. "Once a physical plant is established, the government will take over and maintain it."

The 14 families, who have established an organization called Netzach Yehoshua Inc. to raise funds for a series of group homes, need to raise over $1 million (US) for each home. That amount will include outfitting it with special equipment so that "each resident can learn and thrive" in a safe atmosphere.

With the help of their niece and nephew, Danny and Joy Zigelman, the couple has arranged for tax deductable receipts to be issued by Mizrachi of Canada.

For more information, call Danny and Joy Zigelman, 905-731-6383.

Yehoshua, whose grandparents are raising money for a group home for autistic children in Israel.

Palestinians train in Negev

JERUSALEM – Seventeen senior Palestinian doctors and public health workers recently graduated from a three-week course – the first of its kind – at the Ben-Gurion University (BGU) in Beersheva.

The course, run by Prof. Batya Serub of the epidemiology and health services assessment department at BGU's health sciences faculty, was held in cooperation with the Palestinian Authority and Soroka Hospital.

Funded by the U.S. Consulate and the Rich Foundation in Switzerland, the course dealt with management of health systems and promoting public health. Senior Soroka and BGU doctors held workshops, in which specific medical problems were raised. BGU is the first academic institution to hold advanced training courses for Palestinian health workers.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its second annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except CJN employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants:

1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than forty lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address, and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive type-written poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1.

The contest closes at 5:00 pm on Monday, Nov. 18, 1996.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.00.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 22, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 5, 1996. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Veteran musicians strike a chord

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Toronto Senior Strings, an orchestra that grew out of the dream of one woman, Ruth Budd, opens its third season with an afternoon concert on Oct. 31 in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (across the road from Roy Thomson Hall).

Budd, first woman professional bass player in Canada and first woman bassist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO), was not ready for mandatory retirement from the TSO at age 65 and she knew there were others out there with the verve and continuing capacity to speak eloquently with their music.

In 1993, she founded the Toronto Senior Strings (TSS), the majority of whose musicians were former members of the Toronto Symphony. Veteran TSO concertmaster Jascha Milkis, accepted the position of TSS concertmaster.

TSS players are senior in musical achievement, just as senior office executives are senior in corporate accomplishment, Budd says.

TSS conductor Victor Feldbrill, a maestro with major orchestras from Toronto to Tokyo, notes that "good instrumentalists don't stop at 65!"

The Toronto Senior Strings. [Philip Comen photo]

In fact, these performers also teach, appear on other stages, compose and play backup music in their "retirement."

The orchestra features gifted young soloists and a Canadian composition at each concert, with music ranging from baroque to contemporary.

Elementary school children studying strings are invited to attend free, courtesy of George Heini and Co. Ltd.

From the beginning, audience response has been enthusiastic.

After attending the first concert, TSO trumpeter Joseph Umbrico wrote: "To say that the performance was satisfying in every respect would be an understatement. The program was played with the artistry to which I have become accustomed over the many years I have performed with these outstanding musicians ... The juxtaposition of an orchestra of notable retired musicians giving a concert and at the same time presenting a young, promising soloist was a demonstration of a true musical experience."

To make it convenient for seniors, the concerts start at 2 p.m. and last one hour and 15 minutes. They are over well before rush hour. In addition, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church has fine accoustics, is easily reached by public transit and is wheelchair accessible.

Admission, geared to fixed incomes, is $10 per concert. Tickets are available at the door or may be purchased at $28 for the series of three performances — Oct. 31 and one each in April and June 1997 — from TSS, 204 Airdrie Dr., Toronto, M4C 1M8.

For more information call 488-9452 or 769-5071.

TAB news

Fires in the Mirror does an inadequate job

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Media inadequacy in clarifying such an explosive situation as in Brooklyn's Crown Heights in the summer of 1991 is exposed in *Fires in the Mirror*, running at Canadian Stage upstairs until Oct.26.

At that time a black boy was killed in an auto accident involving a motorcade carrying the Lubavitcher Rebbe and a few hours later a gang of black youths stabbed to death Yankel Rosenbaum, a chassidic scholar from Australia. Rioting then ensued for several days.

The 90-minute one-woman (Marium Carvell) play is a series of 23 monologues by blacks and Jews based on journalistic interviews by playwright Anna Deavere Smith, a Stanford University professor. In the end, they do nothing to heal the rift in the two communities.

With perhaps good intentions, black theatre company WUM, in association with Theatre Passe Muraille, has compounded the problem with an over-busy, wide-angled production, lacking intimacy, using noisy newsreel and video footage. It's another media circus.

The *Fires in the Mirror* program distributed in the theatre says WUM is mandated to explore African continuity in a context of poetic and imagistic theatre. The journalistic monologues certainly do this, but one can question whether the story of the Jewish victims and the Jewish community's fight for continuity, gets equal billing.

This reviewer could not summon the willing suspension of belief necessary to accept, no matter how artistically expressed, a black woman's portrayal of Lubavitcher rabbis, housewives and Letty Cottin Pogrebin, a Jewish feminist.

On the other hand, her monologues of black artists and activists Ntozete Shange and Angela Davis sound genuine. Particularly frightening to Jews are the appearances of Conrad Mohamed, Louis Farrakhan's right-hand man, Rev. Al Sharpton and the minister of a black church in Brooklyn.

There may be useful ways of bringing blacks and Jews closer together in a dramatic context, but *Fires in the Mirror* is not one of them.

Festival of Authors set for Oct.23-Nov.2

TORONTO – This year's International Festival of Authors, which takes place between Oct. 23 and Nov. 2, features several personalities of interest to Jewish readers.

Lynne Reid Banks is a British novelist who has set some of her stories in Israel.

Reid Banks, who lived on a kibbutz for about a decade, has written over 30 books, including *The L-Shaped Room* and *Harry the Poisonous Centipede*, her latest novel.

Leonard Baskin heads The Gehenna Press, an important art publisher specializing in limited editions. He is also a sculptor, painter and engraver.

Bruce Jay Friedman, an American novelist whose work has been compared to that of Saul Bellow and Bernard Malamud, has gained recognition for his black humor.

His books include *Stern, A Mother's Kiss* and *Father's Kisses.*

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Radio show explores authors' words

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Book lovers don't often get the opportunity to speak to authors. But every Sunday afternoon, the next best thing is available on CBC radio's popular program, *Writers & Company*, hosted by Eleanor Wachtel.

On this nationally-broadcast show, Wachtel interviews Canadian and foreign writers, allowing listeners to sit back and enjoy a civilized conversation.

Since *Writer's & Company's* inception in 1990, Wachtel has talked to numerous novelists, exploring their methods, influences, views, idiosyncracies and aspirations. Usually, the result is quite felicitous.

Last year, *Writers & Company* won a coveted CBC award for programming excellence, the judges noting that if they had to choose one hour of radio to take to a desert island, it would be Wachtel's program.

Now Wachtel has assembled 22 of her best interviews in a volume entitled *More Writers & Company* (Alfred A. Knopf Canada, $28.95). Published on Oct. 12, it is a sequel to the first volume, *Writers & Company*, which is still in print.

More Writers & Company illuminates the lives of such literary figures as David Grossman, the Israeli novelist (*The Book of Intimate Grammar* and *The Yellow Wind);* Edward Said, the Palestinian academic and political activist (*Orientalism*); Harold Bloom, the American critic (*The Western Canon);* Oliver Sacks, the British neurologist (*Awakenings);* and E.L. Doctorow, the U.S. novelist (*Ragtime, Loon Lake, Billy Bathgate).*

To a man, the interviews are stimulating.

Grossman, who describes himself as "an eternal outsider," discusses the Arab-Israeli conflict. Said, a Christian who acknowledges his "problematic Arab identity," tries to reconcile his mistrust of nationalism with his nationalistic credentials.

Bloom, whose combination of intellect and emotion struck Wachtel, recalls the Yiddish-speaking household in which he was raised. Sacks, whom Wachtel characterizes as a 19th century humanist, ruminates on the "far borders of human experience." Doctorow, who grew up in a secular Jewish milieu, explains that a writer must "let things happen to you to write."

Wachtel, a former Montrealer and McGill University graduate, spends about a week preparing for each one-hour interview. She works with a producer.

During the course of an average season, she reads about 50 books, fiction and non-fiction. "But I'm a slow reader, which is unfortunate," she said in an interview in a crowded restaurant near the CBC building in downtown Toronto.

Wachtel, 48, grew up "in a house without books." Nevertheless, she and her two siblings were readers, and she remembers that, as a child, her mother took her to a library by bus.

After graduating from Northmount High School, Wachtel entered McGill, where she studied English literature. She also edited the book pages of the *McGill Daily* and was vice-president of the McGill Literary Society.

Before settling down at the CBC, she was a freelance journalist and broadcaster. Despite the popularity of *Writers & Company*, Wachtel is painfully aware that cutbacks at the CBC have taken their toll of late.

"Nothing is 100 percent safe at the CBC anymore," she observed clinically. It would be a great pity if *Writers & Company* were to fall by the wayside.

ISRAELI DUO TO PERFORM

Violinist Vadim Gluzman, billed as one of the next great Israeli violinists, and his wife, pianist Angela Yoffe, will perform a classical recital at the Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts. The Oct. 29 recital will be hosted by Israel's Consul General in Toronto Jehudi Kinar and Markham Mayor Donald Cousens in celebration of Jerusalem 3000. Gluzman has recorded for radio and television and is acclaimed as one of the most promising young violinists of his generation. He is rapidly gaining recognition throughout the world. Yoffe has received many top prizes and is a scholarship recipient of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. recital are limited. Contact Alisa at the Israel Consulate 416-961-1126.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Still The Night

Theatre Passe Muraille ushers in its new season with the world premiere of *Still The Night*, a new work written by and starring actor-singer **Theresa Tova**, with **Liza Balkan**. The work previews Oct. 29 and 30, and runs Oct. 31 to Nov. 24, at 16 Ryerson Ave., Toronto.

Still The Night is an intergenerational piece of musical theatre that touches on the themes of courage, friendship and survival in Nazi-occupied Poland. The story unfolds through the eyes of two Jewish girls who are forced to give up the comforts of a cosmopolitan lifestyle in pre-war Warsaw for a perilous existence of hiding, espionage and resistance with Jewish partisans in the forests of Poland.

Juxtaposing the abyss of Nazi-occupied Europe against the safety of Canada in the 1970s, *Still The Night* paints an intricate portrait of a family's history through song. Tova, who is a second-generation daughter of survivors of the Holocaust, presents a selection of folk and ghetto songs in their original Yiddish and in translation; she has also included some American show tunes.

"These Yiddish songs are gems," says Tova. "I wanted to bring them back to life, to recapture the vitality of a strong creative culture and community that were all but destroyed. I want to celebrate the bravery of those girls, marvel at their naive resourcefulness, sing their songs and tell their stories with pride."

Tickets $16 to $25 (previews $11) with a Sunday pay-what-you-can matinee at 2:30 p.m. 416-504-7529.

* * *

Shattering Drama: Arthur Miller, who is often called America's greatest living playwright, probes the crippling burdens of a failed marriage and the looming Holocaust on a Jewish-American couple in the 1930s in *Broken Glass*, a two-hour drama that airs Oct. 20 at 9 p.m., on the American PBS network.

The film adaptation of Miller's unforgettable play stars **Mandy Patinkin**, **Henry Goodman** and **Margot Leicester** reprising their roles from the London stage production; also starring **Elizabeth McGovern**. Set in Brooklyn in 1938, the story focuses on two couple confronting a literal and symbolic disability after a middle-aged Jewish woman suffers a sudden, puzzling paralysis below the waist.

Finding no physical cause for the paralysis, a doctor suspects it was possibly brought on by the woman's obsession with news of Nazi atrocities. Miller says the play was sparked by an incident from his past, when a Jewish woman in his neighborhood became inexplicably paralysed after news of *Kristallnacht*, the explosion of anti-Semitic violence in Nazi Germany that occurred Nov. 9 and 10, 1938.

* * *

Book Sales:

• Publishers' overstocks, used books and compact discs are the main inventory of Media Encore, which is set to open a store in Lawrence Plaza at Lawrence and Bathurst in Toronto. According to company president **Steve Gosewich**, most stock is available for half the original retail price or less. "We believe that price should not stand in the way of a person's desire for knowledge, information and entertainment," says Gosewich.

• University College Book Sale takes place daily Oct. 19 through Oct. 23, with proceeds to support the UC Library. University College, U of T., 15 King's College Circle, Toronto. Donations of books welcome. 416-978-0372.

* * *

In Brief: Equity Showcase Theatre launches its 36th season with the Canadian premiere of *The Travelling Troupe Shopalovich*, by Serbian playwright **Ljubomir Simovic**, a "haunting and timely play contemplating art in a war-torn environment." Ten performances only, Oct. 17 to 26 (preview Oct. 16). Studio Theatre, York Quay Centre, Harbourfront. 416- 533-6100.

•The Printed Word: The complexity of writing, editing and publishing Jewish books is a symposium taking place Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m. at the Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library of the Beth Tzedec Congregation, Toronto.

Guest speakers will include author **Erna Paris**, publisher **Howard Aster** and *CJN* editor **Mordechai Ben-Dat**. **Rabbi Baruch Frydman** will moderate. Admission is free.

• Emmy Award-winner **Simcha Jacobovici** will be in attendance Oct. 22 for a gala benefit for the Toronto Centre for Creative Arts Therapy at the Premiere Dance Theatre, Queen's Quay, Harbourfront, 8 p.m.

In addition to a live performance by the Canadian Children's Dance Theatre, there will be a gala screening of the award-winning *A Child's Grief*, a documentary where children tell their story through art, music and dance.Tickets $25, $20 for students and seniors. For tickets call 416-973-4000.

Howard Engel

Howard Engel will discuss his latest bestseller *Lord High Executioner*, on Sunday, Oct.20, 11:00 a.m., Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., as part of its regular Sunday at Bloor Books & Bagels program. Admission for non-members is $6. Coffee and bagels will be served.

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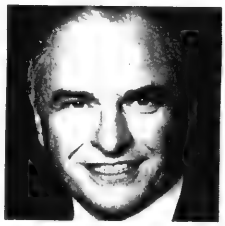

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Sutton Group Admiral: "a smart choice for serious real estate professionals"

The phenomenal growth of Sutton Group Admiral Realty is no mystery to the agents who work there. In fact, the incredible statistics this powerhouse company has been generating for nearly four years now have been getting the attention of real estate professionals all over North America.

Boasting over 50 agents and planning to bring on another 25 over the next few months, Sutton Group Admiral is one of Toronto's leading Sutton Group members. Broker/owner Murray Goldkind attributes much of the company's success to the Sutton Group concept itself. He says, "too many real estate brokers are living in the past and aren't really in touch with what today's better agents want."

Judging purely by the massive number of agents who have joined the company in the Toronto area over the past few years — more than 1,300 — the Sutton Group concept has certainly proved to be popular with agents. Goldkind says, "today's real estate professionals are tired of giving up a huge chunk of their commission to companies. And even more are tired of shelling out huge sums of money each month to companies to get a higher commission split."

But it's not just about money. ProPartners® U.S.A. & Canada, a Nevada-based group of real estate sales and management consultants, discovered in a recent survey of more than 500 agents that making more money is only one of the things agents are looking for today.

The ProPartners® survey revealed that better agents (million dollar and multi-million dollar producers) are also placing a high priority on independence, lifestyle, technology availability, marketing resources, reputation, and services. According to Jim Morton, a leading Real Estate speaker and senior partner in the group, "agents today feel they are more competent and require less hands-on attention from their Brokers, and they're becoming more resistant to traditional compensation structures." Nationally recognized marketing expert Rope Dixon, one of the founding partners of the group, concurs. "What you're seeing go on with Sutton Group is probably the most significant indication of a formal restructuring within the real estate industry in years."

Agents at Sutton Group Admiral enjoy all the independence they could ask for, and pay the company only a nominal monthly fee to retain 100% of their commissions. The system is designed to provide on-demand services to agents, in an environment that lets agents run their business as they see fit.

Murray Goldkind invites you to contact Sutton Group Admiral for all your real estate needs. "The services we provide to our agents are only a small indication of the way we treat our clients," he says. "Like our agents, we want our customers to be 100% comfortable in their search for a home."

STEELES

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LifeStyle

Here Comes The Bride ..... And Groom

Before another happy couple headed for honeymoon heaven, thanks to the **Jewish Singles Registry** (**J.S.R.**) we asked the ecstatic newlyweds for their inside story. "The service the J.S.R. provides is invaluable," said the blushing bride, Franceen Rogevin as she stared lovingly at new hubby Barry Springer. "The J.S.R. provided us with an opportunity to describe what we were looking for, and with a little guidance from the J.S.R. staff, Barry and I met over a year ago. We got engaged on Valentine's Day and we have been inseparable ever since." Added Barry: "When I saw those baby blue eyes I was sunk. The Registry provided an easy non-threatening method for us to meet, and enabled me to find the person with whom I will spend the rest of my life."

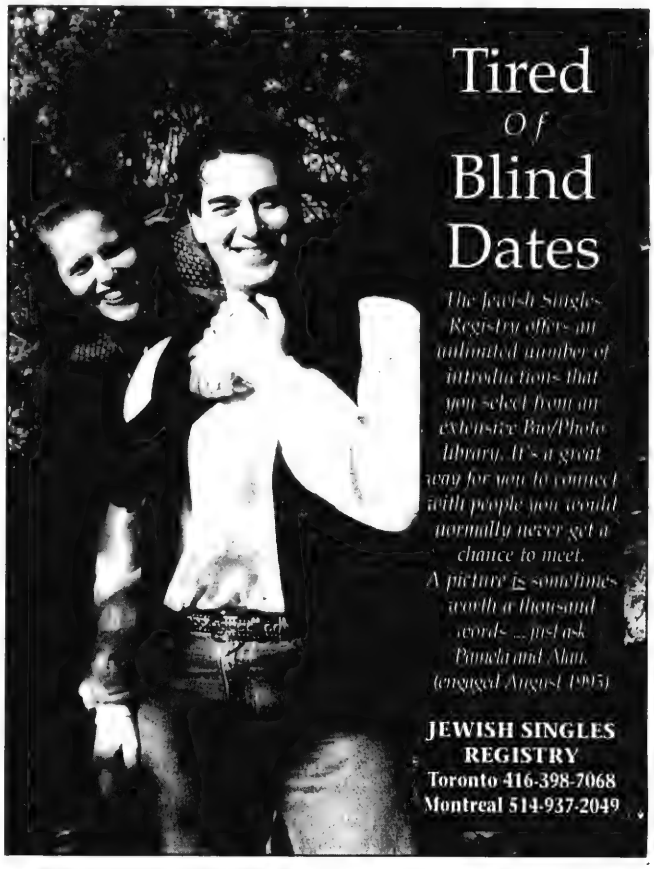
INFORMATION IS KEY

The whole premise behind the **Jewish Singles Registry** is to provide registrants with all the information necessary to make informed and quality dating choices. Members get to view very detailed and comprehensive biography profiles on each other. Personality traits, hobbies, interests, community involvement, and even the reasons for joining the service, make up just a portion of the questionnaire. A photograph attached to each file completes the "picture". **Members have been joining in record numbers**, and the selection of compatible biographies has never been greater.

SEE HOW THEY OPERATE

If you have never been to a dating service before here is the perfect opportunity to do so. The **Montreal** office will be holding an open house on Thursday, Oct. 24th from 2-9 p.m. at 120A Cote St. Antoine. Join them for coffee and information. This is your opportunity to be pro-active, by taking matters into your own hands, and grabbing control of your love life. A **Toronto** open house is scheduled for November, but in the meantime private appointments are still being set up.

With winter just around the corner, there is no better time to take the initiative and find that relationship you've been seeking. Whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship, or marriage, the time is right to sign up with the **Jewish Singles Registry**. They can be reached in **Montreal** at **514-937-2049**, and in **Toronto** at **416-398-7068** e-mail at **jsreg@accent.net**.


Tired
Of
Blind
Dates
The Jewish Singles Registry offers an unlimited number of introductions that you select from an extensive Bio/Photo library. It's a great way for you to connect with people you would normally never get a chance to meet.
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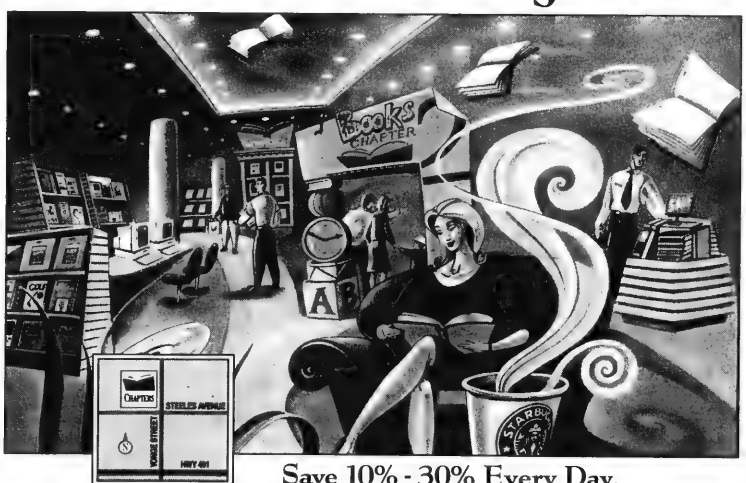

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Charming, cozy 3 bdrm. detached, 2 storey, burglar alarm system, hdwd. flrs. throughout, oak finish woodwrk throughout, fin. bsmt. with lg. recreation rm., 3 wshrms., lovely garden.

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RICHMOND HILL — JUST NORTH OF YONGE-HWY 7
Renovated sidesplit on approx 1 acre lot, south exposure, mature trees, beautiful lot. *C. Fleischmann or S. Tamin

BATHURST & CENTRE NEW HOMES
Custom built, over 3,600 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 9 ft. ceilings, upgraded top to bottom! *C. Fleischmann or S. Tamin

BATHURST-LAWRENCE — 1ST AD!
Custom built 4 bdrm, main fl. family & laundry, finished basement, move-in condition! *Sarah Rovet

BATHURST-CENTRE OVER 3,000 SQ. FT.
Absolutely immaculate, extra large white kit, hrdwd, ceramics, great floor plan. Like new! *C. Fleischmann or S. Tamin

ARNOLD & ATKINSON FROM $349,900
100' lot with existing 4 bdrm home. Hurry! *Allen Sidofsky

BATHURST-STEELES FROM $369,000!
3,000 sq. ft plus! Choose from 2, grey/white, greenhouse kit, large lot, finished bsmt & more! *Allen Sidofsky

BATHURST-STEELES — 1ST AD! $339,900
Gorgeous 4+1 bdrm, finished basement, lovely pie shaped lot on quiet court, loaded! *Allen Sidofsky

"ROSEDALE NORTH" — JUST LISTED! $329,900
4 Bdrms, about 2,600', fin. bsmt, appls, skylight+ + *A. Sidofsky

JUST LISTED! 4 BDRM ON YORK HILL $315K
It's a beauty! Fin lower level, good kitchen. *Helen Gould

BATHURST-CHABAD GATE
Fab 4 bdrm with nanny's suite, dble garage, appls, air, vac, close to all amenities. *Amir Mizrahi

BATHURST & CENTRE — ABSOLUTELY STUNNING!
3+1 Bdrms, quiet cres, newly renovated kitchen, huge family room. *Cila Fleischmann or Sarah Tamin

BATHURST MANOR BUNGALOW
3 Bdrms, large lot, income bsmt, ensuite, appliances, air, move in condition! Must see — must sell! *Pam Stern

"SPRING FARM" BEAUTY!
3+1 Bdrms, finished basement, central air & vac, walk to synagogue, school & transit! *Suzy Litman

CONDOMINIUMS

BATHURST-STEELES LUXURY TOWNHOUSE
Largest 3 bdrm, ensuite, appliances, skylight, 2 parking spaces, great location. 3 years old! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE "ROYAL PROMENADE"
Only $149,000! 2 bdrms with balcony, 2 parking! *Ted Waxman

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1ST OFFERING YORK MILLS/YONGE
$539,000. Super reno'd. 3 + 1 bdrms. on 50' x 145' south facing lot, huge fam. rm. addition. **Elaine Chelin***.

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1ST AD! SPECTACULAR 100' X 283' LOT
Bayview/York Mills prestigious St. Old Colony Rd. area. Large rambling bungalow. **Barbara Krieger***.

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Kelway Blvd! $549K! Fab. 3 yrs. new, 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, 260 Heath! $275K! Forest Hill TH.! 2 + 1 bdrms., 3 baths!

1ST AD! OWEN SCHOOL AREA!
Bayview/Yonge superb 2 stry., 4 bdrm. exec. fam. home, move in condition! $498K. **Barbara Krieger***.

REDUCED! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
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1ST AD! 942 YONGE! PENTHOUSE!
$309K! WOW! 2 bdrms., 2 baths, fam. rm. o/l's spectacular ravine/city views! **B. Sud*/S. Schwartzben, V.P.****.

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BEECHWOOD/FENN — $896,000
Exquisite 5 bdrm. Gourmet [SOLD] Main flr. family rm. & library. Outstanding master suite. [SOLD] l/vl. **Natalie Schacter

PINNACLE/BANBURY — $549,000
Wonderful 5+ bdrm. Lar[SOLD]ipal rms. Reno'd kitchen. Skylights. Bleached flrs. Fin[SOLD]. CAC. Dble. gar. *Leslie Dennis

CRANBROOKE/LEDBURY — $798,000
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ST. CLEMENTS/CALDOW — $379,000
Allenby School Tudor. Estate[SOLD] charming 3+ bedrooms. Main floor family rm. + powder [SOLD]. Private drive. CAC. **Don Wagman

OLD ORCHARD/AVENUE RD. — $429,000
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FABULOUS GLENGROVE RENO
Centre hall plan. 3 BRs. incl[SOLD]aster w/sitting room/nursery. Main flr. den. CAC. Private drive & garage. *Elaine/*Bernard Pike

CARMICHAEL AVE. — $245,000
Spacious 3 bdrm bungalow [SOLD]eat-in kitchen, living & dining room. Fin. l/level. Private d[SOLD]garage. **Natalie Schacter

BATHURST/ST. CLAIR
Bright & sunny 3 bedroom h[SOLD]ns of charm. Eat-in kitchen with w/o to deck. Fireplace[SOLD]closed front porch. **Natalie Schacter

ST. LAWRENCE MARKET CONDO — $269,000
Elegant suite. 2 BRs. + de[SOLD]ium. Master w/dressing rm. Eat-in kitchen. Woodburnin[SOLD]eplace. Pkg. *Betty Cohen

DOWNTOWN CONDO
Lovely suite. 2 bedrooms + s[SOLD]. Eat-in kitchen. Insuite laundry. 24 hour security + park[SOLD]. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft. *Ed Lau

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96 Charleswood	- 3 Bdrm	- $259,900
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14189 Bathurst St.	- 2 Acres	- $399,900
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35 Hunters Point	- 3 Bdrm	- $235,900

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Fenelon Falls	- 75 Acres	- $799,900

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$419,000 - Fabulous custom-built, 2 storey home backing on park, 4 bdrm & floating staircase. The best of everything!

$399,000 - Magnificent designer decorated 2 storey home w/5 bdrms, fam. rm, library & "new" white gourmet kit.

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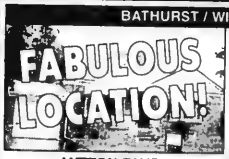

51 ft. frontage, 3 bdrm. bung., fabulous location close to all amenities, LIVE IN NOW, build later, approved plans for new custom home available. Only $254,900. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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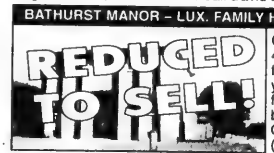

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Seeking caregiver/companion for elderly female, 3 mos. in (Century Village), Fla., flex. arrangements, 444-9146.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Certif. HCA seeks work with elderly,many yrs.exper.724-8440.

Certified HCA willing to be companion or to look after couple or single person. Sun.-Mon., refs. avail. upon req. Call Arleen, 416-746-9502

Exper. RPN looking for work, in home or an institution.633-4641

Exper. woman seeks position with elderly, days work. Has Homemaking Certificate, good cook. 416-650-1363 any time.

RN-HCA seeks employment, private duty, 8 yrs. geriatric exper., refs. avail. 289-1827.

259 SENIORS

Seniors or professionals, will come to your place and cook your favourite or mine meals, kosher if desired. 962-8839

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Old fashion romantic male, 40's, with no children, friendly & nice, would like to meet similar younger lady for serious relationship. CJN Box 6827.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I am a 47 yr. old male, fit, multilingual Sephardic, 158 lbs., 5'10". I have integrity & honesty, and wish to meet a female for serious relationship. CJN Box 6826.

Widow, 62, looking for intelligent & gentle man, who appreciates the finer things life has to offer. CJN Box 6832.

Widow, financially secure, would like to meet a gentleman, 65+ for companionship. CJN Box 6833.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
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The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mt. Sinai Hospital offers a group for **New Mothers.** Six wk course, $90.00, 1-3pm with baby, babies range 1 wk. - 4 mos., in teacher's home (Bayview/York Mills area). Topics incl. post-partum issues (crying, breast/bottle feeding, baby proofing, mother's health, etc) 416-447-1719 or 416-586-8821.

330 OBITUARIES

Vita Linder on September 20, 1996, late of 64 St. Clair Avenue W #407
Norma Winer on September 21, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St
Bertha Fromstein on September 22, 1996, late of 5444 Yonge Street #2008
Mike Marks on September 24, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue
Victor Boksen on September 22, 1996, late of Sutton Place Hotel #3112
Mara Bokar on September 23, 1996, late of 321 Chaplin Crescent #109
Stuart Title on September 25, 1996, late of 63 Roehampton Avenue
Goldie Cheslo on September 24, 1996, late of 239 Combe Avenue
David Handel on September 26, 1996, late of 194 Meadow Blvd
Rose Bornstein on September 26, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Road
Ben Gold on September 27, 1996, late of 40 Sylvan Valleyway #313
Samuel Griesdorf on September 9, 1996, late of 300 Brighton Avenue
Sam Turk on September 27, 1996, late of 38 Collinson Blvd.
Geraldine Lash on September 27, 1996, late of 60 Poinsetta Drive
Betty Adler on September 28, 1996, late of 35 Bowring Walk
Heather Brettschneider on September 29, 1996, late of 340 Lonsdale Road #107
Murray Wolfson on October 1, 1996, late of 3000 Bathurst Street #212
Sydney Posner on September 29, 1996, late of 569 Sheppard Ave West #802
Dr. Hyman (Harry) Husdan on October 1, 1996, late of 1238 Queen Street East
George Sherman on October 2, 1996, late of 3636 Bathurst Street #1905
Donna Steinberg on October 4, 1996, late of 18 Cheval Drive

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

Cosiner, Adolph on September 21, 1996
Nudelman, Basia Esther on September 22, 1996, late of 6040 Bathurst St.
Monciarz, Luba on September 24, 1996, late of 22 Sultana Ave.
Schnoll, Henry Aba on September 24, 1996, late of 4 Meadowbrook Rd.
Ostrowiecki, Israel on September 13, 1996, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd. W.
Zalken, Israel Edward on September 28, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
Kohn, Karl on September 29, 1996, late of 100 Antibes Dr
Mudrick, Jean (Jennie) on September 30, 1996
Foss, Eva Celia on October 1, 1996
Steinfield, Anne on October 2, 1996, late of 92 Denlow Blvd
Binder, Esfir on October 4, 1996, late of 601 Clark Ave. W
Togman, Zelig on October 5, 1996, late of 49 Sunnycrest Rd
Tuvel, Andrew Baruch on October 5, 1996, late of Nobleton
Kleinberg, Sarah on October 4, 1996, late of 35 Canyon Ave.
Hudy, Kalman on October 6, 1996, late of 7601 Bathurst St
Gorshtein, Eliyahu on October 7, 1996, late of 6030 Bathurst St

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Dr Jack W. Reine,** will take place Sun Oct. 20th, 1996, at 11:00 am at Beth Tzedec Memorial Park, at 5822 Bathurst St., Section 9. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Percy Holtzman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
9861 Wilson Avenue
Radomer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BERNARD ANSEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
B'nai Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Jacob Eisenstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
The New Zaglembier Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Wolf Faintuch ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stopnitzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAUL HALPERN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst
Beth Emeth, Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of
Rae Abramowitz ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Independent Worker's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Charlotte Roslyn Kerzner ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 1:00 p.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Hebrew Men of England Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Bella Kuretzky ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 1:00 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Linitzer Sick Benefit Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA MILLS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 12:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., North of Major Mackenzie
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Luzer Dzialoszynski ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20th, at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst St., South of Steeles)
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Max Nudelman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS SAVLOV ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Morris Phillips ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA WALFISH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Sunnyside Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ben *(Baruch)* Kosciuszco ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 20, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Pietrokov Society Section #36
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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The Inside Back

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN SELLS FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

APPLE CAKE WITH CARAMEL GLAZE

1 1/2 cups flour
1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. baking soda
pinch salt
1 cup unsalted butter, softened
1 cup white sugar
2 eggs
1/2 tsp. vanilla
3 tart apples, finely chopped
3/4 cup chopped pecans

Glaze:
1 tblsp. butter
1/3 cup pecan halves
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup whipping cream

Stir together flour, cinnamon, baking soda and salt; set aside. Using electric mixer, beat butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla. Stir in flour mixture. Gently fold in apples and pecans. Transfer batter to greased, 8 1/2 in. springform pan. Bake in preheated 350°F oven 55-65 mins. or until cake tester inserted in centre comes out clean. Cool. Remove from pan.

Glaze: Melt butter over medium heat. Add nuts and cook about 3 mins. Stir in brown sugar and cream; bring to a boil. Boil gently, stirring until sugar has completely dissolved and glaze has thickened, about 5-7 mins. Pour over cooled cake, letting excess run down side.

Makes 8 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

The Canadian Jewish news IS MOVING The Canadian Jewish news

As of November 5th we can be found at:
1500 Don Mills Road,
Suite 205, North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Phone (416) 391•1836 Advertising Fax (416) 391•0949 Editorial Fax (416) 391•0829

Fisherman's prayers answered thanks to Dan River

By BARRY CHAMISH
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — Elhanan Ben Avraham moved to Israel 15 years ago fully expecting to give up his passion: fly fishing. Fortunately, he valued his fly rod too much to abandon it and it joined him in his new home.

For the past 10 years, Ben Avraham and his rod have been catching trout in the Dan River in northern Israel. "When I discovered the Dan, it was as if a prayer had been answered," he recalls.

Trout flourish in the Dan for two reasons. The first is its cold waters, fed by the snows of the Golan Heights. The second is the fish farms alongside the river that raise trout. Thousands of fingerlings escape the farms each year into the Dan and once there, the trout love it.

"It's a perfect environment for trout," explains Ben Avraham. "The river is filled with mayflies and caddis — all of them ambrosia for rainbow trout." As a result of the abundant feed, fishermen catch about a dozen trout a day and a few of the fish have grown to four kilos or more.

Fish farm began raising salmon

Recently, another of Ben Avraham's prayers was answered. A fish farm began raising salmon the year before and now the Dan is loaded with them. "Six months ago, I caught a salmon 15 centimetres long," says Ben Avraham. "Last week, I caught them 30 cms long. Within a year or two, I'll be landing salmon of two kilos." He believes the Dan River to be the hottest climate in the world for salmon fishing.

Fly fishing in the Dan River. [Jesse Reinhardt photo]

The Kibbutz Dan fish farm siphons the Dan's waters into pools that have grown trout since 1967 and salmon since 1994. The rainbows come from the United States and Australia but the origin of the salmon remains a trade secret. It's not all that simple to grow salmon in Israel and the farm tested a number of species before discovering one that liked the Dan.

As the waters of the Dan exit the farm, they accidentally carry with them a lot of fish — an estimated five percent. That's enough to fill a decent lake, say the folks at the farm.

Dan fish farm biologist Avshalom Hurvitz believes the trout, though not the salmon, are breeding in the river as he has captured trout fry much smaller than those the kibbutz raises.

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Toronto, Ontario M5M 4M1
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The Last Word . . . RRIF DEADLINE

As autumn approaches, people age seventy-one, become more aware of the December 31st deadline for the conversion of their RRSP to a RRIF or annuity.

Sadly, the days of scanning the marketplace and finding high interest rates have passed. Today, more than ever, you must carefully plan for the orderly change from RRSP to retirement income. Planning the proper income, selecting the most appropriate investments, and making sure that all of the documentation is completed correctly and on time are all part of the RRSP conversion process.

For a No Fee No Obligation Consultation call 787-4517.

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PIK-A-FRESH, GOLDEN PEAKS
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200 g Jar
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Beef, Fresh
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TOMATOES
Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
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2.18 kg
.99 LB

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Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
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10 lb Bag
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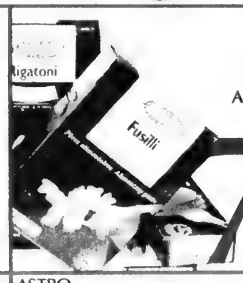

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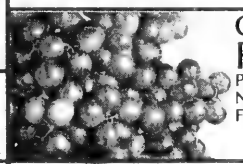

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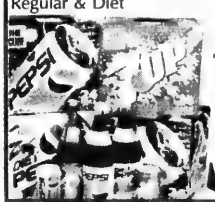

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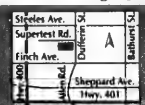
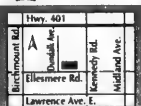


4750 DUFFERIN ST. AT SUPERTEST RD. (SOUTH OF STEELES AVE.)



ELLESMERE RD. AT KENNEDY RD.

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That none be condemned to repeat it

REMEMBER זכור

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

NOVEMBER 7 - 17, 1996

Coordinated by the Holocaust Education Week Sub-Committee,
Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation

PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE

OPENING NIGHT
THURSDAY, NOV. 7

All But Our Lives: Hope, The Sustaining Force
Film excerpts & lecture

Saturday, Nov. 9

Kristallnacht
Lecture

Kasztner's Trial
Film & discussion

Who is Peter Islowsky?
Film & discussion

Evening program of readings, music & films
See Bloor JCC

Sunday, Nov. 10

All day program of readings, films, lectures and discussions
See Bloor JCC

Weapons of the Spirit
Film & discussion

Etty Hillesum & the Dutch Jews During World War II
Storytelling & discussion

The Wave
Film & youth program

Faith in the Light of the Holocaust
Lecture

Memory, the Holocaust and Neo-Nazism Today
Lecture

Neo-Nazism Roots and Present Challenges
Workshop

Faith - Today After the Holocaust
Lecture

Holland and its Jews: Resistance, Rescue and Freedom
Lecture & panel discussion

Teaching the Holocaust Through the Experiences of the March of the Living
Discussion

Zegota: Remembrance and Dialogue
Lecture

Who is Peter Islowsky?
Film & youth program

A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell
Shtetl
Film presentations

The Garment Twice Torn: Women in the Holocaust
Lecture

Monday, Nov. 11

Tyranny on Trial: The Evidence at Nuremberg
Lecture

Deliver Us From Evil
Film & discussion

My Knees Were Jumping: Remembering the Kindertransports
Film & discussion

Courage to Care
Film & panel discussion

History, Memory and the Burden of Guilt
Lecture

Anne Frank Remembered
Film & discussion

Experiences of a Survivor: Before, During and After
Lecture

Tuesday, Nov. 12

Jewish Music: A Legacy of the Holocaust
Musical presentation

From Slander to Mass Murder: The Tragic History of German-Jewish Relations
Lecture

Hearts of Hate
Film & discussion

Who is Peter Islowsky?
Film

Courage to Care
Film & panel discussion

Excerpts from The Investigation
Dramatic reading

The Rescue of Bulgarian Jewry
Lecture

Wednesday, Nov. 13

Songs from the Shtetl
Musical presentation

Crimes of Hate
Film & discussion

The Role of the Youth Movement in the Ghetto Uprising
Lecture

The American Response to the Holocaust
Lecture

Re-Tracing the Footsteps to the Camps: A Trans-Generational Perspective
Discussion & slide presentation

Thursday, Nov. 14

How is the Holocaust Taught in Schools and Universities?
Lecture

Holocaust Education for the New Millennium
CD Rom Educational Program

Auschwitz Prisoner 88
Lecture

Shattered! 50 Years of Silence: Voices from Romania and Transnistria
Lecture

The Vatican and the Holocaust - New Evidence Discovered
Lecture

Courage to Care
Film & panel discussion

Saturday, Nov. 16

Women and the Holocaust: The Changing Role & Image of the European Jewish Woman in the Modern Era
Lecture

Sunday, Nov. 17

Women and the Holocaust: Women of Valour, Women of Pain
Lecture

Responsible for our Talents: Remembering in the Light of the Holocaust
Lecture

Remembering the Holocaust
Discussion

Spiritual Resistance: Music During the Holocaust
Discussion & musical performance

Shtetl
Film & discussion

Women and the Holocaust: Women Survivors in the Post-Holocaust Era - Rebuilding New Lives
Lecture

Who is Peter Islowsky?
Film & youth program

Decision and Identity: Nazi Art and the Shaping of a National Christianity
Lecture

ADDED PROGRAM

Sunday, Nov. 24

Faith After the Holocaust
Lecture

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS, CONSULT THE PROGRAM LISTING UNDER THE APPROPRIATE DATE IN THIS BROCHURE.

CITY OF TORONTO

Holocaust Education Week

November 7 - 17, 1996

It is important to honour the memory of the millions of men, women and children who perished during the Holocaust. To avoid a repetition of history, it is essential that public awareness and understanding be raised about the Holocaust. Only then can we sensitize younger generations to the lessons of the Holocaust and to their responsibility for the future.

Holocaust Education Week balances remembrance and educational events that heighten our awareness of the Holocaust and its contemporary implications on racism and prejudice. Through the events organized by the *Holocaust Remembrance Committee,* Torontonians will be able to learn about the unimaginable horrors of the past. Through education and introspection we can renew our hope for the future and prevent anti-semitism, racism and future genocide.

On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, it is a pleasure to salute the *Holocaust Remembrance Committee* and the *Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.* In recognition of their efforts to raise public awareness and curb racism and prejudice, I proclaim November 7 - 17, 1996 ***Holocaust Education Week.***

Barbara Hall

Mayor

THE CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE OF TORONTO

On behalf of my colleagues in Christian-Jewish Dialogue, I invite you to participate in the rich variety of events taking place during Holocaust Education Week. Among these you will find more than a dozen programs being held in Christian churches. For sixteen years, Christian involvement in this week has been steadily growing. We do so in human solidarity and in repentance for centuries of anti-Jewish teaching, which most churches have officially repudiated in the light of the Holocaust. Such horrors must never again be answered by silence.

Christian-Jewish Dialogue (CJDT) is made up of representatives of the Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran, Roman Catholic and United Churches in Toronto along with the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

Through films, presentations by survivors, and dialogue, the participating churches aim not only to educate and inform but also to help us move from a tragic past to a hopeful future, one in which we can together combat the hate and prejudice that continues to plague society today. We particularly invite you to our keynote presentation on November 10th at St. Andrew's United Church. Please see details in this brochure.

Special thanks to our partners in the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto whose support and assistance have meant so much.

Brian Prideaux

The Rev. Brian Prideaux
Chair, Holocaust Remembrance Committee
Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto

Sponsors

Diocese of Toronto of the Anglican Church of Canada	Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto	Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada	Eastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Canadian Council of Christians and Jews	Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	Relation & Encounter, Sisters of Our Lady of Zion	

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the 16th Annual Holocaust Education Week. The opportunity to explore, examine and experience both history and eyewitness testimony awaits you with the wide variety of excellent programs offered this year.

As part of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Holocaust Education Week serves to fulfil our mandate of remembrance and education. Through a plethora of stimulating topics and ideas, addressing the many interests in our community, we are succeeding in achieving our important goals. Only through remembrance and education can we ensure that the memory of those lost in the Holocaust be honoured and that the mistakes of the past not be repeated.

This year, the City of Toronto is recognizing the importance of our work by proclaiming this week as Holocaust Education Week in Toronto. It is one more giant step being taken in the furtherance of Holocaust education and its important lessons, and one more rebuke to Holocaust deniers.

BUT...it must not stop here. We must realize that Holocaust denial, the most virulent form of anti-Semitism today, will not disappear just because we wish it. Likewise, persecution, racism, and prejudice will not disappear on their own. These evils must be stopped wherever and whenever they appear. This can only happen if we are proactive. Let us apply what we learn and act to erase them from our midst.

I would like to take this opportunity to both congratulate and thank Michael Herman and Doron Opher and their outstanding committee, all volunteers, for once again organizing such an excellent event.

The Committee has done its part - now it's up to us! Let us all learn and work together to realize our goals of peace and humanity.

With warm regards,

Eleanor Getzler
Chairperson
Holocaust Remembrance Committee
UJA Federation

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS' MESSAGE

Doron Opher

Michael Herman

We are delighted to be able to present an impressive array of events which constitute our 16th Annual Holocaust Education Week.

From modest beginnings many years ago, we have now achieved a full, rich and varied program. There are lectures, films, discussions and artistic productions being presented by leading academics, theologians and performing artists. We encourage you to read through this brochure and select the programs that fit your tastes and timetable.

We are particularly gratified to see so many new and different organizations participating in Holocaust Education Week. As well, the number of younger people involved in both organizing and attending is a healthy and important sign.

Why study the Holocaust? The pre-eminent historian, Raoul Hillberg, concluded after life-long study and reflection that in many respects the Holocaust transcends comprehension. Primo Levi, a leading Holocaust author, agrees but continues:

> *"We cannot understand the Holocaust, but we can and must understand from where it springs, and we must be on our guard. If understanding is impossible, knowing is imperative, because what happened could happen again. Conscience can be seduced and obscured again - even in our consciences."*

This admonition is unfortunately but manifestly apt, as evidenced by the racism, bigotry and anti-Semitism that clutter our political and social landscape.

We appreciate and are indebted to our dedicated committee members, without whom this program could not be achieved. As well, we wish to thank all the organizations who enthusiastically commit their time and resources. A special thank you to both Eleanor Getzler, Chairperson, and Pnina Zilberman, Director, of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, UJA Federation, whose guidance and hard work are vital to our continued success.

Doron Opher *Michael Herman*
Chairpersons, Holocaust Education Week

OPENING NIGHT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

8:00 PM University of Toronto, Convocation Hall
31 King's College Circle, Toronto

GERDA W. KLEIN
and
KURT KLEIN

"All But Our Lives: Hope, The Sustaining Force"

with excerpts from *"One Survivor Remembers"* a documentary based on Gerda Klein's experiences, winner of the 1996 Oscar for Best Documentary.

Gerda Weissmann Klein, internationally acclaimed author, historian, columnist and speaker, deals with her past by focusing on uplifting aspects of the human condition. Her constant striving for the preservation of human rights and dignity has earned her five Doctorates of Humane Letters, along with countless other awards.

*Her autobiography "*All But My Life,*" in print for 39 years in 36 editions, has attained the status of a classic. The book depicts her view of the dark years of the Holocaust, a progression that ultimately led to her liberation from a death march on May 7, 1945 by her future husband, U.S. Army Lieutenant Kurt Klein.*

The Kleins are the proud parents of three children and have eight grandchildren.

Sponsored by the Abraham and Ida Moncik Memorial Fund for Holocaust Education.

Tickets: $5.00
VISA accepted
For advance sales, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301

OPENING NIGHT — NOVEMBER 7

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:00 AM Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"KRISTALLNACHT." **ROSALIE ABELLA**, Justice of the Ontario Court of Appeal. Shabbat morning service. Luncheon and discussion following only by RSVP. Call Rosemary at (416) 781-3511 ext. 13.

~

7:00 PM Israel Educational & Cultural Institute
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

Film *"KASZTNER'S TRIAL."* Israeli television's most acclaimed dramatic production portraying the controversial trial of Dr. Kasztner, who was tried by Israel for collaborating with the Nazi regime in Hungary. Discussion following with **FRANCESCA DAVID**, Public Relations Chairperson, Israel Educational and Cultural Institute.

~

7:00 PM Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church
16 Lockwood Road, Toronto

Film *"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"* This film tells the story of a student who took a stand against racism, and demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Youth program.

~

8:00 PM Bloor JCC
750 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

Performances featuring **ANNE MICHAELS**, reading from her acclaimed novel *"Fugitive Pieces;"* **JUDITH COHEN**, ethnomusicologist, singing Sephardic and Yiddish songs; and **THERESA TOVA**, actress and singer, performing excerpts from her new musical *"Still The Night"* accompanied by **JOHN ALCORN**.

Also, a rare screening of ***"WE ARE CHILDREN JUST THE SAME: 'VEDEM,' THE SECRET MAGAZINE"*** about the Boys of Terezin, and ***"NIGHT AND FOG (NUIT ET BROUILLARD),"*** Alain Resnal's brilliantly composed look at the camps with narration by Holocaust survivor Jean Cayrol.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

All day Bloor JCC
750 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

All day conference of readings, films, lectures and discussions featuring: **PROFESSOR MICHAEL MARRUS**, University of Toronto, speaking on historical aspects of the Holocaust, a co-presentation with "Books and Bagels;" **JULIAN SHER**, CBC-TV producer and **ERIC GERINGAS**, film producer, discussing the neo-Nazi movement; **ANNE MICHAELS**, reading from her novel *"Fugitive Pieces;" "Children of the Third Reich,"* a documentary focusing on a dialogue between children of Nazis and Holocaust survivors; and **FRANK BIALYSTOK**, doctoral candidate at York University, lecturing on why and how holocausts are created. Call (416) 924-6211 for schedule and times.

~

9:30 AM Bloor United Church
300 Bloor Street West, Toronto

Film *"WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT."* During World War II, the entire French village of Le Chambon sheltered and saved 5,000 Jews. Filmmaker Pierre Sauvage returns to the village that saved his life to honour this "conspiracy of goodness." Discussion following with **LILIAN SCHACTER**, past chairperson of Holocaust Education Week.

~

10:00 AM Jewish Storytelling Arts (Ontario)
Temple Sinai Congregation
210 Wilson Avenue, North York

"ETTY HILLESUM & THE DUTCH JEWS DURING WORLD WAR II." A look at this remarkable woman who from Westerbork, a Dutch transit camp, helped thousands of Jews as they moved from Holland to Auschwitz. Storytelling and discussion with **LESLIE ROBBINS**.

~

10:00 AM Secular Jewish Association
SJA Children's School
131 Fenn Avenue, North York

Film *"THE WAVE."* This chilling movie, directed by Alex Grasshoff, is about a teacher who brainwashes her students and abuses her powers. (Youth program: 10 and older).

10:00 AM St. Peter's Anglican Church, Erindale
1745 Dundas Street West, Mississauga

"FAITH IN THE LIGHT OF THE HOLOCAUST." Sermon by **RABBI LAWRENCE ENGLANDER**, spiritual leader of Solel Congregation, Mississauga.

~

10:30 AM Richmond Hill United Church
10201 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

"MEMORY, THE HOLOCAUST AND NEO-NAZISM TODAY." **STEVEN SHULMAN**, National Associate Director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress. Sermon during worship service. Workshop *"NEO-NAZISM ROOTS AND PRESENT CHALLENGES"* with Mr. Shulman from **12:15 - 2:30 p.m.** (Bring your own lunch)

~

10:30 AM Ashbury and West United Church
3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"FAITH - TODAY AFTER THE HOLOCAUST." **RABBI JORDAN PEARLSON**, Founding Rabbi, Temple Sinai Congregation.

~

2:00 PM The Dutch Canadian Association of Greater Toronto
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"HOLLAND AND ITS JEWS: RESISTANCE, RESCUE AND FREEDOM." Dutch resistance fighter **JACK HEIDEMA**, daughter of rescuer **ENA BETTINGS** and hidden child **ADA WYNSTON** describe their experiences. Panel discussion follows.

~

4:00 PM Congregation Darchei Noam
15 Hove Street, Downsview

"TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST THROUGH THE EXPERIENCES OF THE MARCH OF THE LIVING." **STEPHEN BLOOM**, Head of the History Department, Westmount Collegiate Institute, and member, Holocaust Education Sub-Committee, and daughter **REISSA**, 1996 March of the Living participant.

7:00 PM Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation
Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"ZEGOTA: REMEMBRANCE AND DIALOGUE." Historic perspective of the Polish rescue of Jews with **IRENE TOMASZEWSKI**.

~

7:30 PM St. James-Bond United Church
1066 Avenue Road, Toronto

Film *"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"* This film tells the story of a student who took a stand against racism, and demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Youth program.

~

7:30 PM Toronto Jewish Film Society
Art Gallery of Ontario
Hal Jackman Hall
317 Dundas Street West, Toronto

Films *"A DAY IN THE WARSAW GHETTO: A BIRTHDAY TRIP IN HELL,"* based on photographs of the ghetto's daily life taken by a Wehrmacht sergeant and *"SHTETL,"* which chronicles the memories of Meyer Kirshenblatt. Both films directed by Jack Kuper. Co-presented with the Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

7:30 PM Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto
St. Andrew's United Church
117 Bloor Street East, Toronto

"THE GARMENT TWICE TORN: WOMEN IN THE HOLOCAUST." **SUSAN E. NOWAK**, SSJ, Professor at Nazareth College, Rochester, New York. Dr. Nowak is a recent inductee into the Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Society. She sits on the Task Force of Catholic and Jewish Educators. **Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto keynote presentation.**

NOVEMBER 10

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

12:00 NOON Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada
Park Plaza Hotel, 4 Avenue Road, Toronto
To RSVP call Flavia at (416) 594-1812.

"TYRANNY ON TRIAL: THE EVIDENCE AT NUREMBERG." **WHITNEY HARRIS**, former Nuremberg prosecutor and author of the first major work on the trials.

6:00 PM Temple Har Zion
7360 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill

Film ***"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."*** A look at the experiences of hidden children of the Holocaust. Discussion led by **ROSLINE GOLDBERG**, former hidden child. Suitable for young adults 12-15 years old.

7:30 PM The Kindertransport and Child Survivor Group
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

Film ***"MY KNEES WERE JUMPING: REMEMBERING THE KINDERTRANSPORTS."*** A stirring account of the escape of nearly 10,000 Jewish children from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia just before World War II. Discussion with producer **MELISSA HACKER**, whose mother was one of those children. This film, selected for the 1996 Sundance Film Festival, marks Ms. Hacker's directorial debut.

7:30 PM St. John Chrysostom Catholic Church
432 Ontario Street, Newmarket
(Corner of Ontario and Main Streets)

Film ***"COURAGE TO CARE."*** A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Followed by a panel discussion.

7:30 PM Morris Winchevsky School
585 Cranbrooke Avenue, Toronto

"HISTORY, MEMORY AND THE BURDEN OF GUILT." Lecture based in part on the controversial book, ***"Hitler's Willing Executioners"*** by Daniel Goldhagen. **ERNA PARIS**, award winning author and lecturer. Lecture in memory of Sol Shek.

8:00 PM Beth David B'nai Israel Congregation
55 Yeomans Road, Downsview

Film ***"ANNE FRANK REMEMBERED."*** 1996 Oscar-winning documentary by Jon Blair. Discussion following by **ANITA MAYER**, author of *"One Who Came Back."* Mrs. Mayer was on the same transport and shared a bunk with Anne Frank.

8:00 PM Shaar Shalom Congregation
2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill

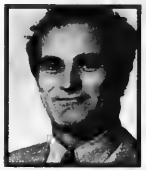
"EXPERIENCES OF A SURVIVOR: BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER." **SIEGFRIED HALBREICH**, Holocaust survivor, speaker and author. Following Mr. Halbreich's liberation in 1945, he assisted prosecutors in preparing the case for Nuremberg.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

7:00 PM The Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre
55 Ameer Avenue, Toronto

"JEWISH MUSIC: A LEGACY OF THE HOLOCAUST." Concert with **PAUL MATTHEW ENSEMBLE.**

7:30 PM Goethe-Institut Toronto
1067 Yonge Street, Toronto



"FROM SLANDER TO MASS MURDER: THE TRAGIC HISTORY OF GERMAN-JEWISH RELATIONS." **JULIUS H. SCHOEPS**, Professor of Modern History, University of Potsdam, Germany. Professor Schoeps is founding director of the Jewish Museum in Vienna. Sponsored by the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations in Stuttgart.

7:30 PM St. Gabriel Roman Catholic Church
650 Sheppard Avenue East, North York

Film ***"HEARTS OF HATE."*** A frightening documentary filmed inside Canada's growing racist movement. Discussion to follow led by **BERNIE FARBER**, National Director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress.

7:30 PM St. Leonard Anglican Church
25 Wanless Avenue, Toronto

Film *"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"* This film tells the story of a student who took a stand against racism, and demonstrates how one person can make a difference.

~

7:30 PM Sts. Martha & Mary Roman Catholic Church
1870 Burnhamthorpe Road East, Mississauga

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Followed by a panel discussion.

~

7:30 PM Medina Theatre Ensemble
15 Hove Street, Downsview

MEDINA THEATRE ENSEMBLE presents a reading of excerpts from *"The Investigation"* by Peter Weiss, an award-winning play dealing with war criminals. Directed by **MIRIAM LAURENCE**.

8:00 PM Beth Sholom Synagogue
1445 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

"THE RESCUE OF BULGARIAN JEWRY." **The story of how Bulgarian Jewry was rescued with the endorsement of King Boris of Bulgaria. PROFESSOR MICHAEL BAR-ZOHAR, internationally acclaimed author and lecturer. Born in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1938, he holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Paris.**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

3:30 PM The Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre
55 Ameer Avenue, Toronto

"SONGS FROM THE SHTETL." Concert with **IRV MUDRICK.**

7:30 PM Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church
354 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto

Film ***"CRIMES OF HATE."*** This documentary reveals the acts of neo-Nazi groups and the strategy used by law enforcement officials to combat them. Discussion follows.

~

7:30 PM Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH MOVEMENT IN THE GHETTO UPRISING." **ARIEL HOROWITZ**, teacher of Jewish History and Holocaust Studies, Kibbutz Teachers College, Tel Aviv. A writer of numerous articles and books, Mr. Horowitz's upcoming book is entitled *"The American Response to the Holocaust."*

8:00 PM Pride of Israel Synagogue
59 Lissom Cr., Willowdale

"THE AMERICAN RESPONSE TO THE HOLOCAUST." **PROFESSOR DAVID S. WYMAN,** noted Holocaust scholar and historian. He is the author of the award-winning *"The Abandonment of the Jews: America and the Holocaust."* Professor Wyman, grandson of two Protestant ministers, is a special advisor to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

8:00 PM Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation
613 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

"RE-TRACING THE FOOTSTEPS TO THE CAMPS: A TRANSGENERATIONAL PERSPECTIVE." Discussion and slide presentation of the camps by both survivors and youth who recently returned from the March of the Living.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

1:30 PM Bernard Betel Centre
1003 Steeles Avenue, Willowdale

"HOW IS THE HOLOCAUST TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES?" **PNINA ZILBERMAN,** Director, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto.

7:30 PM Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
Curtis Lecture Hall A, York University

"HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM."
Comprehensive interactive education of the Holocaust. **SIMCHA SHALEV,** Director of Yad Vashem, Israel.

~

7:30 PM Generation to Generation Sub-Committee
of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"AUSCHWITZ PRISONER 88." **ZYGMUND SOBOLEWSKI,** a Polish Catholic, was a political prisoner interned in Auschwitz with number 88 branded on his arm. Mr. Sobolewski has devoted his life to recounting the unspeakable horror of Auschwitz and to vehemently campaigning against racial and religious intolerance.

~

7:30 PM Beth Habonim Congregation
5 Glen Park, Toronto

"SHATTERED! 50 YEARS OF SILENCE: VOICES FROM ROMANIA AND TRANSNISTRIA." **DR. FELICIA CARMELLY,** psychologist, author and therapist. Founder and president of the Transnistria Survivors' Association.

8:00 PM Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"THE VATICAN AND THE HOLOCAUST - NEW EVIDENCE DISCOVERED." **PROFESSOR MICHAEL MARRUS, University of Toronto and fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.**

8:00 PM Leaside United Church
822 Millwood Road, Toronto
(Bayview & Millwood Road)

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Discussion follows.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

8:00 PM Temple Emanu-El
120 Colony Road, Willowdale

"WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST: THE CHANGING ROLE AND IMAGE OF THE EUROPEAN JEWISH WOMAN IN THE MODERN ERA." **YAFFA ELIACH, Professor of History and Literature, Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College. Professor Eliach is a pioneer scholar in Holocaust studies and the creator of the acclaimed "Tower of Life" in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. She is best known for her book *"Chassidic Tales of the Holocaust."***

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

10:00 AM Temple Emanu-El
120 Old Colony Road, Willowdale

"WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST: WOMEN OF VALOUR, WOMEN OF PAIN." **PROFESSOR YAFFA ELIACH.**

~

10:30 AM Victoria Village United Church
7 Gretna Avenue, Toronto (Don Valley & Eglinton)

"RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR TALENTS: REMEMBERING IN THE LIGHT OF THE HOLOCAUST." Worship service and sermon with **BETH PORTER** of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto.

~

11:00 AM Agricola Finnish Lutheran Church
25 Old York Mills Rd., North York

"REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST." Youth and adult service.

~

2:30 PM Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation
12 Heaton Street, Downsview

"SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE: MUSIC DURING THE HOLOCAUST."
Discussion and performance by **LENKA LECHTENBERG,** musicologist.

~

3:00 PM Jewish Genealogical Society
Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York

Film *"SHTETL."* A Holocaust survivor confronts memories of Nazi terror in the small Polish town of Bransk. A three-hour documentary followed by discussion with filmmaker **MARIAN MARZYNSKI** at **7:30 pm.**

7:00 PM Temple Emanu-El
120 Old Colony Road, Willowdale

"WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST: WOMEN SURVIVORS IN THE POST-HOLOCAUST ERA - REBUILDING NEW LIVES." **PROFESSOR YAFFA ELIACH.**

~

7:30 PM Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church
291 Cosbourne Avenue, Toronto

Film ***"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"*** This film tells the story of a student who took a stand against racism, and demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Youth program.

7:30 PM Art Gallery of Ontario
Hal Jackman Hall
317 Dundas Street West, Toronto

"DECISION AND IDENTITY: NAZI ART AND THE SHAPING OF A NATIONAL CHRISTIANITY." Hitler identified himself with a German messiah who would accomplish the redemption of his people with the arrival of an eternal kingdom. He conceived this kingdom as a work of art. **DR. ERIC MICHAUD,** Professor of Art History, University of Strasbourg II, France. This lecture is supported by The Harry Crowe Memorial Fund, Atkinson College, York University and the Art Gallery of Ontario.

ADDED PROGRAM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

10:30 AM West Ellesmere United Church
37 Marchington Circle, Scarborough
(Pharmacy & Ellesmere)

"FAITH AFTER THE HOLOCAUST." **RABBI DOV MARMUR,** Senior Rabbi, Holy Blossom Temple. Discussion following worship service.

PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC LIBRARIES
All libraries will feature a Survivor's Personal Testimony

MILLIKEN MILLS COMMUNITY LIBRARY
7600 Kennedy Road, Unionville (at Milliken Mills High School)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - 7:30 PM

BATHURST CLARK RESOURCE LIBRARY
900 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 - 1:30 PM

RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY
1 Atkinson Road, Richmond Hill
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 - 7:30 PM

BARBARA FRUM LIBRARY
20 Covington Road, North York
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 - 1:45 PM
"MY CITY LODZ." **MORRIS J. GRANATSTEIN,** Canadian poet and essayist, reflects on his early boyhood experiences in pre-World War II Lodz, Poland.

THORNHILL COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
7755 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 - 7:30 PM

WYCHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
1431 Bathurst Street, Toronto
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 1:15 PM

DUFFERIN CLARK LIBRARY
1441 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 1:30 PM

RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY
1 Atkinson Road, Richmond Hill
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 2:00 PM

NORTHERN DISTRICT LIBRARY
44 Orchard View, Toronto
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 2:00 PM

OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 27

PHOTOGRAPHIC NARRATIVE OF THE 1994 MARCH OF THE LIVING

by **NIR BAREKET**

Nir Bareket, internationally recognized photographer for the past thirty years, accompanied the Canadian contingent of the 1994 March of the Living, documenting the various stages of the journey as 350 Jewish teenagers became gradually submerged, and eventually overwhelmed by a process that transformed family and cultural history into a live experience. Since 1988, the March of the Living has been bringing together thousands of Jewish youth from around the world to Poland and Israel.

The Market Gallery of the City of Toronto Archives
South St. Lawrence Market - Second Floor
95 Front Street
(416) 392-7604

Wednesday to Friday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday: Noon - 4:00 pm

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 24

STILL THE NIGHT

featuring

THERESA TOVA and **LIZA BALKAN**

Theresa Tova

A unique musical told through the eyes of a daughter of survivors who grew up hearing stories of the rich cultural life of Warsaw Jewry. This is the story of young lives once filled with innocence, opera and the Yiddish theatre transformed by espionage, survival and courage. Ms. Tova revives popular songs from the Yiddish vaudeville and Klezmer traditions, along with unforgettable songs written in the ghettos between 1942-1945.

Written by Theresa Tova • Musical Direction: John Alcorn

Theatre Passe Muraille
16 Ryerson Avenue, Toronto
For information call (416) 504-7529

NOVEMBER 9-17

20th ANNUAL *JEWISH BOOK FAIR*

Presenting a week of programs featuring top authors in their fields. More than 13,000 books in English, Yiddish and Hebrew will be on sale as well as cassettes, videos and CD-ROMs.

Bathurst Jewish Centre
4588 Bathurst Street, North York
Call (416) 636-1880 ext. 281

NOVEMBER 11 & NOVEMBER 13

"AFTER THE WAR" by **CAROL MATAS**.

Ms. Matas is the well-known author of books for children and young adults. She will read excerpts from her latest book, an unforgettable story about Ruth, a Jewish teenager who survives World War II and then embarks on a long and dangerous journey that leads her to a new land ... and a new life. Discussion follows.

Program for schools. Grades 5 and up. $5 per student. Pre-registration required. Call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301.

Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street
10:00 am & 1:30 pm

NOVEMBER 18

16th Annual Teachers' Seminar on the Holocaust
"GOODNESS VS. EVIL, INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY DURING THE HOLOCAUST: EJSZYSZKI, LITHUANIA, AND LE CHAMBON, FRANCE." A look at contrasting behaviour during the Holocaust. Keynote speaker **YAFFA ELIACH**, Professor of History and Literature, Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College. Professor Eliach is a pioneer scholar in Holocaust studies and creator of the acclaimed "Tower of Life" in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.
$35 registration. To register, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301.

Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

NOVEMBER 5-30

"VISAS FOR LIFE: THE RIGHTEOUS DIPLOMATS"

A photographic exhibit in memory of two extraordinary men who, through their courageous efforts, saved thousands of Jews during World War II. **Sempo Sugihara** was the Japanese Consul in Kovno, Lithuania and **Aristides de Sousa Mendes**, was the Portuguese Consul in Bordeaux, France.

Opening November 5 - 7:30 pm

Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery
Columbus Centre
901 Lawrence Avenue West, Toronto

Tuesday - Thursday:	11:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday:	11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday:	11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Free Parking - Wheelchair accessible

Suitable for all ages

Call (416) 789-7011 ext. 245 for more information.

Visit *Jewish Toronto*, our community's web site at
http://www.feduja.org
for the latest information and program changes.

A complete listing of youth programs at colleges, universities and synagogues will be published in the October 31st issue of the *Canadian Jewish News*.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND MEMORIAL CENTRE OF TORONTO

For more than a decade, the Holocaust Centre has been dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews murdered during twelve years of Nazi tyranny. Committed to the advancement of public awareness of the Holocaust and its lessons, it offers visitors of all ages an opportunity to share in the memory of the past and the responsibility of the future.

Since its opening, more than half a million visitors from the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and South Africa, including 150,000 Jewish and non-Jewish students from across Canada have visited the Centre, learning the important lessons of tolerance, understanding and acceptance.

Visitors view audio-visual presentations that portray the experiences of European Jews before, during and after World War II; see showcases containing memorabilia that enable them to witness first-hand the horror of the Holocaust; and experience the quiet and reflective Hall of Memories, where families have chosen to pay tribute to their loved ones by dedicating a tile in their memory.

School groups also have the opportunity to hear the personal testimony of one of the many Holocaust survivor speakers whose shining example of courage and dignity serves as a role model for a new generation.

The Centre has recently opened its new Holocaust Resource Centre. With its extensive library and hi-tech multi-media equipment with access to the worldwide Internet, it will further serve all segments of the community.

The Holocaust Centre is located in the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Monday-Thursday:	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday:	9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday:	11:00 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday, Statutory and Religious holidays:	Closed

Groups and schools by appointment
Call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301
Admission Free • Donations Welcome

The members of the **HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK** Sub-Committee of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee gratefully acknowledge the many donors and sponsors whose generosity safeguards the future of Holocaust Education.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK Sub-Committee - 1996

Sylvia Bornstein
Yael Spier Cohen
Howard Driman
Jenny Eisenstein
Robert Engel
Miriam Frankel
David Globerman
Elaine Goldberg
Norine Goldberg
Ron Greenberg
Catherine Kohm
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Mytie Wasserstein
Gertrude Zack

Eleanor Getzler
Chairperson, Holocaust Remembrance Committee

Michael Herman & Doron Opher
Chairpersons, HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

Pnina Zilberman
Director, Holocaust Remembrance Committee

Voluntary donations at the door
All proceeds to further Holocaust Education

FOR INFORMATION CALL
(416) 635-2883 ext. 153 / 301

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UJA FEDERATION

REMEMBER זכור

We regret any errors or omissions due to publication deadlines.

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The Canadian Jewish news

56 Pages | Thursday, October 24, 1996 | Cheshvan 11, 5757 | 75c

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*conditions apply
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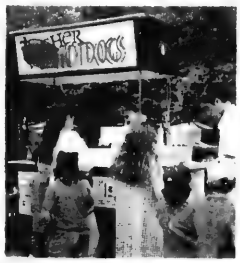
(514) 875-8900

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Doctors told to present a united front against government cutbacks. *Page 3*



First-ever kosher food concession at Canada's Wonderland an overwhelming success. *Page 15*

Coast to Coast

Quebec gov't. should cut funding to private schools, report says. *Page 24*

Israel & the Jewish World

Strains creep into Israel-Jordan relationship. *Analysis.* *Page 34*

TAB news

New poetry anthology celebrates the love for Jerusalem. *Page 41*

Health news

CJC executive director lambasts TVOntario documentary on ritual male circumcision. *Page 50*

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Israel wants talks with Syria

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai played good cop, bad cop last week.

Netanyahu spoke softly and urged Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to talk peace, while Mordechai warned him not to underestimate the might of the Israeli army.

"It's true that the defence establishment is monitoring with seven eyes what is occurring in Syria in case Syrian intentions do not match ours," Netanyahu said. "But our hope is that Syria understands that escalation is not good for either side and that the correct thing to do is to return to the negotiating table.

Continued on page 36

FROM THE MOUTHS OF CHILDREN
Under the watchful and protective eye of Israeli soldiers, young children urged the government last week not to redeploy the IDF from Hebron. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Yuval Rabin speaks out for peace

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

Exclusive

JERUSALEM — You caught a glimpse of his face at the funeral. You heard him say Kaddish at his father's grave. But aside from that painfully uttered prayer, you probably never heard the voice of Yitzhak Rabin's only son. Now you are about to.

One year after the assassination, 41-year-old Yuval Rabin has begun to speak out.

After leading an intensely private life, he has thrown himself into the political arena, becoming a spokesperson for Dor Shalom (Peace Generation), a grassroots organization of the left. He is on the body's five-member board and is touted as its likely leader.

"Dor Shalom arose as an act of protest against the murder of my father," explains Rabin. "It's made up of young people who are not part of the political establishment. They went through much the same process that I did – but without the family dimension. It was a feeling of watching the country headed in a direction that you can't accept, and feeling that you can no longer just stay home and complain.

Continued on page 35

Free Trade bill introduced

OTTAWA — International Trade Minister Art Eggleton has introduced legislation to implement the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement, which was signed last summer.

Bill C-61 would remove tariffs on a variety of industrial products of Canadian and Israeli origin starting Jan. 1, 1997. Only women's swimwear – at Canada's request – and some cotton fabrics – at Israel's request – will continue to be subject to tariffs, and even those will be phased out. Duties will be eliminated or lowered on a variety of agricultural and fish products exported by both countries. Both sides have excluded dairy, poultry and egg products.

Eggleton told the Commons that Canada and Israel's "strong bonds of friendship will now be complemented by stronger economic ties."

The minister also said that Canada intends to extend the same trade benefits to the Palestinian Authority.

PRESENTING CREDENTIALS
Governor General Romeo LeBlanc greets Adina Sultan, wife of David Sultan (r), Israel's new ambassador to Canada, following last week's presentation of Sultan's credentials. *[Randy Stille photo]*

EARLY DEADLINES

Because of an early production schedule, advertising deadlines for the Nov. 7 issue will be Tuesday, Oct. 29 at noon, for classified and organizational ads, and Wednesday, Oct. 30 at noon for display ads.

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Zion's early pioneer rhapsodies — please see page 9

The News in Brief

CANADA

Arad's Disappearance

MONTREAL – Canadian Jewish Congress has expressed disappointment on the 10th anniversary of the day airman Ron Arad joined the ranks of Israeli soldiers missing in action.

It has called on the Canadian government to press authorities in Iran and Syria to repatriate all missing Israeli servicemen.

Free Trade Support

OTTAWA – Joe Volpe, parliamentary secretary to the minister of health, called on all parties and members of Parliament to support the government's legislation to establish free trade between Canada and Israel.

Pachter Honored

ST. CATHARINES – Contemporary artist, Charles Pachter, will receive an honorary doctorate at Brock University's fall convocation this month in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the arts.

Pachter has spent over 30 years exploring the complexities of the Canadian identity.

ISRAEL

Policy Protest

JERUSALEM – A group of 33 reserve soldiers and officers from elite Israel Defence Force combat units has blamed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies for waning motivation to serve.

The letter published in Israeli newspapers said Netanyahu's policies were destroying "the hope of peace" and were dragging the country into an unjustified war.

Assimilation Top Threat

JERUSALEM – Assimilation is the No. 1 threat facing Jews today, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said last week at the kickoff of A Century of Zionism, marking 100 years since the first Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland.

The campaign of events is taking place under the banner "Zionism is about doing."

Speaking at a reception at the president's residence in Jerusalem, Netanyahu said that 100 years ago, anti-Semitism was the No. 1 problem.

Call for Clemency

JERUSALEM – An international group of scientists, lawyers and human rights activists gathered last week for a conference in Tel Aviv, where they called on Israel to release Mordechai Vanunu.

Vanunu is serving an 18-year sentence for disclosing Israel's nuclear weapons capabilities to *The Times of London*.

Non-confidence Vote

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu withstood a Knesset no-confidence vote last week that was submitted by the opposition in the wake of last month's violence in theWest Bank and Gaza Strip.

Netanyahu's governing coalition defeated the motion in a vote of 55-49.

WORLD

Nazi Massacre

PUSHKIN, Russia – A ceremony was held here last week to mark the 55th anniversary of the mass murder of 600 Jews by Nazi soldiers in this small town, which is now considered to be the northernmost reach of the Holocaust.

Synagogue Bombing

BUDAPEST – A group called the Hungarian Will of Gods has taken responsibility for two bombings in Budapest near Europe's largest synagogue, according to the Hungarian daily *Mai Nap*.

Austrian Elections

NEW YORK – The strong showing of the far-right Freedom party last week in Austria's elections for the European Parliament was greeted ominously throughout Europe, with some warning that the party's leader could become another Hitler.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday October 22, 1971

LOW POINT IN CAIRO-MOSCOW UNDERSTANDING

The fact that President Sadat of Egypt is taking his War Minister and other defence advisers with him to Moscow is seen in Jerusalem as supporting the reports that the Russians have not delivered the promised military equipment which Cairo expected.

Sources in Jerusalem are at pains to emphasize, however, that a possible slowdown in Soviet supplies does not affect Egypt's war potential. This is probably meant as a hint from the Russians to the Egyptians that they are dependent on the Kremlin's goodwill for their defence and attack capabilities.

*****

KOSYGIN VISIT INSPIRES MASS PROTEST

Over 10,000 Jewish people from across Canada rallied in Ottawa's Strathcona Park and sang and danced through the streets, protesting the treatment of Jews in the U.S.S.R.

A human barricade of police cordoned an entire block surrounding the Soviet Embassy. There were no incidents of any kind throughout the demonstration which coincided with Soviet Premier Kosygin's visit. Cries of "Let My People Go!" could be heard blocks away.

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Doctors told to stand united against cutbacks

'We can no longer subsidize health care'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Doctors in Ontario have to present a united front if their protest against the Mike Harris government is to be effective, physicians at a United Jewish Appeal physicians division meeting agreed recently.

"If we lose this fight, we will lose our economic freedom forever," warned Dr. David Mendelssohn, a nephrologist at the Toronto Hospital, chair of the Ontario Specialists Coalition and a member of the Ontario Medical Association negotiating team.

Physicians, both specialists and family practitioners, are planning to refuse to treat new patients as of Nov. 1, a date changed from Oct. 1, to allow time for more negotiations.

The job action would not affect genuine emergency care, hospital care or treatment of those already on a doctor's patient list.

Deciding what constitutes an emergency would rest with the resident or physician on call in a hospital emergency ward, or with the family physician, who is assumed to be the entry point to the health care system.

Mendelssohn described the efforts over the years to find a solution to the doctors' ongoing battles with successive governments over compensation — battles he described as "a history of three governments and broken promises."

The Liberal, NDP and Conservative governments have consistently broken all their agreements with the physicians, he charged, including placing caps on fees, instituting programs and committing to a contract.

"Ontario is the only province where the doctors work without a contract," Mendelsohhn pointed out.

Physicians, he asserted, "can no longer subsidize health care [in Ontario]," he said.

Obstetricians struck the first blow against government policies when the government refused to subsidize malpractice insurance.

(Obstetricians are considered especially vulnerable to malpractice suits because of the many things that can go wrong in the course of labor and delivery. As a result, their insurance premiums are especially high.)

Many have simply refused to deliver babies, except in high-risk situations.

Obstetricians were joined by orthopedic surgeons, Mendelssohn said, and other specialists felt that their colleagues "should not be left in the lurch."

The government must recognize that the number of patients and the demands on the health care system are increasing, and that doctors are forced to see an increasing number of patients, not just to maintain their income, but because of demand.

"Doctors are no longer willing to work for free," he said.

In the event of the job action, he urged doctors to cooperate with each other, to even out the patient load and especially, to support the action.

During the question period, the physicians' resentment was clear. Speaker after speaker objected to the cap on income, the fact that when extra-billing was banned nothing concrete was put in place as a substitute, and especially, what they consider the untrustworthiness of successive governments.

Several asked what the point of the job action was, when the government could not be trusted to implement any concessions.

A suggestion for a system of co-payment or private funding drew some support, although former OMA president Michael Wyman noted that recent polls showed the public was adamantly opposed to such a system.

Mendelssohn asked for a show of hands as to how many would support a complete withdrawal of services. Less than a handful agreed, although there was almost complete agreement about withdrawal of services to new patients.

(As the paper went to press, the government and OMA negotiators announced a tentative agreement, which will be presented to the physicians for ratification next week.

The agreement reduces fee clawbacks, but also prevents new doctors from practising in what the government considers over-serviced areas.

The agreement is contingent upon all service withdrawal and cutbacks being stopped.)

Hospital restructuring 'chaotic' conference told

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Widespread restructuring involving hospital and bed closures has led to shorter hospital stays, a trend that can have serious consequences, particularly for the elderly.

A conference titled Getting Out of Hospital: The Long Road Home recently addressed that issue in order to assist community agencies and families struggling to meet patients' needs for post-hospital care.

More than 300 health care providers, community service organizations and seniors' advocacy groups from across Ontario attended the one-day session at Holy Blossom Temple.

Case study dramatizations, presentations by medical, social work and community experts, and round-table discussions identified problems confronting caregivers and the frustration felt by those on the receiving end.

Ethel Meade, a member of the Task Force on Transitional Care, an advocacy coalition that has lobbied for provision of intermediate care for seniors discharged from hospitals before they are well enough to care for themselves, said the goal of the conference was to generate creative strategies to cope with the situation.

She said the coalition was formed 2½ years ago after a wom-

[Cont'd. on page 16]

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Quebec Jews seek solidarity

At the corner of Victoria and Cote Ste Catherine in Montreal are the offices of the Communauté Sépharade du Québec (CSQ), a two-storey brown brick building which sits in full sunlight, absorbing the energy of the day, as the sun moves across the sky.

During my visit last week to Montreal, I had occasion to go the offices of the CSQ and to meet with the officers: president Maryse Ohayon, director general James Dahan, director of public relations Elie Benchétrit, and the editor of *La Voix Sépharade*, Judah Castiel. I had met formally with the leaders of the CSQ last year and it was important to visit again. We had much to talk about.

I wanted my CSQ hosts to know that in my ongoing effort to extend the reach, the breadth and the readership of *The CJN*, I place a high priority on French language news reporting and feature writing in Montreal.

* * *

The CSQ is commemorating its 30th year. It is the "inheritor" of the Association sépharade francophone (ASF) which was founded in 1966 and whose first major achievement was the establishment of l'Ecole Maimonide, the first Jewish French-language day school in Canada.

Though the history of the CSQ is relatively recent, that of the Sephardim in Quebec is not. The first Jewish immigrants to Canada in the 18th century, were in fact, Sephardim. And as I have written previously on this page, the oldest synagogue in Canada is the Spanish and Portuguese Shearith Israel of Montreal, founded in 1768.

Today, more than 25,000 Sephardi Jews live in Montreal, the vast majority of whom arrived in Quebec in the mid 1950s from Iran, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel and North Africa.

To mark the CSQ's 30th anniversary, a gala celebration is planned for Dec. 1 at the Shaar Hashomayim.

* * *

On the question of Quebec's separation from Canada, the Jewish community in Quebec is undivided. Like the overall Jewish community of which it is a flourishing and integral part, the Sephardi community is overwhelmingly federalist and anti-separatist.

Given the united position of the community on the possibility of Quebec separation, it was particularly unfortunate and regrettable that the editorial in the Sept. 11 issue of *The Suburban*, a weekly tabloid in west-end Montreal, tried to drive a wedge between the Sephardi and the non-Sephardi Jewish communities.

In an attack against the Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) handling of the "matzahgate" affair, the editorial writer bifurcated the Jewish community into the majority who are English speaking and the minority who are not. His attack against the CJC was direct; his bifurcation of the community, however, was indirect and thus insidious.

"It [the CJC] has always advocated cooperation with those hostile *to most of its [the CJC's] constituents' existence as English speakers* and to the existence of other anglophones allied to the Jewish community...

"Of course, the French speaking Sephardi community favors cooperation and there is an understandable reluctance to take a position that might divide the community. *But there comes a point when one must act in the majority interest, in this case the majority Jewish interest.*" (My emphasis)

Setting aside the merits, if any, of the writer's accusations against both the CJC and the Sephardi community, it was unconscionable for him to differentiate the interests of the majority English speaking from the minority French speaking Jews. In the struggle to save Canada, their interests are one and the same, indivisible, as has been stated and restated publicly countless times.

Despite the efforts of some, the Sephardi community will not so easily, so cavalierly, be cut away from the overall Jewish community. Nor will the CJC from the Sephardi community.

* * *

The experience these days of the Jewish community in Montreal is, emotionally, probably the Diaspora experience that is the closest equivalent to the emotional experience of the Jewish community in Israel. I am not equating the two existential or geopolitical situations in any manner whatsoever. The search for political stability within a united Canada, though important and worthy of our preoccupation, is not nearly as fraught with the history, the metaphysics or the life-and-death implications as is the search for peace and security in the Middle East.

Nevertheless, I do wish to point out that, as in Israel, the Jews of Quebec are constantly tuned into, constantly reacting to, constantly assessing and constantly debating political developments. And, as in Israel, wherever and whenever Jews gather in groups of two or more, they engage in animated discussion. Usually, the first topic of discussion is "the situation." The "situation" of course, refers to the altered, uneasy atmosphere felt here since the referendum last year.

Everyone bears within him a small but disquieting inner agitation, like a loved one's worry that cannot quite be relieved, permitting the soul only occasional rest, and placing it, thus, in a state of permanent fatigue.

But, like its counterpart in Israel, the community in Quebec is hardy, determined to live a thriving, diverse, highly organized life, albeit with their social and political antennae fully engaged. And, again, like its counterpart in Israel, the community in Quebec requires of the rest of Canada's Jews two things: understanding and solidarity. *MBD*

Greater Toronto Area

Ukrainian Jewish community dying: shaliach

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The once-mighty Jewish community of Ukraine is dying, says the head of the Jewish Agency for Israel's office in that country.

Fully 65 percent of Jews leaving Ukraine are under 25, and over one-third still in the country are over 65, says Joseph Traupiansky, who also heads the Jewish Agency's operations in the neighboring former Soviet republic of Moldova.

"Jewish life is coming to an end in Ukraine," Traupiansky told *The CJN* during a recent stopover in Toronto, where he addressed community leaders on the fate of Ukrainian Jewry. "I never met a Jew who doesn't want to leave."

There are seven direct flights to Israel leaving Ukrainian cities every week, and each is packed, Traupiansky said. The Agency operates in Kiev, Odessa, Lvov, Kharkov and Dnepropetrovsk, and employs a staff of 26 to teach Hebrew, Jewish culture and traditions, and run youth programs.

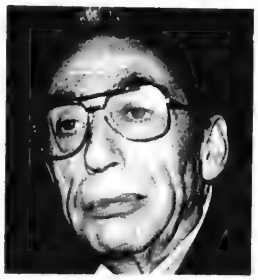
Apart from helping to prepare Jews depart, the agency's mandate, Traupiansky says, is nothing less than "to save the Jewish people."

Some 2,000 Jews continue to flee Ukraine every month, leaving behind a community of roughly 375,000 — a dramatic drop from the half-million or so who lived there when the republic achieved independence from Moscow in late 1991. About half go to Israel; Traupiansky calls it "the new exodus."

The reason Jews are leaving is the same one cited by the roughly six million Ukrainians (Traupiansky says that's the government's own estimate) who say they want out: economic and social chaos.

"Things are very unstable. It's a big crisis there." The day will come, he said, when the Jewish population will level off at between 30,000 and 50,000.

Wire service stories from Ukraine last week reported that most Jews are going to emigrate,



Joseph Traupiansky

and that those who will stay are likely to assimilate. Pensioners make up 60 percent of Jews in small communities, the reports said.

Anti-Semitism no longer plays a role in the decision to leave, Traupiansky believes. The Jewish community's relations with the government are "good," and anti-Semitism exists "only on the street."

The same holds true, he points out, in Moldova, a small landlocked country between Ukraine and Romania. Over 70,000 Jews have left since independence, leaving between 30,000 and 40,000 behind. There's one direct flight a week to Israel from the capital, Kishinev, and it too is always full.

Traupiansky, 65, is a pioneer of the Jewish Agency, having opened the organization's first office in the Soviet Union, in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius in late 1989. That was two years before the country collapsed and things were a lot riskier then. But one measure of how far the agency has come is that it now has offices in 140 cities in the former Soviet Union.

In Russia, the agency is still working to regain its accreditation, which Moscow abruptly cancelled last April.

WILLING HELPERS

Members of the board and other supporters of the newly-inaugurated Toronto chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom (416-780-0034) gathered recently to help raise funds for the Israeli service. Magen David Adom provides Israel with 24-hour emergency medical, blood and ambulance service as well as maintaining 200 emergency clinics nationwide. Seen here are (back row, from left): Sylvia Walt and Gerald Berley. Front row (from left): Libby Joffe, Hilda Lurie, Sonia Hurwitz, Helen Katz, Nellie Miller, Sadie Bloom, Sybil Berley, Jeanette Podolsky and Meyer Hurwitz.

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Reaction low-key to Star stories

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Reaction in Jewish circles has been low-key to recent *Toronto Star* articles detailing controversial Canadian charitable donations to Jewish settlers in Israel's territories.

As of last week, the *Star* had received just five complaints about the stories, written by the paper's Middle East correspondent, Martin Regg Cohn.

But, stressed *Star* ombudsman Don Sellar, "I don't measure the severity of complaints by the number of telephone calls I get."

Cohn's investigation claimed that Canadian donors are funneling millions of dollars to Jewish settlements in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights, areas over which the Canadian government has never recognized Israel's authority.

The stories stressed that it's not illegal for Canadians to send money to the territories — only to claim it as a tax-deductible charitable donation, and if charities issue tax receipts.

The stories pointed out that Ottawa and most other governments regard Jewish settlements in lands captured by Israel in the 1967 war as obstacles to peace and "contrary to international law." Thus, according to the *Star*, Canadian law says a registered charity cannot operate against stated public policy.

The *Star* devoted a large amount of space — 108 column inches — to the stories, spread over three days.

Of the five calls of complaint, Sellar said, one accused the *Star* of showing a consistent anti-Israel bias; another said he was glad to have cancelled his subscription; one pointed out that they should be refered to as "Israeli settlements," not "Jewish settlements;" and one said the stories seemed to imply there is something wrong with sending money to settlements across the Green Line.

"There was not heavy reaction. It was very light," Sellar said.

He said "it's a fact" the *Star* features Mideast news prominently because of "high reader interest."

As well, "foreign correspondents try to write about things that are relevant back home."

Sellar stressed he works at arm's length from the paper.

Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, said he received two calls of complaint, while B'nai Brith Canada reported none.

The stories reflected the *Star*'s "consistent and regretable bias when it comes to Israel," remarked Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress's Ontario region.

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CREATIVE ARTIST

Dora Jacobson, 92, a resident of Baycrest's Jewish Home for the Aged, is an enthusiastic member of the JHA's Creative Arts Studio and attends "every time it's open." Jacobson, along with other participants, is preparing paintings, ceramics and other artworks for the Baycrest annual creative arts sale on Nov. 5 and 6 at Baycrest Centre.

Meridor set to address Israel Bonds conference

TORONTO – Israeli Finance Minister Dan Meridor will be the keynote speaker at the State of Israel Bonds Fall Leadership Conference at the Four Seasons on Oct. 27 and Oct 28.

He will be speaking at the Jerusalem 3000 tribute dinner honoring the George A. Cohon family on Sunday evening.

A panel of Israeli experts including Dan Gilerman, chair of the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce; Dan Proper, CEO of the Osem Group; and Raffi Sadeh, vice-president of the Israel Hotel Association, will speak on Oct. 27 at 2 p.m. at an event which is free and open to the general public.

One of the highlights of Monday's agenda is a breakfast briefing with John Loftus, the former prosecutor of the Nazi War Crimes Unit, U.S. Justice Department and the author of *The Secret War Against the Jews*.

Scheduled to speak at a testimonial luncheon in honor of Dr. Ruhama Goldstein, who has served for the past three years as chair of Israel Bonds' North American Women's Division, is Gerda Weissman Klein, subject of the Oscar winning documentary *One Survivor Remembers*.

Also addressing delegates will be International Trade Minister Arthur Eggleton.

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Reject Bisaillon

The government of Quebec last week received a report from a 13-member panel chaired by Robert Bisaillon calling for the gradual reduction of the subsidies it presently gives to private schools for the general studies component of their programs. Indeed the commission chair has publicly stated that he favors the total elimination of the subsidies.

The minister of education, Pauline Marois, will now deliberate upon Bisaillon's recommendations. And while she does, the Jewish community in Quebec will be holding its breath.

At present, approximately 7,000 students are enrolled in 22 Jewish day schools in Montreal. The system is regarded as among the best anywhere in the Diaspora. One need not be a prophet to foresee a severe decline in student enrolment should the cost of education increase to the degree it inevitably must without public funding.

It is hard to understand the logic of the commission's recommendations.

If the aim is to save money, as the report claims, the commission's recommendations will wind up costing the province more money. The subsidy per student given to the private schools amounts to approximately half of the cost of educating a student in the public schools. If the subsidy is reduced or eliminated, it stand to reason that a large number of the students currently enrolled in private schools will be forced to leave. Most if not all of them will find their way into the public school system at twice the cost per child that the public is spending on them now.

If the aim is to require private school parents to shoulder more of the burden in educating children with special needs, as the report claims, the commission's recommendations will achieve the opposite result. By significantly increasing the cost of private school education, the majority of the parents of children with special needs will simply remove their children from the private schools and place them instead, in the public schools. Again, the ultimate cost to the taxpayer will increase.

If the aim is to achieve a "fairer, more democratic and egalitarian society" as the report claims, the commission's recommendations will have missed the mark by a wide and dispiriting margin. They will achieve a society which is more secular, in which the rights of minority communities to fully embrace, practise and teach their religious beliefs will be diminished. Is this "fairer" to the minorities?

They will achieve a society in which the minorities are deprived of a privilege that has been conferred on them for decades, a privilege which has been one of the key instruments in enhancing their sense of belonging and participation in the greater society. Is this more "democratic"?

They will achieve a society in which religious education is rendered unaffordable for the majority of those who seek it for their children, in which the ability of the minority communities to transmit their traditions and the pathways of their heritage to the next generation is severely restricted. Is this more "egalitarian" to the minorities?

Though holding its breath, the Jewish community is not standing still. The Association of Jewish Day Schools has already mobilized to attempt to persuade the government not to reduce its funding to the private schools.

The Bisaillon recommendations will not achieve the financial or social aims which purport to be their objective. Moreover, a decision to reduce, let alone eliminate, assistance to the private schools, would send an electric jolt through a social and political atmosphere already charged with feelings of vulnerability and suspicion on the part of the minorities.

We therefore urge the govement of Quebec to reject the Bisaillon recommendations.

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Oct. 22, 1776 Lazarus David died. He was the first Jew buried in a Jewish cemetery in Montreal. He had donated the land for the cemetery on St. Janvier Street. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

La Presse denies Galganov's allegation

In perusing the Sept. 26 edition of your newspaper, I was greatly surprised to have read, in the article entitled "We're fighting for national unity," statements made by Mr. Howard Galganov which characterize the attitude of *La Presse* and of its journalist, Mr. Gilles Paquin, as being "anti-Semitic" and as a "form of intimidation."

Those statements are serious and gratuitous accusations, without merit whatsoever, and cause undue prejudice both to *La Presse* and its journalist, Mr. Gilles Paquin.

La Presse has never written, nor has ever intended to suggest, that there are different classes of Quebecers based on ethnic, religious or cultural origin.

Out of fairness and for the sake of professional ethic, I would greatly appreciate it if you would publish the present letter and indicate publicly that you distance yourself from Mr. Galganov's statements.

Claude Masson
Vice-president and Assistant Publisher
La Presse
Montreal

Editor's note: The opinion expressed in the article about La Presse *was that of Mr. Galganov and not* The CJN.

World media biased against Jews and Israel

In his book *The New Middle East*, Shimon Peres appears to dismiss the book of Ecclesiastes, which states: "Whatever has been is what will be, and whatever has been done is what will be."

That being said, I cannot resist comparing the media's treatment in the 1930s and 1940s when reporting about the Jews, with that of today. Back then, the media engaged in suppressing, ignoring, doubting and questioning the news that came from Europe with respect to the persecution of the Jews. Prof. Deborah E. Lipstadt, in her painstakingly documented book *Beyond Belief* describes in minute detail the distortion and cover-up engaged in by the media in the United States at the time, thereby minimizing any sympathy for the Jews. Only after the magnitude of the disaster became obvious, did the truth finally surface.

The media treatment Israel has received is not very different from the above. The last 50 years have witnessed continuous Arab aggression against Israel by military, economic and political means. While the Jewish state has irrigated the desert, absorbed millions of new immigrants and developed economically, it has nonetheless remained the pariah country of the globe (count the number of United Nations resolutions). Throughout this period, the media has again filtered information to reflect Israel in the worst possible light while omitting its remarkable achievements.

Ramy Dishy
Toronto

Rebirth of Israel at right time

I recently read the excellent book by Bernard Wasserstein entitled *Vanishing Diaspora*. The changes in world Jewry have been significant in the last 60 years, and will more than likely continue to be significant for at least the next 40 years.

In 1940 as the horrors of the Holocaust were becoming reality, Europe still had close to 10 million Jews and was the cultural centre of world Jewry. Due to the Holocaust, emigration, the effects of assimilation and low birth rates, the European Jewish population could fall below one million by the year 2040.

North America's and South America's Jewish population is also decreasing at a rapid pace (mostly due to assimilation and low birth rates). In the near future, the Jewish population could decrease by 50 percent if current trends continue. For the most part, the Jews left will live in large cities and tend to be more observant. As for the relatively few Diaspora Jews in Asia, Africa and Australia, their number will also show further decline in the years to come.

There is one bright spot and only one real hope for continued Jewish survival. The State of Israel, which only had half a million Jews in 1940 (then Palestine), now is quickly becoming the country with the largest Jewish population (overtaking the United States). With continued immigration and high birth rates, Israel's population could reach the 10 million mark by the year 2040 (with 75 percent of the population being Jewish). Due to both external and internal reasons, the decline of the Diaspora Jews is occurring at an alarming rate. Thankfully the rebirth of the State of Israel has just begun.

Dr. Edan F. Orvitz
St. Catharines

Kolomyya not in Bukovina

Just a minor geographic correction. It may indeed be a long journey from Kolomyya to Toronto (*CJN*, Oct. 3), but Kolomyya is not, and never was, in the Bukovina. Rather, Kolomyya (also spelled Kolomyja and Kolomiya) is on the Galician side of the border between Bukovina and Galicia, both these provinces having been before World War I part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the war, Bukovina came under Romanian rule, while Galicia became part of Poland.

Ike Katz
Toronto

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"From the outside, it is hard to know the nature of a human being and that of a melon." *(Ladino proverb)*

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Rhapsodizing over Zion's landscape

By NAOMI BELL

Anu Nih'yeh Harishonim.
We will be the first, we will be the builders.
We will plant trees on the rocks, on the hills and in the valleys.
We will pave roads; our hammers will ring out with song.
Awake, chalutz, and get to work!

So sang the *chalutzim*, the pioneers of modern Israel. While their story is well documented in history books and personal memoirs, a vivid portrait can also be drawn from the songs they sang. Through a careful examination of the texts, it is possible to gain insight into the hopes and dreams of these young activists, their struggles and accomplishments and the ideals that propelled them.

The late 19th century was a time of rising nationalism throughout Europe, when people turned to their past history and folkways in their passion for self-determination. The Haskala, the movement of modern Jewish enlightenment, had a profound influence on Zionist expression. With its revival of Hebrew as a modern literary language and its depiction of the glories of ancient Palestine, it evoked a chain of historic associations and inspired young people to return to the land of their ancestors. When the *chovevei Tziyon* — lovers of Zion met in their small groups, they sang songs of wistful yearning and proud determination. They rhapsodized over the beautiful landscape they had never seen and dreamed of a utopian existence in Zion.

Many of the early Zionist songs were in Yiddish, the language of daily discourse for Jews in the Russian Pale of Settlement. For the most part, these Yiddish songs were sad and wistful, mourning the loss of Zion in ancient history and dreaming of a return to the Holy Land.

The beloved folk poet Mark Warshawski wrote a touching song about an old man who dreams of Zion, but has no hope of reaching it himself. It epitomizes the gentle, wistful tone of the early Zion songs.

Hounded and driven from my home, with a wound in my heart, I remain alone, without family or friend. Everyone has dispersed, one here and one there and, in twilight of my years, I sing a song of Zion
Zion, Zion, what a wonderful name!
Zion, Zion, what a holy word!
Old trees, beautiful flowers, grow in your holy land.
Great God, please grant that I may kiss your earth some day.
If I am worthy, let me kneel beside the graves and weep at the ancient Wall.
But I am old and poor, and will never live to see Zion!

The year 1882 brought the first mass exodus of Russian Jews to Palestine. Although most of the 7,000 Jews of the first aliyah were victims of czarist oppression, several hundred were also *chovevei Tziyon*, and already imbued with the ideal of return and rebuilding. Avigdor Hameiri's famous Hebrew poem about Jerusalem captured the feelings of the early Zionists, who saw themselves as wanderers who have finally come home. It remained the most beloved song about Jerusalem until 1967, when it was replaced in popularity by Naomi Shemer's *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*.

Pioneers preparing to drain swamps on Kibbutz Amir north of Lake Kinneret. Photo excerpted from *Israel: Images & Ideas*, Viewfinder Publications, New York, 1988.

From the top of Mount Scopus I bow down to you. Shalom, O Jerusalem. For 100 generations have I dreamed of you and yearned to behold the light of your countenance. Thousands of exiles from the ends of the world raise their eyes to you, temple of the Lord, royal city! Jerusalem, Jerusalem, shine your countenance upon your son! From your ruins shall I rebuild you! I shall not move from here!

In the Russian Pale of Settlement, Jews had been barred from working on the land. They were tradespeople or merchants, or scholars removed from the concerns of everyday life. The hard labor of digging and ploughing and working by the sweat of one's brow was not part of their life experience.

In the late 19th century, however, physical labor and cultivation of the land became central to Zionist philosophy. One of the first songs to express this new attitude to labor was *Di Soche — The Plough*, by Eliakum Zunser. This song had such an impact on the *chovevei Tziyon* that, upon arrival in Eretz Yisrael, they translated it into Hebrew (*M'machrashti*).

In the plough lies redemption, the joy of life.
As a worker I lack for nothing.
I don't need to borrow or worry about my livelihood.
All my needs are cared for, and I stand free in God's world.
Who can compare with me in wealth?
Who lives as happily as I, a toiler in the field?

The first decades of the 20th century saw the emergence of a new kind of immigrant to Palestine, highly disciplined and filled with burning ideals and determination. For the members of the second and third aliyot, physical labor was the very essence of their philosophy. *Avoda*, the creed of physical labor and self-reliance became their new religion and they set about to rebuild their ancient homeland with single-minded zeal and unswerving dedication. For these *chalutzim* (pioneers) the words of Chaim Nachman Bialik became almost a credo.

Who will save us from hunger and give us bread to eat and milk to drink?
Who will protect us from the cold and give us light in the darkness?
Who will bring water from the wells, and plant trees for fruit and shade?
Whom shall we thank? To whom shall we give blessing?
To labor, and the toil of our own hands!
(Shir Ha'avoda)

The young men and women who flocked to Palestine were overwhelmed by the beauty of the landscape. They came for the most part from crowded cities and towns and, although they had read about their ancient homeland in the Bible and in modern poetry, nothing could have prepared them for the glories of nature they encountered. In hundreds of songs they celebrated the beauty of the landscape: the Emek and the Galil, Lake Kinneret and the Jordan River, mountains and desert, all were eulogized. The songs are filled with an overwhelming love of homeland, and a few short examples can only hint at their passion and beauty.

Kacha, Kach: *So were you then and so today, O Bashan, Gilead, Kinneret. O hills and valleys of Zion, I would not have you otherwise. I sing of you by day, by night, in joy and in sorrow. I have betrothed myself to you in tears. I am yours forever!*

Laila Pele: *A thousand and one nights have I given to my little country, but my gift is not enough for her. A thousand and one wonders my little country has given me, in every mountain and in every rock. O, night of wonder, wondrous night, my reward is my homeland!*

M'chorati: *My homeland: the din of the waves in the sea, and the shadow of hills. The call of the jackal, slumbering groves, and the song of the flute at midnight. O, my homeland!*

Hagalila: *Come, brothers, to the mountains, on to Galilee! Though it be still desolate and malaria-ridden, let us proceed without fear. We shall make the Galil live again!*

The *chalutzim* faced unspeakable hardship in their new land: labor in blazing sun with little to drink, hunger bordering on starvation, debilitating bouts of malaria or blinding by trachoma. At night the wolves and jackals howled and scorpions and tiny reptiles scurried through the walls. The settlers also had to face the threat of Arab marauders who sneaked into the sleeping settlements at night to rob or murder.

Given the horrendous hardship of life in Palestine, one would expect an outpouring of songs of complaint and even despair. It is, therefore, remarkable that there are practically no songs of complaint to be found in collections of early Israeli folksongs — only songs of triumph and achievement and determined optimism. Even more remarkably the pronoun *ani* — I — is rarely to be found. The collective pronoun *anachnu* — we — has swallowed up the singular, just as the pain of the individual has been submerged in the values and ideals of the group. In a rare outpouring of despair, we hear:

My coat is torn and there is no place to live, and nothing to wear.
My spirit is agitated, and my heart is wounded and bleeding.
Pray tell me, my companion, what is all this for, and why?
Once there was hope — now it is muted, and my soul trembles with cold.
Tell me, my friend, what is the meaning of of the word "homeland?"

Much more common are songs of hope and determination, urging the *chalutzim* not to give up in the face of hardship — to continue their labor and rebuild the land.

Hoi bachur, *O young man from the settlements of Jezreel, it's hard for you to drain the swamps and clear the stones. O young man from the settlements of Jezreel, don't fall, carry on. The fields are parched, there is no grass for the cows and horses. If the first rain or the last rain* (yoreh *and* malkosh) *are late, work again and plough again.*

The story of the *chalutzim* is conveyed in hundreds of songs that tell of struggle and achievement, courage and determination, and an overwhelming love of homeland. They reflect the history of a country and lay bare the psyche of the men and women who labored to rebuild it. It seems appropriate to end this brief survey with a song that celebrates the energy and idealism of the youthful pioneers of modern Israel.

Shirat Hano'ar — *the song of youth, the song of our future. The song of renewal, building and aliyah. From the gola (exile) our brothers will stream; Our homeland has come to life! Who has created this wonder, O homeland? Who has established all these, O homeland? It is your hand that plants, your hand that sows. As long as we have the youth in our homeland, the dream of the people of Israel will indeed be realized!*

Torontonian Naomi Bell performs and lectures on Jewish folksong.

Opinions

'Judaizing' is a loaded word

By Enid Zuckenheim

I suppose we all agree that this has been a bad month for the peace process, but beyond that, agreement stops and the finger-pointing starts. The Arabs blame Israel, and Israel the Arabs; Jews "left" and "right," egged on by the previous and the present Israel government, blame each other, and the whole world and its media all blame Israel.

I won't say anything on the last point for, in his usual superb way, the columnist Charles Krauthammer has said it all: the world's media have perpetrated a "desecration of the Truth." (*Time*, Oct. 14.) Thus, for example, National Public Radio (NPR) reports the Palestinian claim that the tunnel opening "threatens the stability of the al-Aksa mosque." ("For balance," Krauthammer adds sarcastically, NPR might add, "The Jews deny this.") But the "claim" is totally false, for the tunnel is several hundred metres away from any Muslim holy place, and close only to the Jewish holy place, the Western Wall. In claiming a Jewish "crime against our religious and holy places," Arafat falsely inflamed that most dangerous of passions, the religious, and that herd of independent thinkers, the world's journalists, let him get away with it.

I want no finger-pointing of my own but rather damage control, and the damage to control is Jews pointing fingers at each other. This was a bad time, the critics say, for opening the tunnel, and thus opening up the question of Jerusalem. But what, pray, would be a good time? We Canadians ought to know, for when former prime minister Joe Clark electioneered on the slogan "Next year in Jerusalem" (for our embassy) and got elected, the outcry, mostly Arab, obviously carefully planned, was such that he beat a hasty retreat.

The Rabin-Peres government postponed the Jerusalem problem to the end of the peace process, but would it be any easier then, for a Labor government, a Likud government, *any* Israeli government? And, since the issue is not (as the media keep saying) "Arab Jerusalem" but rather the Old City, with its holy places, Muslim, Christian and Jewish, what of Diaspora Jewry? After two millennia, we managed to return to Jerusalem: shall we, just then, stop praying for her, for just then she stopped being Jewish, for we gave her away? Clearly, whenever Jerusalem will come up in the peace process, all Jewry is involved.

Jewish unity is, therefore, vital and at this stage, I think it can be achieved on at least one point, a small one it may seem, but not small after all. Arafat has accused the government of trying to "Judaize" Jerusalem, and that word, like "Nigger," should be wiped out from the dictionary, loaded as it has been with anti-Jewish feelings for centuries. Are Muslims trying to "Islamize" the Old City? In claiming her as the capital for his state, is Arafat trying to "Palestinize" Jerusalem? Nobody would dream of using these expressions. But "Judaizing" suggests something nefarious, a plot, even of controlling the world from a "Judaized" Jerusalem.

Of course, just ostracizing the word won't ostracize the thought, just as ostracizing "Nigger" does not end racism. But it is something. And none of us — right, left or indifferent — should tolerate the word from anyone, Arafat, the media, the United Nations, our next door neighbors.

That word doesn't mean much in America, but it means a lot in Europe; for ever since Jews got emancipated, their participation in the native culture has been accused of "Judaizing" it. One therefore feels dubious about the recent European eagerness to participate in the peace process.

As per Oslo, no foreign policy is to be conducted in Orient House, the Palestinian headquarters in Jerusalem, but when, led by Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, a European delegation came last time — and this under the "soft" Labor government — they ignored that provision, snubbed the government, and in turn were snubbed by President Ezer Weizman. Now Spring is to come again. After his Orient House visit last time, he promised "even-handedness" about Jerusalem. Did he mean, some forward reporter should ask him when he comes again, that "even-handedness" means stopping the Jews from "Judaizing" Jerusalem?

Exports of Hebrew literature booming

By Carl Alpert

Quiz question: List important Israeli exports. Answer: chemicals from the Dead Sea, hi-tech equipment, citrus, polished and cut diamonds, armaments, pharmaceuticals, textiles, flowers ...

Correct, and the list can be extended even more. But few would think of including what may sound like an unusual commodity — Hebrew literature in translation. Of course, the Bible constitutes a splendid tradition in this field, but here I am referring to modern literary works.

In recent years, the best of Israel's original Hebrew literature has been translated into no less than 46 languages, including all the major European tongues, as well as languages such as Hindi, Mongolian, Tamil, Turkish and Welsh. Chinese, Japanese and Korean are also on the list.

Quite aside from the economic benefits which Israel derives from these exports (income in the millions of dollars) is the public relations value, the goodwill and positive image promoted among the millions of readers in all parts of the world. Arabic is not missing from the list, and several Israeli authors have a good following in Egypt, Jordan and Algeria.

The most translated Hebrew authors are Yehuda Amichai, whose poetry has been made available in 30 languages, and novelists Amos Oz, 28 languages; A. B. Yehoshua, 22; Aharon Appelfeld, 18; Yoram Kaniuk and David Grossman, 17 each.

The big boom has been in Europe. In the past five years, at least 440 titles of Hebrew literature, including poetry, prose, drama, anthologies and literature for children have been rendered into one or more of the 25 European tongues — triple the number of titles published from 1975 to 1979.

China constitutes one of the latest breakthroughs, with some 40 Hebrew books on the list. One enthusiastic publisher there, discovering the sales possibilities in his country (population one billion) for quality Hebrew literature, placed an immediate order for nine books in one year. He was told, however, that competent translators from Hebrew into Chinese were not readily available and he finally grudgingly agreed to take three books the first year.

This remarkable development is the result of painstaking promotion undertaken by a little-known body called the Institute for the Translation of Hebrew Literature. Founded in 1962, it serves in effect as a literary agency. Its experts carefully survey new books as they come off the press here, select the best for translation and offer the works to publishers abroad. Since there is a reputation to maintain, only the very best are chosen.

Foreign publishers were at first not easily convinced that an interesting Hebrew novel or children's book would necessarily have any appeal to readers in their countries. But first experiments were successful and repeat orders began to come in.

No matter what their content, novels by Oz and Yehoshua seem to have universal appeal and are assured of foreign sales from the beginning. The institute does not deal with non-fiction, most of which is handled through academic circles.

The institute's task is not finished when rights are sold to a foreign publisher. Literary critics in the overseas press are cultivated and their attention is called to the appearance of new works, with special reference to success already achieved by these books in other countries.

Twice a year, a journal is published in English, with book reviews, excerpted translations and scholarly studies of trends in Hebrew literature.

There are remote lands in the world where Israel is known more for its modern literature than for its political difficulties with its neighbors.

Do you have any friends who read Afrikaans, Bulgarian, Flemish, Serbo-Croatian, Esperanto or Urhobo? You can safely recommend a good Hebrew book.

Nazism's propagandist

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

On the morning when the news media were filled with reports over bloody battles between Palestinians and Israelis, I happened to read the latest issue of the *New York Review of Books*. That oversized publication contains the most detailed book reviews published anywhere in the world — outsizing the *New York Times* supplement, *Books in Review*.

It so happened that the Sept. 19 edition of the magazine contained various reviews of books that touched on Jews. One dealt with Louis Farrakhan, another with the 1958 bomb attack on an Atlanta temple (on which I wrote recently in this column), and still another with a new biography of Joseph Goebbels written by David Irving. If Hitler was the century's most evil genius, Goebbels ran him a close second. In fact, there are many historians who believe that without Goebbels, the German fascination with Hitler would not have lasted as long as it did.

I saw the little, slightly deformed man several times in Berlin's Lustgarten and of course heard him often on radio. Where Hitler was pure emotion, Goebbels managed to spice his incendiary talk with intellectual morsels. He was literate, wrote well and filled his role as propaganda minister with devastating brilliance.

So, when I saw that Irving had written the little devil's biography, I wondered whether the author would try to exonerate him as he had Hitler. You will remember that Irving is the "scholar" who tried to show that Jews were never gassed in places like Auschwitz.

Now, in this book, Irving lets the genie out of the bottle. According to the author, it was Goebbels, rather than Hitler, who was the unrelenting enemy of the Jews.

What was life like in Berlin during the years of Goebbels' reign in the city? (He had been appointed Gauleiter, or district chief, of the capital city.) Irving describes what it was like for Jews to live under Goebbels:

"They were forced to give up their personal property, denied the right to travel in autobuses, or to be seated in trams, or to own or drive automobiles, or to buy tobacco, or to have telephone or radios. Nor could they use public libraries, visit museums, go to concerts, have their hair cut at barber's, own pets, or, when rationing began, have the same rations as the Germans. The list of prohibitions was endless."

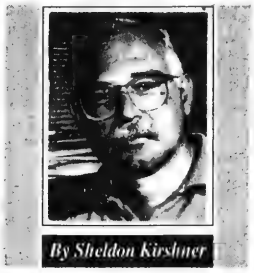
Goebbels was also the man who was responsible for the introduction of the yellow badge that Jews had to wear from 1941 on, and he was the inventor of the Nazi "doublespeak." His propaganda managed to cover up details of cruelty and murder, by using cover words like "wandering off" for execution or "final solution" for the extermination of the Jews.

Of course, Irving does not rank as a reliable historian, but he does afford glimpses of the man who, in intelligence and literary savvy, towered over his cohorts and was thus doubly dangerous.

It seems to me that whenever I want to let go of these memories, along comes a book like this to stir them up again.

The Kirshner File

Jewish filmmakers face various problems



By Sheldon Kirshner

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Edward Rosenstein, producer of *A Tickle in the Heart,* a delightful profile of three elderly American *klezorim*, spoke about the difficulties of rounding up financing for projects and of the creative act of assembling a film, a process he described as "painful."

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John Stuart Katz in 1976

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The unfortunate events in Crown Heights, a microcosm of the mutual suspicion which characterizes African American-Jewish relations today, are grist for playwright Anna Deavere Smith. Her play, *Fires in the Mirror,* which is being presented by the Canadian Stage Theatre in Toronto until Oct. 26, delves fearlessly but not always effectively into that morass.

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Yusef, a bird fancier, escapes to the pastoral countryside to get away from the brutality of life in Gaza. There, amid the sand dunes and a lowering winter sky, he meets a carefree, high-spirited girl named Aida. She enchants him with a seemingly aprocryphal story about lost jewels missing from her grandmother's necklace. Yusef is smitten by Aida, and promises to marry her one day.

The film, which unfolds against the backdrop of Palestinian strikes and a funeral march to protest Israel's occupation, also focuses on Yusef's friendship with Salah, the son of a prosperous citrus grower.

Salah, upon hearing of Yusef's dream to visit South America, packs his friend into an orange crate due to be trucked to the Israeli port of Ashdod for shipment overseas. A viewer wonders whether Yusef will survive the trip.

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Jewish Life

The family of the late
MINNIE HENRY ז"ל
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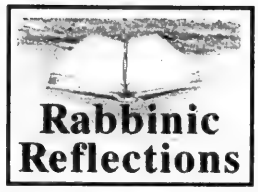


Rabbinic Reflections

Abraham's story

By RABBI KENNETH KATZ

A mature man, old in fact, who turns on his family; the death of a brother (Haran, Gen. 11:28); the travels across the world, a chase actually, after a goal that only grows farther away; misadventures with women and soldiers; money, a lot of it; a change of name. This is not the latest plot by Mordecai Richler. It is this week's Torah portion, *Lech Lechah*, the beginning of the story of Abram, later Abraham, the first Jew.

The Abraham story is not the story of a triumph. It is the story of a man who has both a vision of God and very real troubles; of a man who is sometimes wise and sometimes mistaken. Yet this man is our founder and father, the one chosen by God. Is this choice not a scandal?

Why did God choose this man? Certainly not for his perfection! The first 12 chapters of the Torah answer that very question. Why did God choose this Abram?

In the Garden of Eden, God provides the first humans with everything they require, with Paradise. Yet the humans cannot abide this and immediately disobey God's first command, not to eat of one particular tree. But the disobedience is less of a problem, I think, than the response of Adam and Eve.

After they eat the forbidden fruit, God asks, "Where are you? ... Did you eat of the tree from which I had forbidden you to eat?" (Gen. 4:11.) Listen to the answers.

The woman blames the serpent. "The serpent duped me and I ate." The man has even more chutzpah. He tells God, "It was the woman *you* put at my side — she gave me of the tree and I ate" (Gen. 3:12). Adam blames God Himself.

And Cain and Abel? After Cain murders Abel, when God asks Cain where Abel is, comes Cain's famous answer, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (4:9).

And in the time of Noah, though Noah obeys God's command to build an ark, Noah makes no effort whatsoever to protect any of his friends and neighbors either by warning them or by arguing with God. And even after getting out of the ark and receiving, in a scene worthy of grand opera, God's promise never again to destroy the world, marked forever into the very sky itself by the sign of the rainbow, what does Noah do? He invents wine, gets drunk and gets into a sexual scrape with one of his sons (Gen. 9:20-27).

See the story up to now from the viewpoint of Heaven. God gives the humans paradise, but they cannot abide this. He leaves them free to do as they see fit and one murders the other. He destroys the world, but discovers that punishment, even on a vast scale, fails to change human behavior. What is lacking is a person who is prepared not just to obey, but to reflect; not just to act, but to accept responsibility for his or her actions. What is lacking is a person who is as ready to meet God as God is to meet him. Now we are ready for Abram.

Abram is 75 years old when we first meet him. He has lived a lifetime in Mesopotamia, seat of an urban civilization that is already ancient in Abram's time. The cities of Abram's time may have lacked steam power, oil and electricity, but otherwise they had most everything a modern city has — stores and restaurants, gutters and glitter, armies, taxes, families, scandals, schools, stories, religions.

The Torah does not tell us much about Abram's first 75 years, except that whatever he had in this brilliant Los Angeles of yesterday lacked — something. As a result, when God calls him — whatever the meaning of the mysterious words, "The Lord said to Abram, "Go forth ... to the land that I will show you" (Gen. 12:1) — he goes. Just like that.

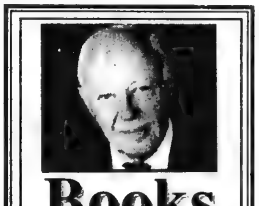
It is, you see, a fateful meeting — of a man who is clearly dissatisfied with a world that everyone around him finds full, bustling and important, but in which he sees the lack of something — and of God who has abandoned Paradise and abandoned punishment to work out a new plan. The new plan is to address Himself to one family and then one nation, to give them Torah (the word Torah means instruction) by which these humans can work out for themselves the perfection of the world.

Abram is not perfect. God does not choose him for his perfection. He chooses Abram because he is a man who has discovered, by a lifetime of thoughtful living, that something important is wrong with this world of his.

He is a man ready for a vision, a man ready for an encounter with God. And so when God speaks, at first perhaps vaguely and mysteriously, but then loudly and clearly, about justice, righteousness and blessing (Gen. 18:19), with instruction as to how to live with Torah, Abram hears.

Fellow Jews! Every one of us is a potential Abram. The terrifying words of covenant/invitation/command ring down the ages to our ears also. When will we stop being the resentful Adam, the cowardly Eve, the morally deaf Cain, the self-centered Noah? God's words still call every Abram.

Rabbi Katz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth El, Town of Mt. Royal, Quebec.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Wisdom of the ages

A History Of Reading by Alberto Manguel, Random House $35

Benjamin Disraeli once wrote, "Books are fatal: they are the curse of the human race. Nine-tenths of existing books are nonsense, and the clever books are the refutation of that nonsense. The greatest misfortune that ever befell man was the invention of printing." This melancholy opinion, however, didn't prevent him from writing a dozen or more books.

His father, Isaac, a well-known litterateur, was of a different mind. He concluded that the delights of reading "impart the vivacity and the novelty of youth — even in old age."

In any case, of all the human pleasures that are free of guilt, none is more widespread than reading. Properly considered it is a form of alchemy. It transmutes printed symbols into imagery and meaning. A small number of letters in an infinite variety of combinations, establishes communication and conveys the wisdom of the ages.

Alberto Manguel, an esteemed Canadian author, anthologist, writer and editor has written an agreeable, informed, anecdotal, personal treatise about reading in its many forms and variations. The method is thematic rather than chronological.

Twenty well-researched chapters deal with learning to read, book collectors and book thieves, great libraries, the invention and importance of eyeglasses, censorship old and new, the transformation of scrolls into paged codexes, how oral eventually became silent reading and so forth.

In the chapter on censorship, we learn that in May 1932, before a cheering crowd of 100,000, the Nazis burned more than 20,000 books; that the odious Anthony Comstock in the late 19th century founded New York's Society for the Suppression of Vice, and boasted that over a 40-year period, "I have convicted persons enough to fill a passenger train of 61 coaches, 60 coaches containing 60 passengers each, and destroyed 160 tons of obscene literature;" and that the Catholic Church didn't abandon its age-old indexing of prohibited books until 1966.

[Cont'd. on page 13]

The Kirshner File

Jewish filmmakers face various problems

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By Sheldon Kirshner

movies such as *Schindler's List*, which has enjoyed enormous success far and wide. I am referring to the plethora of Jewish/Yiddish film festivals which have sprung up in such disparate places as Toronto, San Francisco, Moscow and Madrid and to the inclusion of Jewish-content films at major film festivals.

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Jewish Life

Rabin on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The 12th of Cheshvan marks the first yahrzeit of Yitzhak Rabin, whose assassination shocked the world and caused an immediate outpouring of grief.

This terrible event also marked the first time that Jews turned to the Internet as a place where they could unite to spontaneously mourn, question and console each other. As a result, there are probably more sites devoted to the life and death of Yitzhak Rabin than to any other single event in Jewish or Israeli life.

Today I would like to look at some of those sites.

There are many good biographies of Rabin on the Internet including Yitzhak Rabin – The Story of a True Sabra **[http://www.magnet.co.il/rabin/legacy.html]** and the one written by Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. **[http://www.israelmfa.gov.il./gov/rabin.html]**. *Time Magazine* has published an excellent pictorial biography of Rabin at **[http://pathfinder.com/time/special/rabin/index.html]**. Click on the Photo Credits button in order to see descriptions of the photographs.

One of the late prime minister's proudest moments was being awarded the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize **[http://www.almaz.com/nobel/peace/1994c.html]** along with co-recipients Shimon Peres and Yasser Arafat. For the text of Rabin's acceptance speech in Oslo, see **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/peace/rabinnob.html]**.

There are several sites that have links to Web pages devoted to Yitzhak Rabin. The Politics Page **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/politics.html#genpol]** of the Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launcher has links to over 100 other sites.

Also try Yahoo at **[http://yahoo.com/headlines/ special/rabin/]**, David Lisbona's links at **[http://actcom.co.il/~dlisbona/]**, and Nandonet's The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin **[http://-www2.nando.net/newsroom/nt/morerabin.html]** and **[http://www2.nando.net/newsroom/nt/moerabin1.html]**.

There is also the very interesting Collection of Rabbinic Statements **[http://shamash.org/mail-jewish/rabin.html]** with essays from rabbis who may not have agreed with Rabin's politics but were repulsed by Yigal Amir and his actions. In his essay Was Rabin's Assassin an Observant Jew? **[http://shamash.org/mail-jewish/Rabin/Boteach_1.txt]** Rabbi ShmuelBoteach says, "while Yigal Amir may once have been an observant Jew, pulling the trigger of his handgun changed all that."

And then there are the very personal Web pages that sprung up-spontaneously so individuals could share their grief. For a sample, see Ariga's In Mourning In Memorium **[http://ariga.co.il/peacebiz/rabin/condol1.htm]** and the Jewish Communication Network's Condolences from our Readers **[http://www.jcn18.com/mourn.htm]** and All We Were Saying was Give Peace a Chance **[http://teletel.co.il/asi/rabin]**, a very large page with notes, pictures and even poetry from around the world.

"My flight is suddenly broken/ I have no olive branch./ Abruptly it has been snatched from my beak/ I struggle to find my feet/ I dream of the time my olive branch will be returned to my beak, and when I will fly again over Jerusalem my wings sheltering the people below who will be safe from tragedy in our Homeland." Jane Zurnamer, 14, Masada College, Sydney, Australia.

Another important place to discuss last year's events is in the Usenet Newsgroups. Although the content of Newsgroups changes on a daily basis, this is one of the best places to go to exchange thoughts and feelings. The major areas where you might find people discussing Yitzhak Rabin and his legacy are **[soc.culture.israel]**, **[talk.politics.mideast]** and **[soc.culture.jewish]**.

The late prime minister's own words can also be found on the Internet with the text of his final speech given to the peace rally in Tel Aviv **[http://www.-jewishpost.com/jewishpost/rabin10.html]**. On that Saturday evening, Rabin also joined in singing *A Song for Peace - Shir La Shalom*. The song was already popular before the assassination and has only gained in fame since. You can find its lyrics in English, transliterated Hebrew, and if you have Hebrew fonts installed, in Hebrew, at **[http://www.macom.co.il/hebrew/shirshlm.html]**. And you can hear a recording of the song from that rally (with Rabin singing toward the end) at **[http://www.artificia.com/sounds/shir.raj.**

Israel's Artificia site **[http://www.artificia.com/html/rabin.htm]** makes creative use of audio and even video. On that page you will find links to the Kol Yisrael broadcasts from that tragic week in Hebrew and English. There is also a short radio montage in Hebrew with some English. (You will need RealAudio or InternetWave to hear these files.

You can find links to them at **[http://www.artificia.com/html/helpme.html]**.)

Artificia also includes a 90-second video excerpt of President Bill Clinton's eulogy **[http://www.vdolive.com/vdofiles/clintn20.vdo]**. In order to properly view this video clip you will need a powerful computer such as a Pentium or a Macintosh Power PC with a fast Internet connection. And you'll need to download the free VDO Live Video Player from **[http://www.vdo.net/download/]**.

If your computer can't handle that video file, you can read President Clinton's moving comments at **[http://www.jewishpost.com/jewishpost/rabin03.html]**. For other eulogies, go to the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/news/yrabin.html]**. There you will find links to eulogies by King Hussein, Ezer Weizman, Shimon Peres, Hosni Mubarak and others.

But surely the most heart-breaking eulogy didn't come from a world leader but from Yitzhak Rabin's granddaughter Noa Ben-Artzi Filosof **[http://www.israel.org/news/noa.html]**.

"People greater than I have already eulogized you, but none of them was fortunate like myself to feel the caress of your warm, soft hands and the warm embrace that was just for us, or your half-smiles which will always say so much, the same smile that is no more, and froze with you. I have no feelings of revenge because my pain and loss are so big, too big...To the angels of heaven that are accompanying you now, I ask that they watch over you, that they guard you well, because you deserve such a guard. We will love you grandfather, always."

Shalom chaver.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Our essential function

[Cont'd. from page 12]

Several years ago there was an amusing cartoon in the *New Yorker* magazine. One woman asks a companion if she has read a certain book. And the other responds, "Not personally." Reading is something that we must experience individually. It is not surprising that the author relates much about himself and his relation to the many-sided realm of the book.

In discussing the Jewish approach to reading, Manguel tells the story of Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev, one of the great 18th century chassidic masters, who was asked why the first page of the treatises in the Babylonian Talmud is always missing, so that readers are forced to begin on page 2. "Because," answered the rabbi, "no matter how many pages the scholar reads, he must never forget that he has not yet reached the very first page."

Book lovers and others will delight in this many-levelled — well illustrated — depiction of an activity that — almost as much as breathing — is our essential function.

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Leaders from Chabad Lubavitch of Markham take part in shul groundbreaking.

Lubavitch shul gets underway

By **LEILA SPEISMAN**
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The "miracle in Markham," as speaker after speaker described it, took a giant step closer to fruition with the recent official groundbreaking for the new Chabad Lubavitch of Markham synagogue.

The new facility, on Green Lane in the Bayview-John area, will include a sanctuary, classrooms, a library, a kitchen, offices and a mikvah. It is expected to open in early 1997.

The congregation davened first in the rabbi's basement and for the past several years in an industrial building on Guardsman Road.

Exuberant congregation members grabbed the golden shovel and joined in the festivities. Even some of the children took a turn.

Eric Inspector, building committee chair, praised the congregation for working so hard to reach "the official groundbreaking of our very own shul. You did it, and here we are."

An emotional David Wiener, synagogue president, lauded the committees and members for contributing "the time and money to build a home we can call ours."

He also praised spiritual leader and executive director Rabbi Avraham Plotkin and his wife Goldie, for "leaving their home town to give of themselves to our community."

Greetings were brought by Rabbi Moshe Stern, on behalf of the Vaad Harabonim of Greater Toronto; Rabbi David Schochet, spiritual leader of the Lubavitch community of Toronto; Regional Counsellor Bill Fisch, on behalf of Markham mayor Don Cousens; Marjorie Nielsen, on behalf of the government of Ontario; David Tsubouchi, minister of consumer and corporate relations, and MPP for Markham; and Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

Rabbi Plotkin said the aim of the synagogue had been to "create a space where people can grow as Jews. We didn't thrust observance down anyone's throat — we created a loving, caring environement for families to grow in Yiddishkeit."

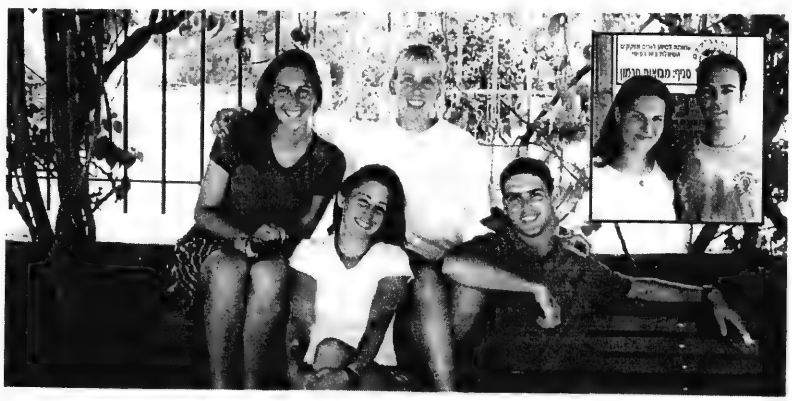
He compared the groundbreaking to a *bris*, which marks the beginning of a person's journey through life.

"How many people can say that they saw the walls go up in their shul? Every brick belongs to every one of us."

The shul, he said, will be like Noah's ark, "protecting us from the spiritual storms outside." It will be "filled with Torah, with classes, with programs for children, adults, old people."

He noted that as the eastern wall of the foundation was being poured, a piece of stone from the Western Wall and from the shul in Massada, and some sand from the Dead Sea were added to it.

Many Toronto-area rabbis were present, including Yitzchok Kerzner, Baruch Taub, Reuven Tradburks, Raphael Marcus, Yaacov Felder and Irwin Witty, as well as rabbis from the Lubavitch community.



HAPPY TO HAVE COUNSELLED

Canadian students volunteered this past summer for the Kefiada English Day Camp program in various Project Renewal Communities in Israel. Seen here are (top row left) Tracy Leitman of Montreal, Kathryn Ages of Ottawa, (bottom row left) Lori Sholzberg of Montreal and Yishai Waxman of Hamilton. Inset are Rinat Ariely and Eyal Bercovici of Toronto. In all, 50 Canadians took part. [Debbie Taylor Zimleman photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Kosher food concession a success at Wonderland

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

The Kosher Land Fast Food cart at Wonderland.

TORONTO — The first-ever kosher food concession at Canada's Wonderland recently closed its premiere season.

It was, according to its owners, an overwhelming success. "The reaction of the Jewish community has been phenomenal," said Isaac Kraus, who operates the concession with his wife Anat.

The KosherLand Fast Food cart sold hotdogs, vegetarian products and slush drinks, "the only kosher slush machine in Ontario," Isaac boasted.

"It has exceeded all of our expectations. Jews, non-Jews including Muslims, and day school teachers with their students came to the kosher food cart."

Isaac and Anat came here 10 years ago from Israel, where they lived on a non-religious kibbutz.

After arriving in Toronto, Isaac worked as a limousine driver, but several years ago, had a serious car accident. While recovering, he began attending a Chabad Lubavitch synagogue, and says he's now deeply involved with Judaic studies and attends the Israeli minyan at the synagogue.

Isaac said a kosher food concession at Wonderland was Anat's idea, after she realized that a person who keeps kosher could not bring food into the park.

"And it wasn't easy to convince the management," she added.

"After much persuasion," Isaac said, "we were granted permission to sell kosher fast food on their property."

With supervision of the COR Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth, Isaac located a cart and hired the yeshivah students who worked the concession.

"It took almost three months of negotiating, planning and preparation and the kosher cart began operating on July 17. It was an immediate success. And now we are negotiating for a permanent booth at Wonderland for next year and we hope to make more products available," Isaac said.

Management at Wonderland has received letters from members of the Jewish community thanking them for having "the sensitivity and wisdom to open a kosher food concession in your park this season," Isaac said.

A rabbi/educator wrote that the new kosher concession "was a treat for both children and (sometimes quite desperate) parents. For many families it lengthened previous half-day trips to full-day trips."

The Krauses have received approval to open a concession at Ontario Place next season and they are exploring future locations in airports, Niagara Falls and in other entertainment parks.

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Hooping it up. Some of the fun on Jewish Community Day at Canada's Wonderland. (Stephen Epstein photo)

WonderFun Day draws crowd

TORONTO — At least 1,500 Jewish community members turned WonderFun Day at Paramount Canada's Wonderland into a "wonder-full" day.

Attendance for the park's first ever Jewish Community WonderFun day on Oct. 13 was boosted by sunny, warm weather and discounted ticket prices.

The day featured music by The Stars Band, with Liberty Silver, Peter May, Shlomo Aviv and the Mandell Entertainment Group Dancers, Times Square Entertainment, headed by Rick Levine and Phil Kravetsky, from *The Radio Show*.

Wonderland, which planned the day in cooperation with UJA Federation, has previously sponsored special days for other ethnocultural groups.

Plans are already underway to hold next year's Jewish community day earlier in the year and offer even more entertainment.

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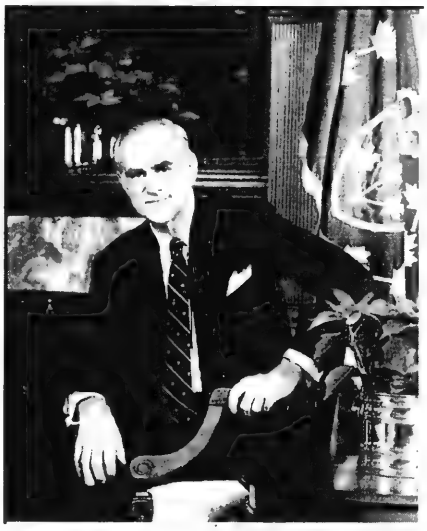

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Social services financing difficult

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – It has always been difficult in financial terms to successfully serve clients with special needs, says Ontario's minister of community and social services, and current cutbacks to the province's social service network have made it even harder.

"No matter how rich a society we have been in the past years, there has never been enough money for the social service field," Janet Ecker told some 150 people at Adath Israel Synagogue for the annual meeting of Jewish Vocational Services of Metropolitan Toronto (JVS).

Since 1995, jobsOntario and the Access to Apprenticeship Training project, two provincially funded programs, have been dismantled. And two of JVS' current programs will soon cease following the introduction of new legislation impacting employment training services.

Rather than dwell on impending cutbacks to social assistance, however, Ecker praised JVS for its "distinguished record of helping people overcome adversity and achieve their aspirations."

Ecker defined her ministry's vision of social services as "an affordable and effective system that supports and invests in families and communities to make them responsible and accountable."

This vision, she said, involves gauging the impact of programs, focusing on direct delivery, ensuring the flexibility and accessibility of programs and recognizing and responding to the needs of individual clients.

Ecker assured her audience that "community groups and government can work together to bring about community projects."

Yet despite her hopes for a symbiotic relationship, she also emphasized the need to empower individuals by "trying to get [them] off social assistance and back into the workforce."

This will be accomplished, she said, through programs currently being implemented by the provincial government, such as the controversial workfare project.

"We have a shared obligation to the people who rely on these services, just as we have a shared obligation to the taxpayers who fund them," she said.

Founded in 1947, JVS was created to help survivors of the Holocaust adjust to their new country. Today, the agency serves a broad spectrum of people including new immigrants, people with developmental disabilities, children in Jewish day schools and people recovering from brain injury. In the past year, JVS has helped more than 8,000 people.

Teddy Abromovici, a Romanian immigrant, praised JVS, describing how the employment counselling program taught him to develop a plan of action to become self-sufficient and to adapt to a changing work environment. Presently employed in the field of computer programming, he described JVS as "the friend that was there when you needed it."

Hospital restructuring

[Cont'd. from page 3]

an was discharged from hospital prematurely, and although her neighbors rallied to help, died four days later.

Meade noted that although the District Health Council has approved the establishment of 390 transitional beds in Metro, the restructuring committee has not implemented the recommendation.

Severe cutbacks and a "having to do more with less" attitude have brought dramatic changes, said Dr. Chris Patterson, head of geriatrics at McMaster Health Science Centre. He described the situation as "chaotic."

With cuts in long-term care, Patterson said, officials are "warehousing" people who "are being parked, when facilities could be used more wisely."

There are no additional resources and the government is making the health sector a market place, said Amy Go, director of community support services at Woodgreen Community Centre.

"Community groups are getting people together to talk about what we can do to pool our resources."

Conference participants stressed the need for post-discharge planning and the need to communicate with the patient and the family early.

Professionals must become more sensitive to the family's needs and work as a team, "something we are not taught in medical school," said panelist Dr. Barry Goldlist of the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Geriatric Program. "Knowledge and skills are not enough — attitude is important."

Those needing services and their caregivers need to be educated, the conference heard. Knowing the process and providing correct information was cited as a priority.

Conference organizers included the Task Force on Transitional Care, the Home Care Program for Metropolitan Toronto, the Toronto Hospital, the Woodgreen Community Centre, Senior People's Resources in North Toronto (SPRINT), the Older Women's Network, and the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations. The conference was funded through a grant from the Trillium Foundation.

Greater Toronto Area

NCSY gets new programs, larger office in Thornhill

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) is moving up in the world — north to Thornhill, to be specific.

Toronto's woefully cramped NCSY office, located in a storefront on Bathurst Street south of Wilson Avenue, is scheduled to move to a shopping plaza at the northwest corner of Bathurst and Steeles Avenue on Nov. 1. The move will almost triple its space, from 1,600 to 4,200 square feet.

"I believe it might be the largest drop-in centre on the continent," said Rabbi Glenn Black, NCSY's 27-year-old regional director. The recently ordained rabbi heads the organization's full-time staff of five people.

Expanding outreach

Although it is run under the auspices of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, NCSY is independent of individual congregations and is open to youth from a variety of Jewish backgrounds.

The group has a mailing list of about 1,500, a high percentage of whom are not Orthodox, Rabbi Black said. "Our mandate is that you can believe in anything you want, as long as you get some Jewish education."

He himself teaches in 10 different locations a week, and the organization is expanding its outreach component.

Among its programs "Our Way," geared to deaf Jewish youth; Yachad, for the developmentally disabled, and Shabbatonim (about 200 last year alone) for junior and senior high school students. It also runs Free Torah High School for Jewish teens attending public high schools. Courses include Hebrew history, Jewish philosophy and Chumash.

Three years ago NCSY launched the Hebrew Culture Club at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute, an informal group to discuss Jewish issues under the guidance of an NCSY facilitator. There are now seven such programs in the Toronto area.

The Toronto office is currently launching a new parent/teen program with the help of a $15,000 grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. The program will use videotapes of popular television shows originally chosen for NCSY's 10-year-old LAVE (Life & Values Education) program, which uses the tapes as a springboard to discussion on Jewish values.

"We hope to bring parents and kids into Jewish dialogue," said Rabbi Black. "They don't [always] talk about the more important things closer to home." Typical issues covered in such programs include cheating, medical ethics, how to give tzedakah, the environment and Judaism, and caring for the elderly.

Another new project is a bar/bat mitzvah program in Richmond Hill, but what probably energizes Rabbi Black the most is his one-on-one dealings with the students.

At the current location, the rabbi finds he can barely work after school lets out and the teens start dropping in. "It's crazy, but hopefully it will be even more crazy in the new location."

A quiet moment for Rabbi Glenn Black, above, doesn't last long: the hallway in NCSY's old office is also used as a classroom. [Frances Kraft photo]

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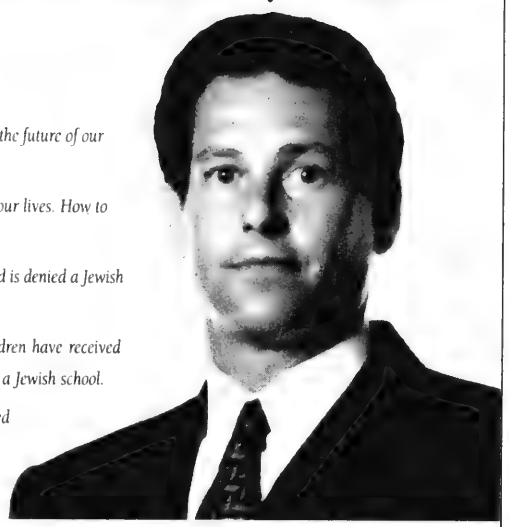

Dale Lastman

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Greater Toronto Area

Women said a key part of Holocaust study

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Although half of Holocaust victims were women, they are not documented as they should be claims a pioneer of Holocaust studies and a founder of the first Center of Holocaust Studies in the United States.

"Women must be included in any study of the Holocaust if it is to be done with dignity and accuracy," says Yaffa Eliach, a professor of Judaic studies at Brooklyn College and a contributing scholar to the Women's Studies Encyclopedia and the Encyclopedia Judaica.

She is also the creator of the Tower of Life, a collection of 3,500 pictures about the life and history of a small town in Europe before the Holocaust, now housed at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

In a telephone interview, Eliach, 59, whose own mother and infant brother were killed by a band of Poles in 1944, said that when picking the pictures, it was important to her to depict life rather than death. "I did not want the people shown only as victims. I wanted them depicted as humans before victimization."

Although so much has been reported and commemorated about the Holocaust, too little speaks to the gender-specific experiences of women, says Eliach. "Learning about the Holocaust is like doing a puzzle. Every aspect must be studied in order to understand it well. I am not concerned only about women, but I am concerned about a precise documentary."

During the Holocaust, and especially in the concentration camps, men and women were segregated, and since the majority of writers and historians are men "it is only natural that they write from a man's experience. We must ensure that memoirs written by women are equally represented," she says.

Women's issues during the Holocaust differed greatly from men's and it is important to emphasize their unique position, says Eliach.

"Upon selection at the camps, women were sent to the gas chambers and men were sent to do labor. Women who were pregnant or had children stood no chance of survival. They could not hide, because they had crying children and they always had to make the choice whether or not to abandon their children. The choice for mothers was between life and death and that is often more tragic than for men. Every Jewish mother had to make Sophie's choice. Single women, on the other hand, especially those who spoke the language fluently, could hide out more easily because for men, circumcision was a big give-away.

Yaffa Eliach

"In other words, sometimes women had less chance for survival than men and other times they had more chance. It is important to understand the differences because the better we understand and analyse the more chance we have of prevention. Sometimes, we are too general in our analysis which means we are not learning the proper lesson. We are not learning about pain and tears when we study the Holocaust, we are learning how to prevent future tragedies."

Female partisans, who were great fighters, also had different experiences than men, says Eliach. "Women partisans always needed a male protector. No matter how brave they were, they needed a male friend to be with them. Despite their heroic achievements, then, they were not treated equally. People do not like to point this out because it demeans men. It shows that they did not look upon women as equals."

Eliach will give three lectures on women in the Holocaust on Nov. 16, 8 p.m. and Nov. 17, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., at Temple Emanu-El, as part of Holocaust Education Week sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

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Greater Toronto Area

New Betar-Tagar shaliach stays away from politics

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As the *shaliach* for a right-wing group, Pinchas (Pini) Ravid walks a fine line to keep "ideology" separate from politics.

The Toronto-based envoy for Betar-Tagar replaced *shlichah* Sharon Tsur last month following her relocation to New York as North American Betar *shlichah* earlier this year.

"I'm representing an ideological movement and I'm staying away from politics," said Ravid, a 28-year-old Kfar Saba native, in the office he shares with Herut-Likud in Toronto's Zionist building.

Betar, which was founded in Latvia in 1923 and is now established in 15 countries, is the youth wing of Herut-Likud. Tagar was begun in the mid-1980s as its branch for university students, but only got off the ground here in 1994, when Tsur arrived as Toronto's first Betar-Tagar *shlichah*. There are now branches of Tagar at York University and the University of Toronto, as well as on a number of other campuses. Ravid is the only Betar *shaliach* in Canada.

The group for younger teens serves those 13 and up. They can participate in an upcoming weekend retreat to be held in Cleveland in November. Ravid expects that students from Toronto, Montreal, New York and Florida will attend.

Betar-Tagar's mandate here includes working for "Jewish values and Israeli values," said Ravid. With both an educational and an activist bent, it has included among its major projects an ongoing campaign to free missing Israeli navigator Ron Arad.

Most recently, the campaign took the form of a protest in front of the Iranian embassy in Ottawa last week.

Betar also fights anti-Semitism and supports Jewish settlers living outside of Israel's Green Line. Ravid stresses, however, that it is not a fundraising organization.

There are no specific campaigns to support settlers, but "if they need help and if security will allow it, we can visit them," said Ravid, who is looking into arranging a Betar trip to Israel. "Our goals are to strengthen the connection with Israel for youth."

While his ideology includes the "utopian" ideal of every Jew living in Israel, Ravid says that Betar is not a "missionary" group. "We're not trying to steal kids and take them to Israel."

Reluctantly weighing reality against his ideal, Ravid acknowledges the importance of Diaspora Jewry. "It's very important that they're here."

Pini Ravid holds one of the signs used in the recent protest in Ottawa. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

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Beth Emeth honoring rabbi with year-long 'Torah Fest'

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue has embarked on a year-long journey that will culminate in the completion of a Torah commissioned to honor Rabbi Joseph Kelman, who will retire next fall after 38 years of service.

A recent Sunday "Torah Fest" kicked off a year of Torah-related events. "Our objective is to have educational programs so people feel closer to the Torah and [come to] understand the importance of Torah in our everyday lives," said Pearl Grundland, co-chair of the education component of the Siyum Hatorah year.

In conjunction with the writing of the Torah, for which members can sponsor different portions, the shul plans to institute the Rabbi Joseph Kelman Endowment Fund for Jewish Continuity to fund programs for young people, such as scholarships to study in Israel.

A longtime proponent of taking responsibility in the greater community, Rabbi Kelman was a co-founder of the Reena Foundation and Shearim Hebrew Day School, both of which were represented at the Torah Fest.

Following a brief ceremony, which included Songs of the Torah sung by the synagogue choir and Zemer Chorale, Torah Fest participants were invited to see Torah art by Dubi Arie and a display of ceremonial objects.

Joshua Moskowitz, 6, works on his own scroll at Beth Emeth's Torah Fest. [Frances Kraft photo]

Rabbi Yechezkel Shapiro, the sofer (scribe) affiliated with the project, was on hand to field questions about the ancient and exacting art of writing Torah scrolls and parchments for mezuzot and tefillin.

Writing scrolls and beautifying them with decorative coverings is a way of "honoring G-d by uplifting ourselves," said Rabbi Barry Schneider, Beth Emeth's associate rabbi, in a d'var Torah.

In the past decade, there's been a new, hi-tech twist added to the sofer's art, at least when it comes to proofreading, explained Rabbi Shapiro. Torah scrolls are now routinely read by a computer to check for errors, he said.

Beth Emeth's new Torah scroll, the first to be specially commissioned for the shul, will probably be written in Israel.

The project will give synagogue members "the opportunity to personally observe the 613th mitzvah, which commands every Jew to write a Torah in his or her lifetime," said Sigmund Reiser, co-chair with Ralph Snow of the shul's Siyum Hatorah steering committee.

Synagogue members will complete the Torah either symbolically or by actually finishing partially printed letters with the help of Rabbi Shapiro, who will be responsible for ensuring the Torah's halachic acceptability.

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Storytelling Festival

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The famous Mona Lisa eating a slice of rye bread?

Yes, it's true, and organizers of the Jewish Storytelling Festival on Oct. 27, at the North York Central Library, are using the slogan "a taste of wry" to publicize it and going one better.

"Because Jewish people like food as well as stories, we're providing squares of rye bread and various dips, including smoked salmon and hummus, for everyone attending," said Alec Gelcer.

In addition, the festival is offering a story "swap" session between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., when people can make their own sandwiches (on rye of course and on food supplied) and swap stories with each other.

And the festival, both stories and food, is free, to all ages.

It begins with a children's concert (ages four to eight) from 10:30 a.m. to noon, featuring entertainers Kim and Jerry Brodie, singing

In the afternoon (1 to 5 p.m.), 20 storytellers will take the stage. They include virtuoso artists, too numerous to mention, but known as headliners in the community. This year all the stories will be in English but they'll all have Jewish characters in them, whether rabbis, cantors or tailors.

Because the stories are universal in appeal, both in the telling and the listening, several of the storytellers, including Helen Porter, the doyen of the craft, are non-Jewish.

"We hope that non-Jews who like well-told stories will come," said program head Gelcer. "You don't have to be Jewish to enjoy a taste of wry," he said.

The evening storytelling cabaret (7:30 to 9:30 p.m.) will have many performers who play instruments or sing along with their stories.

The festival will be held on the second floor of the library building, 5120 Yonge St., in the auditorium and adjacent areas. Signs will be posted to show the way.

Greater Toronto Area

Book planned on issues relating to continuity

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Organizers of last weekend's conference on Creating the Jewish Future, held at York University, are working on a spinoff project to reach a wider audience.

A committee of four York academics — Irving Abella, Michael Brown, Syd Eisen and Bernie Lightman — will compile conference analyses and programming suggestions into book form. It is hoped the volume will be published within a year, said Brown.

Two or three American commercial publishers are bidding on the manuscript, which will be distributed internationally, said Abella.

"I think it will be a fairly unique volume which will bring together town and gown," he added.

The mix of scholarly presentations and community planning — "probably a mix that no one else has tried to do," said Brown, was the most unique aspect of the conference.

The event, which brought together academics from Israel, the United States and Canada, and was attended by some 300 people, was the first of such magnitude to be organized by the university's Centre for Jewish Studies.

Among the speakers were Norma Joseph of Montreal, Israeli author Hillel Halkin, Toronto Rabbi Gunther Plaut and Morton Weinfeld of McGill University.

Session topics included The Centrality of Israel in the Jewish World, Faith and Religion in a "Secular" Age, The Future of Jewish Cultures in the Diaspora, Educating for the Future, Changing Gender Expectations and Roles in Jewish Communal Life, and Demography and Economics: The Institutional Response.

The conference was sponsored by business executive Bernie Ghert, philanthropist and past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. It was at Ghert's suggestion over a year ago that the conference was organized.

Although continuity has become a buzzword in the Jewish community in recent years, the Canadian Jewish community is fortunate, Abella believes.

"We are probably less in a state of crisis than other communities," he said. "The Canadian Jewish community is the fastest growing in the Diaspora. We're fully integrated. Our day schools are thriving. New synagogues are being built, [but] at the same time our worries are about our kids. Will they remain Jewish? ... Can we afford the education costs and commitment that are required?"

Holocaust Education Week shifts direction

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — This year's Holocaust Education Week features several subtle changes, indicating a shift in direction for the program.

The changes point to a new emphasis in finding programs of interest to Jewish youth and extending the event's reach into the broader community, says Doron Opher, co-chair along with Michael Herman of the Holocaust Education Committee.

The shift did not come without some spirited internal discussion, but in the end, it was decided that it was time to break away from previous formats that were "positioned" to appeal to older Jews and the Jewish community, he said.

Older people naturally gravitate to the Holocaust programming, but "we wanted to make it more accessible" to the younger generation as well as to non-Jews, Opher said.

This year, a variety of churches across the city will host programs on the Holocaust while Jewish community venues will address an eclectic variety of themes, among them programs of interest to younger people.

The Bloor Jewish Community Centre will host an evening of music, readings and a screening of the films, *Night and Fog* and *We are Children Just the Same: 'Vedem', the Secret Magazine*, about the boys of Terezin.

The Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva will present Israeli educator Ariel Horowitz who will discuss the role of the youth movement in ghetto uprisings.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Nuremburg war crimes trials and with that in mind, Holocaust Education Week features several programs to mark the anniversary, Opher said.

On Nov. 11, the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation will sponsor former Nuremberg prosecutor Whitney Harris, who will discuss the evidence presented at Nuremberg.

Siegfried Halbreich, a Holocaust survivor, will discuss his wartime experiences as well as his participation in preparing prosecutors for Nuremberg.

Author Erna Paris will discuss "history, memory and the burden of guilt," a lecture based in part on the controversial book, *Hitler's Willing Executioners* by Daniel Goldhagen.

Other highlights of the 10-day-long event, which begins Nov. 7, include: discussions on women in the Holocaust by Prof. Susan Nowak and by Prof. Yaffa Eliach; a lecture by Prof. Michael Marrus on the Vatican and the Holocaust; a discussion by Prof. Michael Bar-Zohar on the rescue of Bulgarian Jewry.

The opening night of Holocaust Education Week features Gerda and Kurt Klein. Gerda Klein's story was told in *One Survivor Remembers*, a film that won the 1996 Oscar for best documentary. Klein's autobiography, *All But My Life*, depicts her view of the Holocaust and describes her liberation by U.S. armed forces that included her husband, Lt. Kurt Klein.

Holocaust Education Week is coordinated by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation.

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Greater Toronto Area

Historian captures war ordeal faced by 'the boys'

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

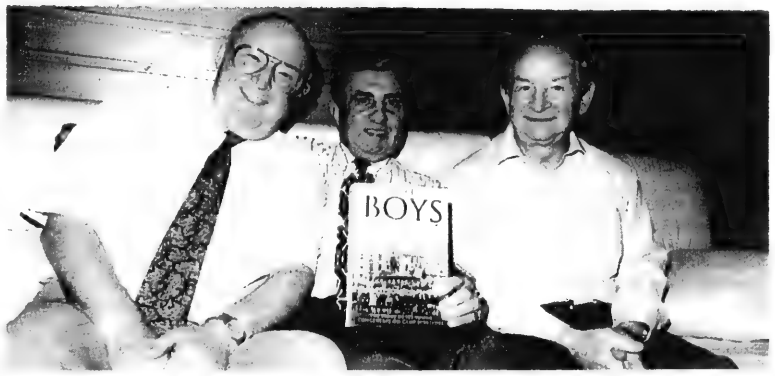
TORONTO — Today, "the boys" are in their mid-to-late 60s, graying, many with widened middles. But they exude vitality, optimism and prosperity. They challenge each others' memories, swap childhood stories with great verve and casually tell of unspeakable evil — starvation, beatings, even cannibalism — the way others talk about the weather.

Their *bonhomie* belies a harrowing tale of survival at an age when most kids have dating and school on their minds. Fifty years ago, having lived through the hell of several Nazi death camps, the teenagers were shunted off to Britain, where they attempted to piece their lives back together before coming to Canada.

Now, their tale has been told by the prolific British historian Martin Gilbert, Winston Churchill's official biographer and among the most respected living chroniclers of the Holocaust.

Gilbert's just-released *The Boys* (Douglas & McIntyre, $37.50) tells the remarkable story of 732 young concentration camp survivors — the boys, they were called, although several girls were among them — most of them orphaned, all of them battered and stunned — who were taken in by a sympathetic British government after the war.

Among them were 40 who eventually came to Canada, mainly Toronto. Today, like Izzie Light, Joshua Segal and Howard Chandler, the surviving 24 or so in this country are busy with grandparenting, business and even their own memoir writing. Among "the boys" is Edith Kaufman, who lives in Dundas, Ont.



Some of "the boys" with a copy of *The Boys*: From left, Izzie Light, Joshua Segal and Howard Chandler [Ron Csillag photo]

For some, like Light, now 66, the Holocaust is too painful to recall. A Lodz-born survivor of Auschwitz and Buchenwald (where a young Elie Wiesel was a barrackmate), Light was just 15 when he was part of the first transport of 300 or so youngsters flown from Prague to Carlisle, in northern England, in August 1945. A second group of about 400 arrived in Southampton from Munich later.

Light and his brethren were rescued by a measure of mercy absent in other Western capitals, including Ottawa. At war's end, following a campaign by British Jewish philanthropist Leonard Montefiore, London decided to grant asylum to 1,000 Jewish survivors of Hitler under age 16. But a macabre problem arose: officials could not find 1,000 youngsters; the Nazis had murdered 1.5 million Jewish children and youths. Thus, just 732 were given the opportunity to start new lives in Britain, where they encountered warmth and caring — not to mention real food and shelter — for the first time in years.

"We reverted more or less to a normal existence," Chandler, 68, is quoted as saying in the book. "We had to acquire new skills in order to cope with daily living."

Small wonder. Chandler had seen it all by the time he was 17, having experienced the Jewish ghetto and a slave labor camp in his native Wierzbnik, near Warsaw, and later, 10 months at Birkenau. His mother, sister and brother perished at Treblinka.

In England, while living with two aunts, he apprenticed in a diamond factory. Chandler arrived in Canada in December 1947, immediately finding work as a diamond cutter and in the process, a new life.

Segal too arrived in Carlisle in August 1945, after having survived Buchenwald and a vicious beating with a chair from the commandant of Nordhausen. In England, he learned the mechanic's trade — well enough to qualify for a coveted Rolls-Royce licence — and came to Canada in 1947, along with 700 war brides, following the personal intervention of the late Senator David Croll.

Segal, 69, could not talk about his experiences for nearly 50 years, until the recent death of his brother. Now, he's penning his memoirs.

So is Light. He learned welding at an ORT school in South Kensington, and entered Canada in 1948 as a welder. Appropriately, the working title of his story is *A Light at the End of the Tunnel.*

Today, the boys can be found all over the world, and at simchahs especially, like the weddings of their children, they seek each other out like long-lost relatives.

"The bonds are so close," says Segal, "that we feel like brothers."

According to Gilbert, 67 of the boys have died since 1945.

They have always stuck together, these children who grew up far too quickly. In 1960, they formed the '45 Aid Society, which made charitable donations and helped fellow members who hit hard times. In 1976, the group began publishing a journal that has enabled members to exchange addresses and write articles about wartime experiences. The society's honorary president is Gilbert, who, as an infant, was himself evacuated from Britain to Toronto, where he lived with foster parents for three years.

In the end, these boys were robbed of their youth. They were starved, beaten and very nearly killed before they were even old enough to shave. But as the boys note, and as Gilbert stresses, they were always able to count on their extended family to help mend their bodies and souls.

* * *

Gilbert will be in Toronto to launch *The Boys* at a private luncheon hosted by Izzie Light and his wife Marylyn on Nov. 14. He's scheduled to speak the evening before at 8 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple.

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Greater Toronto Area

Neuberger 'shines a light' on the community

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Adi Neuberger was looking for a job, one of her criteria was that it be connected with the Jewish community. She could not have found a better place.

As a communications associate with UJA Federation for the past year, Neuberger, 28, writes for the agency's supplement, copy writes, works in media relations and does "a little bit of everything else."

Adi Neuberger

After graduating with a masters degree in political science from Carleton University, Neuberger received an intern scholarship with the Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies where one of her duties was to write and edit its newsletter. She then landed a job with the Canadian Council of the Americas, also writing for its bulletin and doing reports.

"It was good experience, but my parents are Israeli and I have always had a strong connection with and love for the country. The fact that I wanted a job that would keep my finger on the pulse of the community did not surface consciously until I wasn't doing it."

It was then that she tried freelance writing in the Jewish community and became a copy editor with the now defunct *Jewish Life*.

"Coincidentally, after the paper closed, I met Howard English, director of communications for UJA Federation, on a plane to Israel. He told me to get in touch with him. It was a great chance meeting.

"At UJA Federation I am able to promote Israel and spread the word to the Jewish community — keep them in touch with what is going on in Israel. I also highlight the positive things happening at the agency such as its memorial service for Yitzhak Rabin. Only this type of place can pull something like that together.

"As well, I write campaign update stories and profile different people in the community. I enjoy shining a light on the people and programs of which the community might otherwise be unaware. The agency really helps a lot of people and I am involved in promoting everything we do. I am always at the tail end of things."

Working at UJA Federation, Neuberger says she becomes part of the "energy that is always felt in the air. There is a buzz around here. Something is always happening and I enjoy being in the middle of it. I also feel comfortable because I am at a place where I am allowed to express my pride of Judaism and love of Israel."

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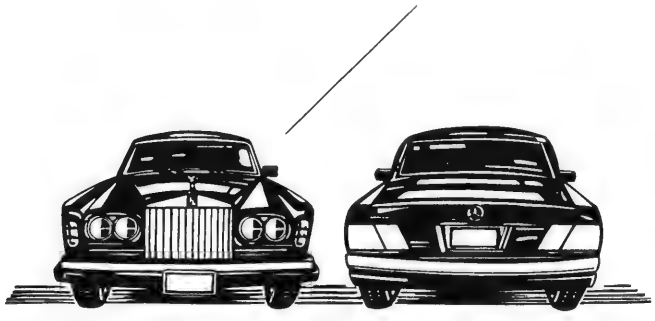

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From coast to coast

Funding to Quebec private schools threatened

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The report of the broadest inquiry into the Quebec educational system since the 1960s recommends that government subsidies to private schools be "gradually" reduced and that a moratorium be imposed on opening new private schools.

The Commission for the Estates General on Education says parents should assume more of the cost of their children's private education. Private schools endangered by the loss of public funds should be "integrated" into the public system, according to the report.

In this time of budget cutbacks, priority should be given to public schools, the commission has concluded. No figures or timetable are suggested, but commission co-chair Robert Bisaillon said he favors the eventual elimination of subsidies to private schools.

Private schools, the report said, are not shouldering a fair share of the task of educating children who are below-average academically, handicapped or immigrants.

The overall goal of the educational reform envisioned in the 60-page report is "a fairer, more democratic and egalitarian society."

The report, entitled *Renewing Our Education System* and now in the hands of Education Minister Pauline Marois, is the result of 18 months of work, which included public hearings throughout Quebec intended to get the views of a cross-section of society.

A major recommendation is to transform the current denominational system to a neutral, language-based one, and to end any specific religious instruction in favor of greater emphasis on the teaching of civics and "shared values." The commission believes this will make the schools more in tune with an increasingly secular and culturally pluralistic Quebec.

"Schools must rely on family, religious groups and community groups to assume more responsibility for providing instruction in values, religious commitment and good citizenship," the report states.

It calls for the repeal of Section 93 of the Constitution, which protects the right of Catholics and Protestants to run their own boards in Montreal and Quebec City.

(In 1993, the Supreme Court approved the creation of French and English boards as foreseen in Quebec's Bill 107 and they were to be in place by September 1996. At the same time, the high court upheld the educational rights of Catholics and Protestants in those two cities guaranteed in 1867. The Parti Quebecois, elected in 1994, however, indefinitely delayed the implementation of 107, passed in 1988 by the Liberal government.)

A dissenting voice on the private school funding and sole anglophone among the 13 commissioners, Gary Caldwell, says private schools deemed "in the public interest," such as the Jewish schools, are a bargain and not a drain because they operate at only about half the cost to the taxpayer of public schools.

If their students had to go to the public sector, the cost of educating them would then be borne entirely be the state, he points out.

As for the argument these "semi-public" schools are not assuming enough social responsibility, Caldwell remarks that could be remedied by providing them with comparable funding to that received by public schools for educating immigrants, the handicapped and below-average learners.

Two other dissenters on this point, Elise Pare-Tousignant and Majella St-Pierre, say the alternative of private education is a right if the public system does not meet parent's expectations. Parents, they further maintain, should get a tax deduction for the tuition.

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French rightists scorned

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Officials from France's far-right Front National (FN) came to Montreal last week to build support among French nationals living in the province.

But their welcome, at least as far as they were concerned, could have been warmer — and a lot more peaceful.

FN vice-president Dominique Chaboche and Jacques Dore, an FN official from the Bretagne region, were getting ready to start a news conference at the Hotel Complexe Desjardins when about 50 young demonstrators invaded the room.

Dressed in "punk"-style clothing, they broke down the door, bloodied the face of a security guard, attacked photographers and screamed obscenities against the FN.

Looking on from the sidelines during the melee was David Sultan, Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region's (CJC-Q) community relations director.

(Last week, at news of the impending visit by FN officials, CJC-Q unsuccessfully tried to persuade the hotel not to lend them use of its facilities).

Although order was restored within minutes after the police riot squad was called in (no arrests were made), Sultan suggested that the violence, while unjustified, did reflect the vehemence with which the FN's agenda is rejected.

Dore, speaking earlier to *The CJN* and later to reporters in his hotel room, insisted that the FN, which has performed strongly in France at the municipal level and garnered about 15 percent of the vote in national elections, was not racist, only "pro-French."

He also insisted that the FN is not anti-Semitic, saying that a number of French Jews vote for the party and that all of his "closest friends" are Jews.

Such statements, however, did not wash with Sultan, who pointed to the fact that FN president Jean-Marie Le Pen has in the past "denied the Holocaust" and most recently, reaffirmed his belief in the "inequality of the races."

To get Jewish support, "the way they present themselves in France is as against Arab immigration."

That's a sentiment, he said, that might work to a degree, especially in areas with large Arab immigrant populations like Marseilles.

On the other hand, the small number of French Jews who support the FN are probably "more French than they are Jewish," Sultan said.

The FN, he said, is insidious because it tries to put forward an image of political respectability, Sultan said, while it in fact "incites people to moral violence."

In France, he added, efforts are underway to have the FN made illegal, based on French anti-hate laws.

"No, they are not like the neo-Nazis, but they are just as dangerous because they are 'intellectual' racists," Sultan said.

He noted that the FN has not made any inroads in Quebec despite the efforts of a local activist. And even in France the FN remains a "marginal" presence, Sultan said.

Still, Le Pen was among the first to react positively to former premier Jacques Parizeau's infamous remarks after the referendum loss a year ago, when he talked about "money and the ethnic vote" frustrating sovereigntist aspirations.

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From coast to coast

Greater role seen for Canada in Mideast talks

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA– Far from throwing up his hands and saying a plague on both their houses, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy says he wants Canada more involved in the Middle East not less involved, as the Israelis and Palestinians move closer to open confrontation.

"I'd like even more Canadian activity in the area," Axworthy said recently. "I want to re-ignite the mediation process."

Adopting an openly interventionist approach, Axworthy admits that the peace process is off the rails, despite what Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat are trying to make the world believe.

"Somehow we've got to get things back on track," Axworthy said, approaching the problem as if it belongs to the whole world to solve and it is not just up to the major participants in the Middle East.

Canada's interventionist position did not come easily. Axworthy had to fight off a circle of bureaucrats at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who said that as long as Benjamin Netanyahu is running things in Israel, Canada should back off from an interventionist approach.

Their advice was simple. "Stay out. Don't get involved. Let them fight it out themselves. We can only get hurt meddling in Israel's domestic affairs."

Their fear was that whatever Canada tried to do would be misinterpreted by one side or the other, whether it was more aid for Palestinian refugees or quick implementation of the free trade agreement signed with Israel earlier this year, which still requires approval by Parliament before it can go into effect on Jan. 1.

Axworthy has rejected a do-nothing approach, which he feels is the surest way of contributing to an increase in hostilities as the situation becomes increasingly unbearable for Palestinians.

The Canadian government's current view is to go ahead with free trade with Israel and increase aid to Palestinian refugees, which it sees as helping rebuild the peace process destroyed during the first few months of the new Israeli government.

"If the peace process is not rebuilt, we'll revert back to the pre-Oslo situation," Axworthy warned.

The Oslo accord put an end to the slaughter of the intifadah, which had isolated Israel and made it a pariah on the world's stage.

Canada's major contribution to the Middle East peace process has been to work through the Refugee Working Group that came out of a meeting in Madrid held parallel to the last Oslo meeting.

There are an estimated 2.8 million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. More than half the populations of Gaza and the West Bank are listed as refugees. Most of them live in deplorable Third World conditions that breed hatred and violence, much of it directed against Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

"There's a lot of room for improvement and we're helping to improve what we can," Axworthy said. "It's difficult in the present climate with the closures of territories and when you are dealing increasingly with tensions in an armed situation.

"We are trying," Axworthy said. "We recently opened a dialogue with Palestinian students and school teachers."

Canada also has ongoing cultural and educational exchanges with Palestinian and Israeli participants, but Canada's participation largely takes the form of helping care for Palestinian refugees and about 40 other nations in the Refugee Working Group.

There is an old saying that it is very easy for a man with a hungry, homeless child to take up a gun. Taking care of children, providing food, clothing, shelter, schools, hospitals and recreation,is a large part of the focus of the Working Group.

Canada took over as chair of the group at the first meeting in Moscow. At an organizational meeting in Ottawa in May 1992, a number of lead countries called "shepherds" agreed to spend money on particular refugee problems.

Norway took responsibility for preparing databases listing the number of refugees, their needs and their problems.

France promised to help with family reunification. The United States said it would look after job creation and vocational training.

Italy said it would look after public health, Sweden said it would concentrate on child welfare and the European Union said it would take responsibility for economic and social infrastructure.

Today the databases have been set up, the number of families reunited has tripled and more than $90 million has been spent on job training in Gaza, Jordan, the West Bank, Syria and Lebanon.

Another $12 million has been spent on health clinics and emergency housing in Syria, and maternal and child health care centres have been set up in Jordan.

Agricultural training, public health nursing and construction trades programs have been set up in several countries.

More than 800 Palestinian refugees from the "Canada Camp" in the Rafah, Egypt, have been reunited with their families in Gaza.

The Working Group is part of the "vision" for a new Middle East that Canada endorses. While only direct negotiations between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority can lead a lasting peace, Canada firmly believes that solving the refugee problem is no less important and will continue to be heavily involved no matter what happens in the Middle East.

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פון באָריס דאָרפמאַן

דעם 22-סטן יוני היי-יאָר איז געוואָרן 55 יאָר זינט דעם טאָג, ווען די דייטשיש-פאַשיסטישע אַרמייען האָבן אָנגעהויבן די מלחמה קעגן סאָוועטן-פאַרבאַנד. דעם 24-סטן אויגוסט אין דעם זעלבן יאָר, איז אין מאָסקווע, אינעם פאַרלאַג „אמת", דערשינען אַ בראָשור מיטן נאָמען „ברידער יידן פון דער גאַנצער וועלט", גע-ווידמעט דעם מיטינג פון די פאַרשטייער פונעם יידישן פאָלק אין דער הויפטשטאָט, אין אָנהויב פון דער מלחמה. דער טיראַזש — 10 טויזנט עקזעמפלאַרן, צעשפרייט צווישן די יידישע און נישט יידי שע אינסטיטוציעס אויף דער גאַנצער וועלט.

איך היט אָפּ דאָס געל געוואָרענע פון דער צייט ביכעלע אויף אונדזער מאַמע-לשון.

מיט רעדעס זיינען אויפן מיטינג אַרויסגעטראָטן: דער פאָלקס-אַרטיסט שלמה מיכאָעלס, דער פאָעט פרץ מאַרקיש, דער שלאָכט-מאַן פון דער רויטער אַרמיי קוזנעצאָוו, דער יידישער שרייבער דוד בערגעלסאָן, דער רוסישער געלערנטער, מיטגליד פון דער וויסנ שאַפט-אַקאַדעמיע פראָפּ. פּ. קאָפּיצאָ, דער באָוואוסטער קינאָ-רעזשיסער ס. אייזנשטיין, דער אַקאַדעמיקער ח. יאָפּאָן, דער דייטשישער שרייבער פליוונע, די שרייבערס ס. מאַרשאַק און איליאָ ערענבורג, דער מיטאַרבעטער אין דער אַמעריקאַנער יידישער פרעסע, שכנא עפשטיין.

הייס און ליידנשאַפטלעך האָבן געקלונגען די ווערטער פון די ארויסטרעטנדיקע, וועלכע האָבן געשטעלט צום שאַנד-סלופ די דייטשישע פאַרכאַפּערס, די הענקערס, וועלכע האָבן פאַרגאָסן מיט בלוט פיל שטעט און דערפער, מיט באַגנעטן און תליות, מיט פייער און גוואַלדטאָטן.

דעם יידישן פאָלק האָט דער בלוטיקער היטלעריזם געגרייט אויסראָטונג מיט אַלע באַרבאַרישע מיטלען.

אויף דעם דאָזיקן מיטינג האָט מען פאַרעפנטלעכט אַ רוף צו אַלע יידן פון דער וועלט זיך איינצושליסן אין דעם הייליקן קריג קעגן פאַשיזם. נישט צו אזכרה-ליכט האָט מען גערופן די יידן, נאָר צו אַ פייער, אין וועלכן די הענקערס דאַרפן פאַרברענט ווערן. נישט צו טרערן, נאָר צו נעמען נקמה און שטעלן אַ ווידערשטאַנד די מערדער.

איצט, נאָך 55 יאָר, ברענגט מען אַרויס אַלערליי געדאַנקען, מען ציילט וויפל זיינען אומגעקומען, בפרט יידן. אַנדערע לייקענען אָפּ און דערווייזן, אַז ס'איז נישט געווען קיין אוישוויץ, קיין בוכנ-וואַלד, באַבי-יאָר, יאַנאָווער און אַנדערע לאַגערס; אַז די דייטשן זיינען געווען גוטע מענטשן און זייערע אונטערהעלפערס, די אוקראַינער, רומענער, ליטווינער, פאָלאַקן האָבן נישט צוגעלייגט זייערע שמוציקע הענט צו די רציחות. מען זאָגט, אַז מיר האָבן זיך אַליין אומגעבראַכט... אָבער וואו זיינען די יידישע שטעט און שטעטלעך, די יידישע אינסטיטוציעס, וואו זיינען די מיליאָנען יידן, פרויען און קינדער, יונגע און אַלטע?

מ'האָט אויפגעבויט גרויסע, שיינע אינסטיטוציעס פון פאַר-אייביקונג אין ירושלים, וואָשינגטאָן און אַנדערע שטעט. מ'האָט אָוועקגעשטעלט פיל דענקמעלער און מעמאָריאַל-טאָוולען. מ'האָט אָפּגעדרוקט טויזנטער ביכער און בראָשורן געווידמעט דעם אומקום.

היינט לעבן זייער ווייניק פון די, וואָס האָבן איבערגעלעבט יענע צייטן. יעדעס יאָר נעמט מען זיך צונויף צו דערמאָנען אונדזערע קדושים. מען אַרגאַניזירט אַלערליי קאָנפערענצן פון גע לערנטע, היסטאָריקערס, פאָרשערס.

נאָר דאָס ביכל „ברידער יידן פון דער גאַנצער וועלט" מוז פאַרבלייבן אויף אייביק, ווי אַן אַנדענק פאַר די אומגעקומענע און פאַר די וואָס האָבן געזיגט.

The Management and Staff
of
The Canadian Jewish News
extend sincerest condolences
to our colleague and friend
Miriam Chinsky and her family
on the loss of their
beloved husband, father and grandfather
Joseph Chinsky ז'ל

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"You'll see the difference as soon as you rinse it off"

Cronin and his wife Kathy discovered the Youthglow formula in the U.K. eight years ago and knew immediately they had to bring it home to Canada.

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More than a revitalizer, Youthglow can also help prevent aging in younger women, Cronin adds. The Cronins worked for years with their chemist to come up with the product now available exclusively through their mail order business.

"Kathy's been our guinea pig. Since we don't test on animals, instead, we've been testing it on my wife," he says with a laugh.

"We're a very animal conscious family."

Youthglow should be used at least twice a week, applied right to your face and under your eyes, then you just relax for 20 to 30 minutes. You'll see the difference as soon as you rinse it off, Cronin says.

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KATHY CRONIN
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Youthglow products are available through mail order and can not be found in any stores.

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By Miriam Herman

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What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Oct. 24, is deadline for Nov. 7 issue and Wednesday, Oct. 30, is deadline for Nov. 14. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Oct. 24

RABIN'S YAHRZEIT

Assembly marking the yahrzeit of the late prime minister of Israel **Yitzhak Rabin**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Keynote speaker human rights lawyer **Prof. Irwin Cotler**. Co-sponored by B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and Canadian Zionist Federation.

Saturday, Oct. 26

ARAB-ISRAELI RELATIONS

As part of Beth Tzedec Congregation's Itta & Eliezer Zeisler Beth Midrash fall lecture series, **Prof. Menahem Milson**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, lectures on Current Arab-Israeli Relations at morning services.

BBYO OPENING DANCE

BBYO community-wide dance (teens from grades 8-13) 8 p.m. to midnight, Bathurst Jewish Centre. $5 members, $8 non-members. Join BBYO now for $49.

CLASSICAL CONCERT

Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, classical concert, the Metro String Quartet, 8 p.m., followed by wine and cheese reception. Members $15, non-members $20, seniors $5 off. 905-770-7639.

ANNUAL AUCTION

The Golan Group annual auction at the Charity Centre, 788 Marlee Ave., preview 6 p.m., auction 7 p.m. Door prize, original **Joy Orzy** water color. Proceeds to Ben Yehuda School for children with learning disabilities in Jerusalem.

Sunday, Oct. 27

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Toronto Jewish Film Society presents *Mirele Efros* (Yiddish with English subtitles) about a matchmaking Jewish matriarch, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall. Co-presented with Friends of Yiddish. Film Society is under the auspices of Bloor JCC. **Bill Emery** 924-6211.

SPORTS CELEBRITY LUNCH

Beth Sholom Youth Sports Celebrity Lunch (**Nick Kypreos** and **Tie Domi** of the Toronto Maple Leafs and others), noon to 3 p.m. $6 (12 and under), $10 adults. Reserve. 783-6103.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood, 864 Sheppard Ave. W., breakfast and inauguration meeting, 9:30 a.m. **Brian Charles** speaks on Financial Planning From the Youngest to the Oldest. $2.

GRAND SOCIETY

GRAND Society support group for grandparents seeking access to their grandchildren, 200 Eglinton Ave. W., Memorial Community Centre, 1 p.m. Lawyer/author **Michael G. Cochrane**. Non-members $5.

Monday, Oct. 28

PROF. DAVID NOVAK

Prof. David Novak, incoming chair of Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, delivers the Beth Tzedec Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg Memorial Lecture, The Fractured Jewish People: What Can be Done?, 7:45 p.m.

THE "ME" IN MOTHER

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood workshop, The "Me" in Mother, facilitator **Nancy Kumer**, Jewish Family & Child Service, 8 p.m. Members $2, non-members $3. Hostess **Linda Gotlieb**.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members meeting, 7:30 p.m.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Blood donor clinic, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 2-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Photo/signature required.

[Cont'd. on page 29]

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199

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 28]

Tuesday, Oct. 29

CAFE L'EUROPA
Cafe L'Europa farewell get-together with snow birds travelling south, 2 p.m. *Travelogue of Israel* film and **Daniel Fine**, Israel Committee, Toronto Jewish Congress.

KOSHER COOKING SCHOOL
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School course Creative Meatless Snacks and Lunches, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

FASHION SHOW
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood fall fashion show and boutiques, fashions of **Linda Lindstrom**, boutiques 6 p.m., showtime 8 p.m. $20 at door.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
"Copyright" and Jewish Law, **Rabbi Moshe Stern** 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Wednesday, Oct. 30

THEATRE NIGHT
Canadian Society for Yad Vashem gala reception evening of *Still the Night* 8 p.m. featuring **Theresa Tova** and **Liza Balkan** at Theatre Passe Muraille, 16 Ryerson Ave. 905-660-6028.

ORGAN TRANSPLANTS
Baycrest Centre Women's Auxiliary, The Myths of Organ Transplants — Taboo or Mitzvah?, **Rabbi Chaim Sacknovitz,** CHAT, and **Dr. Bernard Goldman**, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, 7:30 p.m., 785-2500, ext. 2010.

GENEALOGY SOCIETY
Jewish Genealogy Society of Canada, Heritage of a Patriarch: Ten Generations of the Founding Families of Canadian Jewry, **Anne Joseph** of Montreal. 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

LUNCH AND LEARN
Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, guest speaker **Ed Philip**, former cabinet minister (NDP), will answer all your questions, noon. Reserve. **Leslie** 789-3291, ext. 233.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM
Jews for Judaism Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, Introduction to Christian Proof Texting, 8 p.m., Albert J. Latner Public Library. 789-2851.

Thursday, Oct. 31

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE
Deborah and Yael: Women of the '90s, **Rachel Turkienicz**, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New...

REMEMBRANCE PARADE
Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of Canada Remembrance Parade and Service, Sunday, Nov. 3. Assemble 9:30 a.m. outside Earl Bales Park Community Centre for parade to Beth Radom Synagogue, Reiner Road. Political, diplomatic, military representatives will be attending. Family members and congregants welcome. For service be at synagogue by 10:30 a.m. JWV office 663-8387 or parade marshall **Ernest Stein** 423-2794.

KLEZMER PHENOMENON
Temple Sinai's Our Musical Legacy series Oneg Shabbat discussion of klezmer music's history by composer-in-residence **Ben Steinberg**, followed by a performance by the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band. Services 8:15 p.m.

RIVERDALE COMMUNITY
Fall courses offered by Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., Wednesdays 8:30 p.m. $5 per evening, $20 each course. 465-4835 or 465-3991: Judaism for a Modern World, **Elliott Malamet**, Nov. 6, 20, Dec. 4, 18; Women in Judaism: The Cover Up, **Malka Mendelovitz**, Oct. 30, Nov. 13, 27, Dec. 11.

COMEDY AND MUSIC
Broadway at Beth Sholom, evening of comedy and music, singer/impressionist **Marilyn Michaels**, **Israel Gutman** and the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, Sunday, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. Reserve. 783-6103.

LONG-TERM CARE
Jewish Family & Child Service group, Placing Family Members in a Long-Term Care Facility, begins Oct. 29. **Pat Lieberman** or **Toby Maskowitz** 638-7800.

STILL THE NIGHT
Still the Night, a play about two Jewish women partisans in the forests of Nazi-occupied Poland, at Theatre Passe Muraille, Oct. 31-Nov. 24 (previews Oct. 29 and 30). 504-7529.

FOLKDANCING
Folkdancing for beginners Wednesdays 8:30 p.m., Borochov Cultural centre, 272 Codsell Ave. (back door). **Jackie** 665-0715.

CASINO ROYALE
Beth Tikvah Sisterhood fundraiser, Casino Royale, dinner reception, games of chance, silent auction. Saturday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m. A portion of proceeds go to Hospital for Sick Children Foundation. Patrons $54 per couple ($30 tax receipt), general admission $18 at door or call 221-3433.

WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENCE
Na'amat Toronto region six-week introductory classes in self-defence for women and girls over 12, Tuesday mornings beginning Nov. 5, or Thursday evenings beginning Nov. 7, Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Register. 636-5425.

CAMP RAMAH
Camp Ramah havdalah service for staff, alumni and new interested families for the upcoming camp season, Saturday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Meet director **Rabbi Mitchell Cohen**. 789-2193.

PIANIST WANTED
Bubies and Zaydies performing group needs a pianist to play old songs dear to the hearts of today's seniors. **Fred Field** 633-2877.

BETH TIKVAH
Beth Tikvah Synagogue programs: Adult Heder, **Emmy Gershon**, Holland, Sunday, Oct. 27, 9:45 a.m.; Theory of Kashrut, **Rabbi Martin Berman**, Monday, Oct. 28, 8 p.m.; The Vanishing Diaspora, **Gerald Zeidenberg**, Thursday, Oct. 31, 8 p.m.

KADIMA SCHOOL
Kadima School, an educational program serving the developmentally disabled, meets Sunday mornings at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue to add a Jewish dimension to the students — Jewish holidays, biblical studies, prayer service, ccurrent events, music, arts and crafts. Open for children 7 to adulthood. **Ruth Kelman** 635-0640.

MARKET DAY
Holy Blossom Temple Parent's Association's Holiday Time Market Day, Nov. 24, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. vendors ranging from jewelry to handcrafted gifts, craft and play area for children, scholastic book Fair, $250 Yorkdale shopping spree. Admission free. Fashion show, 9:30-10:30 a.m. $10. Vendor information or other questions 322-5813.

KIDS ISRAELI SING-ALONG
Israeli folksong sing-along for children of all ages, Sundays, 10 a.m. to noon, Bathurst Jewish Centre. Knowledge of Hebrew not necessary. $2/child or pay what you can. 633-3988.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Separation and Looking Ahead begins Nov. 13; Widows/Widowers begins Oct. 28; Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Nov. 6. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

ANNE FRANK TULIP BULBS
In memory of 1½ million children, victims of the Holocaust, students from Toronto's Brown and Deer Park public schools will plant a bed of 750 Anne Frank tulip bulbs Friday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m., Amsterdam Park, Avenue Road and St. Clair. Assisting will be consuls general of the Netherlands and Israel, Paul W.A. Schellekens and Jehudi Kinar, and other dignitaries. Co-sponsored by Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, and the Dutch/Canadian Association of Greater Toronto.

For Seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, Oct. 24, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Janice Tait**, director, Transportation Action, speaks on Is Transportation a Human Right? **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Friendship Group 55 Plus of Beth Tikvah Synagogue, A Life To Remember, members **Dr. Phil Simon, Miriam Beckerman, Morris Bitterman** reminisce about their experiences, Sunday, Oct. 27, 8 p.m. Youth Room lower level. Non-members $3.

LZA Seniors Club has a few rooms left for Miami trip, four, six and eight weeks. Registration Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building) Oct. 31 program is Israeli film *Aba-Ganob* Part 2. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club three-week all-inclusive vacation trip to Netanyah and Eilat postponed until Purim. Arizona trip (strictly kosher) leaves Jan. 4. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dance Oct. 26; Sunday dance Oct. 27; blood pressure check-up Nov. 5; line dancing class Wednesdays 1 p.m.; Atlantic City and New York City Oct. 27-31; Thornhill Square Mall, Nov. 4; Dixie Mall Nov. 14; Casino Rama Nov. 21; Las Vegas Nov. 24-28; for information on *Beauty and the Beast* and *Ragtime* 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Power of Attorney and Health Care Consent Act, lawyer **Judith Wahl**, executive director, Advocacy Centre for the Elderly, Thursday, Oct. 31, 1 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Oct. 30 program is bingo. **Anna**

Movie *I.Q.* Sunday, Oct. 27, 2:30 p.m.

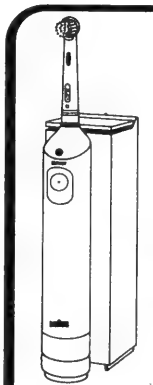
Wednesday social Oct. 30 **Rachel Kastoryano**, songs from your favorite musicals 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

At Bloor JCC, slide presentation and informal discussion on Jewish identity and heritage by photographers **Isaac Applebaum** and **Simon Glass**, and figurative painter **Howard Podeswa**, Thursday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.

Anna Trubashnik accompanied by **Michael Khinkis** entertains at Tuesday, Nov. 12, luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Senior Adult Services, BJC. Tickets at Information Desk. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Bloor JCC has Entertainment '97 "two for one" coupon books. Excellent Chanukah gift. At Reception Desk.



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From coast to coast

Israel boosts teen's education in Jewish identity

By BEV MITELMAN
CJN Correspondent

OTTAWA — Jenna Slotin was given the opportunity of a lifetime this summer.

The Canadian student was selected for the Bronfman Youth Fellowship program and spent most of the summer in Israel furthering her education in Jewish identity and culture.

She spent five weeks studying with 25 American students. "It made me very patriotic," she says. "I don't want to be American. It's a crazy attitude they have."

Jenna, a senior at Canterbury High School in Ottawa, was chosen for the trip as a result of her personal achievements and Jewish community involvement. She says the experience changed her life.

"It wasn't like your average teen-age tour. It seemed that every time we went to a particular place, we were given hand-outs and we would actually study something about that place, which was really interesting. It gave me an added dimension that I wouldn't have had with any other group."

The group met with influential politicians, novelists and religious figures. Jenna highlights the day she met former Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres, as one of her most memorable.

"He's very inspirational. A real visionary. His ideas are so full of hope," she says.

The group of students selected for the program come from different Jewish backgrounds. Jenna, who is a Reform Jew, says she was able to gain insight into some differences between modern Jewish communities.

"There's an understandable intimidation that occurs when you're Reform and you're dealing in a Jewish setting with an Orthodox individual who more than likely has far more of a Jewish education, and so there's a difficult interaction there in discussing issues related to Judaism."

She says the main difference is in the way groups see each other. Her experience this summer helped her to clarify her own beliefs and values.

In addition to the books and seminars, the group spent nights out in Jerusalem having a good time and bonding with one another. Jenna says that although few of the participants dated within the group, there was "plenty of chemistry."

"Nobody went into it knowing what to think, and you didn't want to spend your summer with 25 people who didn't like you; so for this first little while I think it would have almost been taboo if anyone started dating, which is funny, because apparently in past years, it is one of the first things that happened."

The trip stayed in the Goldstein Youth Village, a university dormitory-like setting in Jerusalem, where Jenna says she spent many hours relaxing near the pool. They also spent four days in the north and in the south of Israel, visiting the Negev and Eilat.

In her free time, Jenna visited Kikar Rabin, the square in Tel Aviv where Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. She says that memory has stuck in her mind.

"I felt the loss of a future."

Of the present situation in Israel, Jenna says she learnt that most Israelis were supportive of the peace process, but that the changes were happening too rapidly.

"The added violence now and massive lack of communication between the Palestinians and the Israelis has brought it to a halt. How to get peace is a touchy question, but the general feeling is that they want peace."

Peace process will succeed: Peres

HAMILTON — It may take more time and there may be bloodshed along the way, but the Mideast peace process will succeed, former Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres said here last week.

"There is not a single party, a single person or a single ruler who can stop the march of wisdom," Peres told 700 people at a $150-a-plate dinner to raise funds for St. Joseph's Hospital.

Although he did not explicitly blame the Likud government of the man who defeated him, Benjamin Netanyahu, Peres told a news conference prior to the event that he believes "quite a few mistakes have been made so far."

He said Israel's opening of a new entrance to a tunnel underneath the Western Wall, which touched off days of deadly rioting, was badly timed.

"If it had been handled differently, many of the problems would be solved," he said.

Peres called Netanyahu's razor-thin victory "more accidental than decisive. My role now is to correct the wrongs of the government."

He suggested that Netanyahu should not slow the peace process, adding the government has promised "peace for nothing."

"Nothing will get you nothing. I recommend sticking to the agreement."

Despite setbacks and the possibility of more violence, peace "will succeed 100 percent."

Peres said it's a "mistake" to keep Israeli troops in Hebron, from where they were scheduled to redeploy under the terms of the Oslo peace accord.

Prior to the black-tie dinner, Peres met with local Jewish community leaders, including Patricia Tolkin-Eppel, executive director of Hamilton's Jewish federation, who said Peres told her he appreciates the "special relationship" between Israel and Canada.

The dinner was organized by the Firan Foundation, headed by Dr. Morgan Firestone. The foundation has raised thousands of dollars for medical causes.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Firestone Regional Chest and Allergy Unit at St. Joseph's Hospital and to the Father Sean O'Sullivan Research Centre.

The Officers and Board of Directors of
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Jewish National Fund of Toronto
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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

•CO-ED VOLLEYBALL. METRO TORONTO SINGLES presents our **3rd Annual Co-ed Volleyball** season, from November-March. Limited space. $65.00. Call 222-7111.

•GAMES Jewish Singles Play! REMINDER! Sunday, Oct.27th, 7:30 pm, Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. **Bridge, Rummicube, Scrabble, etc.** $5. **55 couples have already met!** Mollie, 733-3634.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIME OUT! presents its second sensational season! Great way to have fun, meet new people and keep fit. Teams and individuals welcome. **FREE** T-shirt for the first 50 to register.
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Coffee house with live entertainment. Thursday, Nov. 7th, 8- 11pm, for Singles, Thornhill Community Centre, Fireside lounge. 905-881-0376 for info.

Darren, Mark & Ari invite you to....**Nightmare on the Danforth.** Friday, October 25th, 9:00 pm, Club ZOO, 2714 Danforth Ave. Halloween Costume Bash. Live to air broadcast on 103.5 fm. Tickets: $12.00 Advance/At door. TicketMaster 416-870-8000. Ari Huber, Mark Brodkin, Darren Budd, 416-733-1419.

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Jewish Singles Parents & Single Friends, 30ish - 40ish are invited on Sun. Oct. 27th to *Table Talk* with Rabbi Mitch Mandel (Aish HaTorah). A great way to meet & dialogue, *"Lust, Love & the Sports Channel"*. Refreshments & Nosh. $10.00, reservations pref. 905-881-0376,register 1:30 pm, 2:00 pm program begins promptly.Lipa Green Bldg., 4600 Bathurst St., 4th flr.

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Commission nears completion of hearings on Bar Ilan Street

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israel's chief rabbis told a public commission this week that all traffic should be banned from a major thoroughfare here on the Sabbath.

The commission, which was expected to submit its findings in a matter of weeks, was formed after violent protests erupted in the summer over whether to keep Bar Ilan Street open to Sabbath traffic.

For the most part, the protests stopped during the past month, though there have been isolated incidents of stone-throwing by Orthodox youths.

Bar Ilan Street, which cuts through haredi neighborhoods in Jerusalem, has been at the heart of an ongoing tug-of-war between the city's secular and Orthodox populations.

Violation of Orthodox religious laws

Secular residents view a closure of the street to Sabbath traffic as an infringement of their basic rights. For the Orthodox, keeping the street open would represent a violation of religious laws regarding the Sabbath.

Chief Rabbis Yisrael Meir Lau and Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron were the last to give testimony to the commission that was appointed by the High Court of Justice to make recommendations on whether Sabbath travel should be permitted on Bar Ilan Street.

The court appointed the commission after decreeing that there appeared to be no clear-cut criteria on which to base a decision.

The committee, made up of four secular and four religious members, heard testimony during the past two months from government members, traffic officials and representatives from various interest groups.

Hungarian Parliament backs plan for WWII compensation

By AGNES BOHM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUDAPEST – The Hungarian Parliament has overwhelmingly approved a government plan that will partially compensate Hungarian Jews for property that was confiscated during World War II.

In a 202-23 vote, the Parliament decided last Tuesday to back an earlier government decision to set up a foundation, whose assets are to be drawn from real estate and valuables confiscated by the fascists during World War II. The foundation also will oversee the disbursement of compensation vouchers worth $27 million.

The foundation will be overseen by a special committee headed by Ronald Lauder, the treasurer of the World Jewish Congress who has been active in Jewish renewal projects across eastern and central Europe.

According to the plan, Holocaust survivors, their living relatives and the Jewish community will be compensated.

Gusztav Zoltai, head of the Hungarian Jewish Community, said in an interview that a series of substantive discussions would now take place.

Hungarian officials will meet with Jewish leaders to work out additional details of the fund as well as for the return of property.

Talks between the government and local and international Jewish groups began more than three years ago.

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Israel & the Jewish World

IDF could stage putsch, strategic analyst believes

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The growing lack of confidence between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government and the army command is reaching crisis levels, raising the still slim chances the army could attempt a putsch, a leading strategic analyst said last week.

"There is a lot of mistrust now," Ze'ev Maoz, head of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said in a telephone interview. "There have been disagreements in the past, but they focused on important issues. Now the military elite is suspected of having sold out to the previous government, so its assessments may be viewed as emerging out of a hidden agenda.

"There is a lack of convergence in concepts of the severity of our international situation. The political echelon has been operating under a sense of optimism that the military elite believes has no foundation," Maoz said.

"The military has no opportunity to play the political game to change the situation; therefore, the likelihood of a putsch – an illegal action – becomes more and more attractive," Maoz said.

While Maoz believes the prospects for an actual military revolt are remote, it is no longer impossible.

"The idea looks unrealistic, but the assassination of a prime minister also appeared unrealistic until a year ago," Maoz said.

But politicians and generals dismissed the theory as far-fetched. Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak laughed off the report. Labor Knesset member Ori Orr, a former deputy defence minister and a retired general, rejected Maoz's theory outright.

"The IDF is a citizens' army. It reflects the state. It is so intertwined with the public that [a putsch] couldn't happen," Orr said.

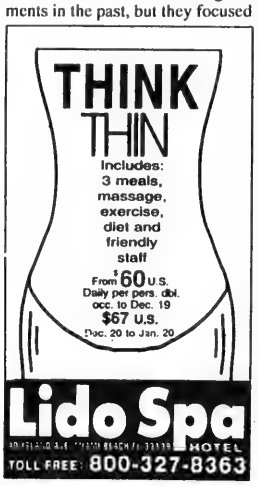
Knesset member Rehavam Ze'evi (Moledet), also a former general, agreed. "Even if all the senior commanders were of one mind, the soldiers would not necessarily follow," he said.

Still, Maoz' comments came amidst growing evidence of paranoia in Netanyahu's government. Netanyahu, whose cabinet includes four former generals, has attempted to scale down the traditional communication with the IDF top brass and unlike Yitzhak Rabin, has kept them from his inner circle.

Maoz hinted that Netanyahu's attempt to distance himself from the army has even caused a rift with Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Earlier this week, Mordechai's media adviser issued a statement flatly denying reports of tension between him and Netanyahu, saying there was a "reciprocal esteem" between them.

In a bizarre incident, the army acknowledged yesterday that hundreds of soldiers attending a memorial ceremony for the Armored Corps at Latrun last Thursday were disarmed because Netanyahu was attending and there were fears they couldn't be trusted. Prior to Netanyahu's arrival, General Security Service agents instructed the troops to leave their weapons on their buses.



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Memorial centre proposed

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Knesset unanimously passed first reading of a bill last week which calls for the establishment of a centre in memory of assassinated prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Although dozens of MKs addressed the plenum, only 11 were present for the vote itself.

The bill was initiated by the government, but several opposition MKs attacked the right, saying they had created the atmosphere of incitement in which the assassination could take place.

MK Ephraim Oshaya called the bill a fig leaf to cover the nakedness of the government.

The proposed centre would include an archives, a memorial site and an educational institute. It would be a corporation run by a board of 27 people chosen by either the prime minister or a minister he appoints.

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Ties with Jordan hit turbulence

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israel's relationship with Jordan, hailed as a model of its kind in the Middle East, has run into turbulence.

Mideast Analysis

Two years after Israel and Jordan signed a peace treaty, Israel's second with an Arab nation, strains have crept into their bilateral relations.

There are serious differences with respect to Israel's handling of the peace process and of the Palestinian question. In addition, Jordan claims that Israel is not living up to its treaty obligations. For its part, Israel is disappointed over the slow pace of normalization.

The downturn in Israel's ties with Jordan did not begin with the accession of a right-wing government in Israel. When the Labor party governed, Jordan was upset over Israel's sustained closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and its air and artillery bombardment of Lebanon in Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Jordan, too, chafed over its difficulty in penetrating Palestinian markets in the territories. And Jordan complained that Israel was not delivering the water — 50 million cubic metres — it had promised under the terms of the Oct. 26, 1994 treaty.

After last summer's bread riots in Jordan, the Jordanian government warned yet again that the benefits of peace were not trickling down to the masses.

Israel had two complaints. The first was that the Jordanian government — which is under pressure from Islamists and Arab nationalists to sever diplomatic relations with Israel — was not doing enough to foster normalization. The second, as expressed by Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, was that the proposed construction of a joint Jordanian-Syrian dam on the Yarmuk River would be a violation of the 1994 treaty.

Apart from these bread-and-butter issues, the greatest source of tension between Jordan and Israel turns on the Oslo peace process.

After Israel's general election, King Hussein — Jordan's supreme leader — adopted a dual approach to Benjamin Netanyahu.

On the one hand, he urged Arab leaders to remain calm in the face of his election victory, voicing confidence that Netanyahu would not undermine the quest for peace.

On the other hand, he called on Israel to withdraw from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon, as well as to honor the "legitimate rights of the Palestinians."

King Hussein made it clear that the Palestinians were entitled to an independent state, despite reports suggesting that he was privately opposed to such an entity. He dismissed rumors that he sought a confederation uniting Jordan with the Palestinian Authority, a position advocated by many Israeli politicians, notably Netanyahu.

As the summer wore on without any tangible progress in the implementation of the Oslo agreements, King Hussein reached the conclusion that Israel was deliberately delaying the process, notwithstanding Netanyahu's promise to fulfil Israel's solemn commitments.

In late August, in a gesture of solidarity with the Palestinians, Prime Minister Abdel-Karim Kabariti of Jordan flew to Ramallah, in the autonomous Palestinian areas, for a meeting with Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority. Citing among other irritants Israel's decision to expand settlements, Kabariti blamed Israel for the impasse in its talks with the Palestinians.

Last month, Jordan escalated its criticism of Israel, charging that the unilateral opening of a new entrance to an archeological tunnel in Jerusalem had needlessly inflamed Muslim sensibilities, obstructed peace efforts and constituted an infringement of Israel's treaty with Jordan.

In the wake of the Washington summit, which was called by the United States to defuse an unprecedented surge of violence in the territories in late September, King Hussein reportedly accused Netanyahu of "arrogance" in his dealings with the Palestinians. Meanwhile, Jordan's ambassador in Tel Aviv lamented that relations with Israel had sharply deteriorated, and warned that Israel could not improve its links with Jordan and the rest of the Arab world unless the Oslo agreements are fully implemented.

Jordan's stance is a reflection of King Hussein's disappointment with Netanyahu's policies and his desire not to isolate his kingdom in the Arab world by too close an association with a government regarded in Amman as intransigent.

In line with this strategy, King Hussein visited the West Bank last week for the first time since the Six Day War. In a demonstrative show of solidarity with the Palestinians, he voiced support for the establishment of a Palestinian state and declared that Jordan's relations with Israel were "a link in a chain, a step on the path of a comprehensive and permanent peace" in the Middle East.

Judging by King Hussein's pointed remarks, Israel should not expect an improvement in its relationship with Jordan until new vigor is pumped into the peace process. That much seems certain.

The Week in Israel

Oct. 14

• President Ezer Weizman met in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in an attempt to smooth relations between the two countries, recently strained by strong Egyptian criticism of the government of Israel.

• A delegation of 10 Turkish officials completed a seven-day visit to Israel at the invitation of the Jewish National Fund. The trip focused on Israel's efforts in soil conservation and reforestation.

Oct. 15

• Rachel's Tomb, near Bethlehem, was reopened to visitors as repairs continued on damage from last month's riots.

Oct. 16

• Natan Sharansky was one of three Israelis to defeat chess champion Gary Kasparov in a chess tournament during which the latter played 25 matches simultaneously. Kasparov was in Israel to open the finals of the Israeli chess tournament.

• A group of some 60 *Falas Mura* immigrants arrived from Ethiopia. They are the first wave of what is expected to be the aliyah of the entire community to Israel.

Oct. 17

• An Arab university student from Acre reported to the media that he had been approached by Jordanian intelligence while attending school in Amman and was asked to provide information on Israel. He refused the request. He is now studying law in Israel.

Oct. 18

• The media reported that Edward Djerejian, former American ambassador in the region, secretly met last week with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and then, in Damascus, with President Hafez al-Assad. The two leaders have reportedly agreed to resume negotiations in the future.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

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Israel & the Jewish World

Yuval Rabin blames right for atmosphere of hate

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"If not for the murder, I would never have become politically involved," says Rabin.

It's not hard to believe him. He is soft-spoken and shy – almost painfully so. He prefaces every answer with a long drawn-out sigh. He searches for phrases and seems very unsure of himself.

"I never enjoy this," he says frankly during the interview.

"It's not easy for me. It's not natural," admits Rabin, who works as a computer expert in a Rehovot-based hi-tech firm. "I'm not someone who sees himself as a politician. I never prepared myself for that. I do this from an inner need, a deep drive."

That drive springs from his sense of responsibility for his father's death – and for what he sees happening in Israeli society.

"I'm not sure whether to call it guilt," he says. "But the question remains: How is it we didn't know what was happening? Why didn't we read the writing on the wall?"

Yuval Rabin

Yuval Rabin is not about to make the same mistake twice. Recently, he demonstrated in Bnai Brak to protest ultra-Orthodox verbal attacks against Supreme Court Chief Justice Aharon Barak.

"There are still threats of violence made against representatives of the state," he says.

Rabin contends that the Netanyahu government is also at risk. "If this government decides to advance the peace process, it will be exposed to the same threat of violence. It will have opponents and some of them will be uncompromising," he warns.

"There are too many people who still justify the murder [of Yitzhak Rabin], who think that traitors should be sentenced to death, and who have a very clear definition of who's a traitor."

A year after the assassination, Rabin is a deeply disappointed man. He feels that "no one paid the price" for his father's death. Of course the man who pulled the trigger is in jail. But others who bore some responsibility for the murder have escaped with impunity, he maintains.

That includes the security apparatus. "Yes, there was a commission of inquiry, and there were conclusions made concerning certain individuals in certain tasks. But there was no accountability. An entire system failed – from the operatives in the field to the top command. And no one paid a price," he charges.

The dismissal or resignation of a few security personnel was insufficient, he adds, but refuses to say what further action should have been taken.

He is equally disappointed by the failure to punish those who orchestrated a campaign of incitement against his father.

"He was targeted – there were posters in which he actually appeared with a bull's-eye superimposed on his face. And to the best of my knowledge, legal action was taken against only one person. No one else was brought to court for incitement."

Rabin blames the right for the atmosphere of hate that prevailed when his father was killed. "I am not saying that the entire right wing was guilty of murder. But the right played a role in creating the atmosphere of incitement," he asserts. "The right rallied to bring down a democratically elected government, claiming that it had acted against the people of Israel."

His accusations are sure to be viewed by some as collective guilt, even blood libel.

So how can he, in the next breath, speak about the need to build bridges between left and right, religious and secular?

For the first time in the interview, he shows some emotion. "Was there a murder?" he asks angrily. "Was there an atmosphere of incitement? Should I ignore that? Erase it?

"If you recognize reality you can deal with it. Am I ready, in the name of bridging gaps, to ignore what was? The answer is no. But we have to go on. I believe we can change reality. If we can bridge gaps with enemies with whom we were at war, we can bridge gaps among ourselves."

Rabin addresses public forums on behalf of Dor Shalom, promoting its three main goals: advancing the peace process, bolstering Israeli democracy and bridging social gaps. He is not a member of the Labor party, even though he ran in the token 117th spot on the party Knesset list. He believes that Dor Shalom's strength is that it is not a political party.

"It can work for change that cannot be measured in four-year intervals at election time," he says. "It doesn't have to act merely for votes."

He regards Dor Shalom's inexperience as an asset. "There are no veteran political 'operators' in this movement," he boasts. In this respect, Yuval Rabin has found his natural milieu.

Rabin, recently divorced, lives in Tel Aviv and continues to work at his private sector job. But he doesn't rule out a full-time political career in the future.

"Never say never." He shrugs and hastens to add: "I don't strive to be like my father or hold the positions that he had. I don't have his background and don't compare myself with him."

If he does delve deeper into politics, it will be thanks to his family name. Yuval Rabin is the first to admit that: "I wouldn't be where I am today – if not for my father."

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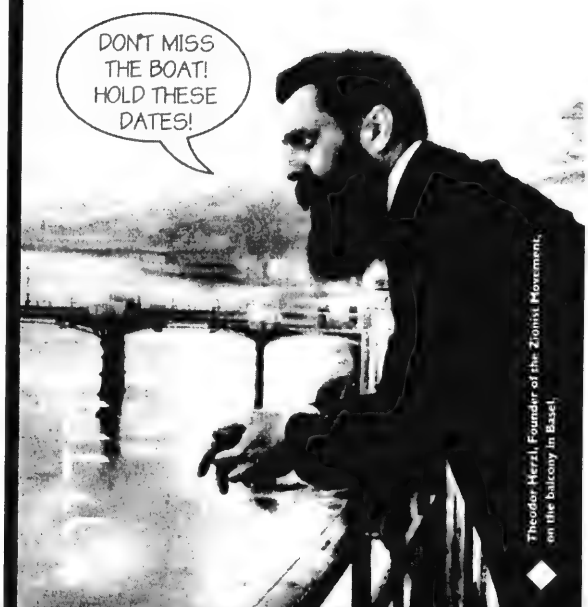

Theodor Herzl, Founder of the Zionist Movement, on the balcony in Basel.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel wants peace talks with Syria

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"From our point of view, there shouldn't be any deterioration in the situation, and we have communicated that to Syria, both through diplomatic channels and publicly."

Speaking following a briefing on the military situation in Judea and Samaria, Netanyahu stressed that Israel's hand "is stretched out for peace and the resumption of negotiations, which I think is in the interests of both Israel and Syria."

Syria has continued to carry out curious troop movements around the Golan Heights, where five divisions are already stationed, including two crack assault regiments on the slopes of Mt. Hermon. Last week, Brig.-Gen. Amos Gilad, head of military intelligence analysis and assessment, said Syria had deployed the troops to give it a military option should it feel the peace process has become irretrievably deadlocked.

With this in mind, Mordechai issued a veiled warning that the army would repel any Syrian attack.

"I don't want any tension with the Syrians. I want to repeat my message to the Syrians that we have no offensive intentions. But together with this, we are taking all necessary steps. The army is deployed and on alert to deal with any possible attempt by someone to take certain steps," Mordechai said, following a tour of Rachel's Tomb.

Despite his bravado, some military sources believe that without costly preventative steps, the Syrian commandos would be able to capture the strategic monitoring station on the Hermon or perhaps other hilltops on the Golan.

"But that all depends on the level of casualties they are willing to take. Assad has to take into account the response and weigh whether it will bring him closer to getting the Golan Heights back," one senior source said.

Other defence sources believe that Assad is waiting to see if last month's flare-up of violence in the territories ultimately helps Yasser Arafat achieve a better deal.

Mordechai warned that such a move would not be worth Assad's while.

"I am advising Assad to return to the negotiating table. Any violent steps in Syria or in Lebanon will not serve a purpose, only distance it," he said.

Retrial ordered for former SS captain

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME – The Italian Jewish community has praised the country's highest appeals court for ordering a retrial of former SS captain, Erich Priebke, for his role in the wartime Nazi massacre of 335 Romans.

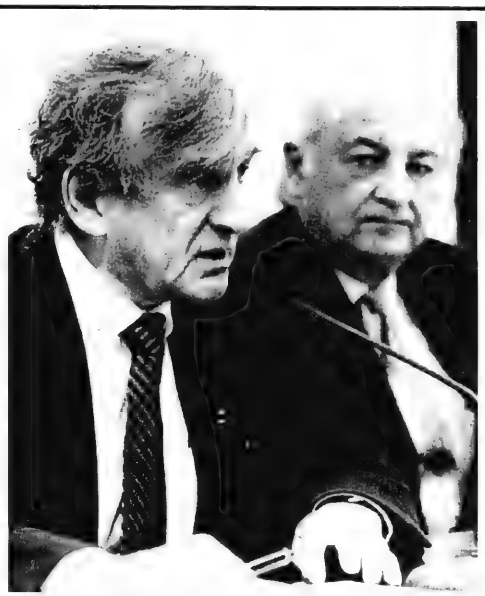
The Court of Cassation this week nullified the controversial verdict in August that freed Priebke.

It also overturned a summer ruling made by a lesser appeals court, which had rejected a request by the prosecution and relatives of the massacre victims to dismiss the Priebke trial's presiding judge because of his alleged bias in favor of Priebke.

Relatives of the victims who were in the courtroom burst into applause.

Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, called the ruling by the Court of Cassation "important and positive."

Priebke's lawyer called the order for a retrial unjust.



INVESTIGATING SWISS BANKING
Elie Wiesel testified last week at a Senate Banking Committee hearing in New York on the subject of the assets of Holocaust victims held by Swiss banks. Leon Levy, chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, was with Wiesel. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Mordechai questions ability of joint patrols to cooperate

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – Re-establishing trust between the Israeli and Palestinian forces that jointly patrol in the West Bank and Gaza Strip may be difficult to achieve after last month's violence.

This was the assessment of Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who last week spoke at a news conference here about the aftermath of last month's clashes that left 76 Israelis and Palestinians dead.

Israel's opening of a new entrance to a tunnel near the Temple Mount in Jerusalem was used by the Palestinian leadership as "an excuse" to issue a call for mass demonstrations that turned violent, Mordechai said.

Speaking the day after he had conferred with U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry in Washington, Mordechai addressed the role played by the Palestinian police in the Sept. 25 to 27 clashes.

"We gave them the weapons, we allowed them to have them," and then the Palestinian police turned them on Israeli soldiers, he said. Fifteen Israelis died as a result of the clashes.

To underscore his point, Mordechai spoke of one incident that occurred near Kfar Darom, a Jewish settlement in Gaza.

When an angry mob of Palestinians approached the settlement accompanied by Palestinian police, he said, an Israeli soldier came out and asked a police officer to disperse the crowd.

Apparently satisfied that the police officer had agreed to the request, the soldier started to return toward the settlement compound. At that point, the Palestinian officer shot the soldier in the back.

The soldier, Mordechai added, was still in an Israeli hospital recovering from his wounds.

Prior to September's violence, the cooperation of the joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols had been one of the success stories of the peace accords. But in the aftermath of the bloodshed, it remains unclear how the patrols will attain the measure of mutual trust necessary for their operations.

Mordechai also spoke with some frustration about the course of current Israeli-Palestinian negotiations aimed at implementing the long-delayed Israeli redeployment in Hebron.

Earlier this week, Israeli officials had said an agreement on the West Bank town was imminent, but their Palestinian counterparts repeatedly issued contradictory statements and Mordechai was pessimistic about reaching an agreement soon.

"Maybe the Palestinians are waiting until after the [U.S.] presidential elections," he said.

In an editorial this week, the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot* questioned whether Palestinian Authority leader Yasser "Arafat is genuinely interested in reaching an agreement," a question that has often been directed at Netanyahu.

Given the support Arafat got from his own people, the broader Arab world and in the international arena in the wake of last month's violence, *Yediot* suggested that Arafat "seeks to perpetuate the current situation, in which Israel has the lower hand."

'Racist winds in Austria'

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – The strong showing of the far-right Freedom party in Austria's elections for the European Parliament last week was greeted ominously throughout Europe, with some warning that the party's leader could become another Hitler.

Jorg Haider's Freedom party won 28 percent of the vote in the Oct. 13 elections.

The results placed the Freedom party in third place, behind the People's party, the junior coalition party that scored 29.6 of the vote, and the governing Social Democratic party, which gained 29.1 percent.

But the nationalist Freedom party, which has explicitly called for a ban on immigrants and opposes Austria's presence in the European Union, received its biggest electoral success in the recent vote, with results some six percentage points higher than it scored in last December's general elections.

Haider's Freedom party, the strongest far-right party in western Europe, already holds five of Austria's 21 seats in the European Union's Parliament. It emerged after the latest vote as the strongest party in the Austrian provinces of Salzburg and Carinthia.

European newspapers reacted with concern about Austria's move to the right and warned of a rising wave of nationalism across the continent. The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* wrote about the election under the headline Racist Winds in Austria. A German newspaper compared Haider's rising popularity with that of Hitler.

Peter Sichrovsky, 50, who ran in the second slot on the party list, will now join the Freedom party representatives in the European Parliament.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its second annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants:

1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible. We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18, 1996.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 22, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 5, 1996. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Paris muncipality seized Jewish property during World War II

Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM – The Paris Municipality controls hundreds of buildings and apartments that were owned or occupied by Jews before World War II, and which were systematically evacuated during and after the war in an organized operation of ethnic purification executed by French authorities, according to journalist Brigitte Vital-Durand.

In her book *Private Domain*, which is to be published by the French publishing house First this week, Vital-Durand said the municipal authorities in the French capital took advantage of the Nazi occupation in order to liquidate the Jewish presence in Paris' fourth district, better known as the Marais quarter.

Before the war, the Marais was inhabited by thousands of French Jews and Jewish immigrants and refugees who had fled Central and Eastern Europe, hoping to find shelter in France from the growing Nazi and fascist movements. Most of those Jews were of Polish origin.

The Marais became a new ghetto in the heart of the capital, housing some 20,000 Jews. Using the need to fight the tuberculosis that ravaged certain poor quarters of Paris as an excuse, the city's administration planned to evacuate the Marais, destroy it and replace it with a residential quarter for municipal employees.

Under the Vichy regime's emergency laws, 403 buildings in one of Paris' most expensive quarters, bordering the right bank of the Seine, were purchased at very low prices, "aryanized," confiscated and evacuated.

Many of the owners or tenants were dispossessed or thrown out without any financial compensation.

The city also claimed holdings that were left behind by Jews who fled from France after the occupation or were deported to concentration camps. No real effort was made after the war to compensate relatives of the Holocaust victims.

Murdoch company in Israel suspected of evading taxes

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – In what may turn out to be the largest tax evasion case in Israeli history, income tax officials here have raided the offices of a Jerusalem-based company owned by Australian media mogul Rupert Murdoch.

The raid last Sunday followed allegations that the company had failed to pay taxes and royalties amounting to more than $150 million.

The raid was launched after Israeli tax authorities charged that the company, News Datacom, had developed a technology used by the Murdoch-owned Sky and Star television stations and franchises, from which it reaped tens of millions of dollars that went undeclared to the authorities.

Those involved in developing the technology were allegedly paid tens of thousands of dollars surreptitiously, through such means as stock options and payments to overseas accounts.

Tax auditors also raided the home of Adi Shemer, a renowned mathematician from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, who developed the technology, and questioned professionals and lawyers in connection with the allegations.

These included partners from the law firm Herzog, Fuchs and Ne'eman – the firm of former Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman – on suspicion that the firm provided consulting services, even though it was aware of the illegal activities. Ne'eman recently stepped down as minister after he became the target of a separate police investigation.

Police also requested that a warrant for Murdoch's arrest be issued, in the event he travels to Israel.

In response to the allegations, News Datacom issued a statement saying that it was appalled by the tax investigation. It described the allegations as totally unfounded and an attempt at extortion by former employees.

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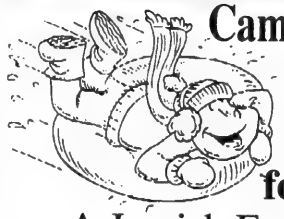

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Poems on Jerusalem reflect attitude to Israel, Judaism

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Last year, the Jewish Public Library (JPL) held an open poetry competition to celebrate Jerusalem 3000 on the subject of the holy city. Organizers expected about 100 submissions. There was, after all, an entry fee and the "prize" was publication in a commemorative journal.

Over 250 poems came in.

Glen Rotchin, one of the jurors and a poet himself, saw the potential for a much bigger endeavor given the creative spur Jerusalem appeared to be for many Jews (and non-Jews).

He wasn't wrong. Seymour Mayne, the University of Ottawa professor who is an authority on Canadian Jewish poetry, located some 100 poems on Jerusalem by known poets.

Rotchin then combed through the JPL archives, uncovering more.

The result is *Jerusalem: An Anthology of Jewish Canadian Poetry* (Vehicule Press), edited by Mayne and Rotchin, which comprises 31 poems in English by 19 poets published over the last 75 years.

What was striking to the co-editors was just how much of a muse Jerusalem has been for these poets, some of whom are not best known for Jewish themes.

For example, troubador Leonard Cohen, in 1961, published *Isaiah*, which romantically praises Jerusalem's beauty. There are other established names like Irving Layton, Miriam Waddington, A.M. Klein, David Solway and, of course, Mayne.

Others are less known, such as Dublin-born Hyman Edelstein whose 1931 work *Winter in Zion* opens the anthology. In an effort, evidently, to make the bridge between Canada and the Holy Land and the struggle the co-editors discern among many of the poets between their Canadian and Jewish identities, the closing poem *Snowfall in Jerusalem* by Rotchin, also deals with freakish weather.

The similarity ends there. Edelstein's is morbid — the cold a metaphor for the death of a once-glorious Golden City. Rotchin, 32, however, is whimsical and picturesque, recalling his making a snowman at the Western Wall after a foot of snow during a 1992 visit.

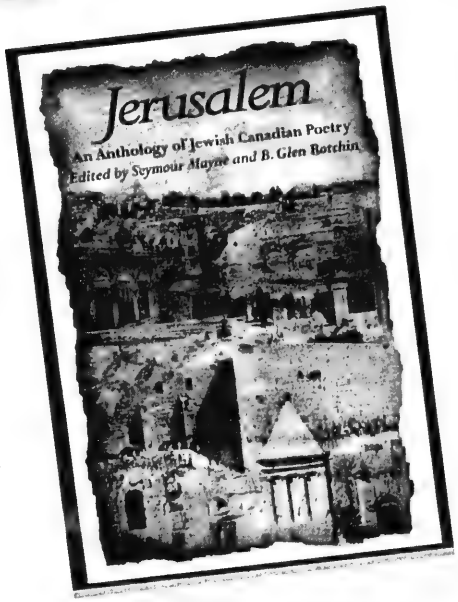
The image of Jerusalem has clearly changed over the period covered, note Mayne and Rotchin, from the idealized, almost otherworldly, liturgical concept to a more realistic one that is dirty and crumbling and the backdrop for perennial conflict.

The co-editors comment that this reflects the evolution of how Jews see their relationship with Israel and what being Jewish means to them. Klein in the pre-state early '40s still saw a utopia of orange blossoms and white doves that lies beyond his reach, whereas Ken Sherman, a Toronto poet born in 1950, describes a bustling multicultural city.

Mayne and Rotchin see the 1967 Six Day War and the reunification of Jerusalem as prompting an unprecedented number of works on Jerusalem by Canadian Jews, and this is evident in the anthology. At the same time, Jerusalem becomes less spiritual and more earthly.

The book's publication was made possible by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Montreal.

It will be launched Nov. 3 at the JPL at 2:30 p.m. A launching is also planned in Toronto at the Koffler Centre Nov. 10.



Jerusalem comprises 31 poems by 19 poets.

Uneven film looks at spectre of racism

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Of late, there has been no shortage of films about the spectre of racism in America. Several months ago, *A Time to Kill* appeared. And now *The Chamber* has opened.

The Chamber, like *A Time to Kill*, is based on a novel by John Grisham. Directed by James Foley, *The Chamber* turns on the last weeks in the life of an imprisoned murderer and his grandson's desperate attempt to forestall his execution.

The felon, Sam Cayhall (Gene Hackman), is a fourth-generation member of the Ku Klux Klan. He has been convicted of bombing the office of a Jewish civil rights lawyer in a small Mississippi town, a blast which maimed one person and killed two others.

Cayhall is a distinctly unsympathetic figure. His contempt of African Americans is palpable and his hatred of Jews, whom he snidely refers to as "Jew boys" and "Jew bastards," is visceral. He is a stereotypical anti-Semite.

Cayhall's grandson, Adam Hall (Chris O'Donnell), an up-and-coming lawyer from Chicago, is determined to save him from the gas chamber, despite his distaste for his grandfather's abominable racial views.

A viewer can't be sure why Hall has taken the case. Is blood thicker than water, or is it simply because Hall is hell-bent on advancing his career? This conundrum is one of the flaws in this sometimes plodding film.

The Chamber, though, has its moments: the tense prison meetings between Hall and Cayhall and Hall's doomed efforts to exonerate Cayhall.

The performances are uneven. Hackman, an old pro, is brilliant as a racist killer, and Millie Perkins, who was luminous as Anne Frank in the film version of her life, is first-rate as the grieving widow of the late Jewish lawyer. But O'Donnell, his laser beam gaze notwithstanding, is somewhat wooden. And Faye Dunaway is out of her depth as Hall's socialite mother.

For all its shortcomings, *The Chamber* is not a total loss. It is gripping in places. Its feel of the south is sure-footed. And its opposition to racism comes shining through.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Choir Seeks New Voices

Established in 1991, the **Narayever Community Singers** are seeking new members interested in giving voice to a rich diversity of Jewish music. The choir meets Thursday evenings except the first Thursday of the month, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Narayever Synagogue, an egalitarian congregation on Brunswick Avenue. Musical director **Brian Katz**, 416-656-5995.

* * *

Na'amat Sponsors Opening: The Nov. 2 opening of the musical play *Still The Night*, by **Theresa Tova**, is being sponsored by Na'amat Toronto, with proceeds going towards a shelter for victims of domestic violence in Tel Aviv.

Tova's new work tells the story of two young Jewish women who fought in the Polish underground in Holocaust-era Europe. A special tribute after the opening is planned to honor Holocaust survivors who are members or whose children are members of Na'amat.

According to a statement, "Na'amat wishes to honor these heroic women and men who, despite the Nazi horrors, became significant, contributing human beings, living creative and meaningful lives. We believe that this is a triumph of the human spirit that should be acknowledged."

Tickets, 416-636-5425.

* * *

Israeli Musicians On Tour: Violinist **Vadim Gluzman** and pianist **Angela Yoffe**, an Israeli classical music husband-and-wife duo, are planning a Canadian tour in honor of Jerusalem 3000. The award-winning musicians are scheduled to perform in Edmonton on Oct. 27, Calgary on Oct. 28, Markham on Oct. 29 and London on Oct. 30.

Both Gluzman and Yoffe have performed around the world as soloists, as members of chamber music ensembles and together as a duo. Their recent San Francisco recital debut was so well received that a second concert was quickly arranged. For more information on the upcoming concerts, call **Adam Szweras** or **Alisa Siegel** of the Israeli Consulate, 416-961-1126.

* * *

Music & Activism: Tzedek, the Jewish Campaign for Social and Economic Justice, presents an evening of klezmer music, folk songs and discussion about Jews and activism. Performers include **Batsheva, David Wall, Marsha Beck & Friends** and **Lillith's Triangle**. **Ester Reiter**, professor of sociology at Atkinson College and **Beth Shocket**, veteran labor organizer, are also participating.

With its roots in Toronto's Jewish community, Tzedek is a political organization that promotes the right of every person to food, shelter, clothing, medical care, education and freedom from violence.

The group "is committed to mobilizing the Jewish community of Ontario in order to support the growing resistance to the Harris agenda."

Bloor JCC, Auditorium, Oct. 23, 7.30 p.m.

* * *

Classical Notes: The East York Symphony Orchestra performs its upcoming season at the Leah Posluns Theatre in North York. **Haydn, Wagner** and **Rimsky-Korsakov** are on the program Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. Adults $18. 416-467-7142.

Beit Rayim Synagogue presents **The Metro String Quartet** in a classical concert, Oct. 26 at 8 p.m., 9711 Bayview Ave. (at Weldrick), Richmond Hill. Non-members, $20. 905-770-7639.

One Piano, Four Hands is a concert featuring **Larisa** and **Vladimir Nuiremberg** in their first Toronto appearance, part of the series Music for A Sunday Afternoon. Koffler Centre, Leah Posluns Theatre, Oct. 27, 3. p.m. Admission $5. 416-636-1880, ext. 299.

* * *

In Brief: *A Chorus Line*, the longest running show in Broadway history, comes to the O'Keefe Centre in Toronto Oct. 29 to Nov. 3. Tickets $69 to $25. 416-872-2262.

The Yiddishland Cafe on Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. features Yiddish Songs of Love by singers **Stella Walker** and **Michael Mandel**, clarinetist **Martin van de Ven** and pianist **Sageev Oore**. Workman's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto. 416-783-5919.

Vocalist **Allan Merovitz**, clarinetist **Martin van de Ven** and musician **Brian Katz** perform traditional klezmer and Yiddish songs and other material at Mezzetta Cafe Restaurant, Oct. 23. Sets at 9.15 & 10.30 p.m. Cover $6. 416-658-5687.

Visual artists **Isaac Applebaum, Simon Glass** and **Howard Podeswa** will discuss aspects of their work that stem from their Jewish identity and cultural heritage. The evening is brought to you free by the Cultural Arts Group of the Bloor JCC as part of its Art Talks program, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m., Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Toronto. 416-924-6211.

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Firm helps solve disputes

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Cliff Hendler, president of Dispute Resolution Services (DRS) specializes in helping people live together harmoniously.

As mediators, Hendler and his roster of professionals use a variety of negotiation techniques to facilitate resolution between disputing parties.

"In every dispute there is some range to settle. It is the mediator's job to get the disputants into that zone of potential," he says.

Hendler, who was an insurance manager and adjuster for 20 years before opening DRS in 1992, says that when he worked in the insurance field, he was often involved in the resolution of disputes.

"In 1989, I went into mediation on a case and I was given the opportunity to sit with the other side and talk about the various issues. The mediator helped challenge our beliefs and gradually the differences began to narrow enough that both parties were in the range of possible settlement. It was enlightening. I got a different perspective on my job and disputes in general."

The number of would be litigants using mediation has grown rapidly in North America over the past 10 years, says Hendler, and they are discovering that almost any type of conflict can be resolved satisfactorily outside of the court system. "Mediation can be used to resolve a wide array of disputes, including commercial, construction, defamation, environmental, family, franchise, insurance and wrongful dismissal.

"It is designed to help people come to a conclusion that meets their needs, not impose a settlement. If the case were to go to court, the judge would have to determine fault. A mediator, on the other hand, helps make a decision that makes sense."

Paul Nightingale

Paul Nightingale, director of the architectural, engineering and construction division of DRS, says that in one case, a home owner had some work done by a contractor and discovered during the construction period that the work was not being done well.

"The owner did not want to pay and the contractor insisted the work was fine. They needed someone to help them resolve their dispute. So they sent me the information and in one day we came to a conclusion. What I did was force each one to listen to the other until they were able to modify their position. It was done without having to hire a lawyer or go to court."

In another case, a woman had an addition built on to an old house and when it was completed she felt that the wall was not straight. "We went into mediation and through discussions, the woman decided the wall would look better if a trim were added. The contractor felt that was fair and both sides were happy. The woman just wanted the wall to look right and she had her needs met. A judge would have had to make a finding. He is not allowed to be creative," says Nightingale.

Cliff Hendler

Hendler says that in general 90 percent of his cases are settled and in 1995, a record 100 percent came to a settlement. "That means there were no lawyers fees, no discoveries and no waiting periods. It is also confidential. If a professional is found to be in litigation, the publicity could be bad for his career."

He insists that he is not a "lawyer basher. I have had people come to me with lawyers and many of my cases are referred to me by lawyers. The court system should just be used as a last resort. Instead of people automatically going to court, they should go into mediation. Although my fees are similar to a lawyer's fees, the difference comes in the cost of the process. Mediation can be arranged quickly so fees do not build up."

While litigation focuses on the past, says Hendler, mediation focuses on the future. "Litigation worries about what happened, while in mediation we discover how to get along now. To quote Mick Jagger, you can't always get what you want, but if people's needs are satisfied, they are prepared to deal. We create the options with which they can deal."

TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Notes From All Over

Women Business Travellers: As women move up the corporate ladder, more are travelling on business. By one estimate, some 13.5 million American women travelled on business last year, comprising 38 per cent of all business travellers.

To better serve Canadian and American businesswomen who travel frequently, Delta Air Lines and American Express have jointly developed an Internet site, located at [http://www.delta-air.com/women execs]. The Executive Woman's Travel Network offers tips and information on travel safety, health and fitness on the road, what and how to pack, guidelines for tipping, and other advice. Travel and other discounts are available through the Internet site or by calling 800-657-8305.

* * *

New Mediterranean & Alaska Cruises: Sunquest, in conjunction with Alba Tours, recently announced two new cruises at competitive rates.

Beginning next summer, Canadians will be able to take a seven-day cruise of the Western Mediterranean, priced from $1,499 per person, including non-stop wide-body flights from Toronto to Rome. The Mediterranean Dream Cruise sails from Rome to the Italian Riviera, the French Riviera and Spain's Costa Brava, featuring optional excursions to Rome, Florence, Pisa, Nice, Barcelona, Palma and Monte Carlo.

Also beginning next summer, the Alaska Dream Cruise sails from Vancouver from only $1,599 per person. Passengers travel between Toronto and Vancouver via charter aircraft. Colorful brochures for both cruises are available from travel agents everywhere. Early booking bonuses apply.

* * *

Vegetarian Fare: British Airways, which serves more than 26 million meals in flight each year, recently launched a new range of menus for vegetarians. The airline's new vegetarian portfolio includes almost 200 different dishes.

Passengers normally order their vegetarian (or kosher) preference in advance, but for those who forget, the airline now offers more vegetarian options on most of its flights.

* * *

New Guide to Western Canada: The *Off the Beaten Track* series of travel guidebooks specializes in describing excellent out-of-the-way spots and hidden places that have not yet been discovered by the masses.

The recently released guide for Western Canada, by Pam Hobbs, Joanna Ebbutt and Michael Algar, includes information, for example, on where to ride horseback on week-long safaris and how to visit the far northern home of the Inuit and Dene to learn about their ancient cultures.

You'll also find descriptions of travelling by dogsled, watching the Northern Lights, sailing to uninhabited islands and beaches, hiking old prospector trails and visiting an old gold mining town.

At 256 pages and fully illustrated, it makes an intriguing companion for adventurers, outdoors lovers and other travellers.

* * *

Shetland Whales: There's been a sharp increase in the number of whales and dolphins being spotted from the Shetland Islands, off northern Scotland, which are already renowned for their birds and other wildlife.

Attracted by plentiful food supplies where the North Atlantic and the North Sea meet, species include minke, humpback and killer whales up to 10 metres long. The whales are best observed from headlands and other viewpoints through telescopes or binoculars.

* * *

Doctors to Israel: The World Mission of Jewish Leaders in the Medical Profession goes to Jerusalem Dec. 24 to 30. Besides touring, participants meet with various Israeli medical and government officials. For brochure, call 212-339-6074 or fax 212-318-6168.

* * *

Orthodox Flights: Tower Air has begun a new service to accommodate Orthodox passengers between New York and Tel Aviv. Designated flights have a section without audio or video equipment, in which passengers are served by male flight attendants only. Everyone on board, including the crew, receives "superglatt" kosher meals.

According to a report from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the flights are available before religious holidays, at times when students travel to Israel to study, and after Passover and Sukkot.

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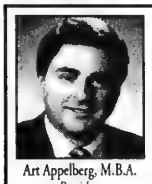
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TAB news

David Broza returns

David Broza is on a Canadian tour.

Following the success of his sold-out performance at Lee's Palace in Toronto last year, renowned Israeli singer David Broza will tour eastern Canada and appear in Toronto on Oct. 20 at the Music Hall 8 p.m.(TicketMaster 870-8000.)

The week before his Canadian tour was to begin, Broza was to play his peace song *Yihye Tov (Things will be Better)*, at Israel's national ceremony to mark a year since Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Last year Broza released two English albums *Stone Doors* and *David Broza*. His music is very melodic; a mixture of American rhythm and blues, Spanish flamenco-style guitar and Mid-Eastern rhythms. Most of his songs are written to classical and contemporary poetry.

In addition to Toronto, Broza plays Montreal's Cafe Campus Oct.25, The Barrymore in Ottawa Oct.27 and The Wave in London, Oct.30. For more info. call 416-651-0551.

1000 Businesses Expected At Cairo Summit

JERUSALEM — With less than a month remaining until the Cairo economic summit, the organizers at the World Economic Forum say some 600 businesses have already registered and they expect another 400 to confirm in the coming weeks.

As of last week, 18 countries had confirmed the participation of their foreign, finance or trade ministers.

Despite some recent threats to cancel the summit because of what Egypt perceived as Israeli inaction on the peace process, there now appears to be a willingness to make a success of the event.

Rethink Brodet Proposals

JERUSALEM — The cabinet voted to re-examine the proposals of the Brodet Committee to tax interest on short- and mid-term savings during a marathon session last week. The vote was 7-4 with one abstention.

The vote came after two meetings of ministers and a private debate between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor, who brought the recommendations to the cabinet.

Those voting in favor were Netanyahu, Tzahi Hanegbi, Natan Sharansky and Eli Yishai, while Meridor and Ze'ev Begin voted to accept the report in full without re-examination. Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein abstained. Five ministers voted in absentia – David Levy, Yitzhak Mordechai and Eli Suissa voted with Netanyahu, while Moshe Katsav and Rafael Eitan supported Meridor.

Kitan To Fire 110 Workers

JERUSALEM — Workers at the Kitan textile factory in Beit She'an are preparing for a long and bitter fight for their jobs, following an announcement of management's plans to close most of the plant.

Most of the facility will be shut down this month, leaving about 110 of the 180 workers without work. The Beit She'an plant will continue to operate its Levis Laundry and finished products warehouse.

The company has blamed government policies, especially the economic program, which has kept the shekel high against the dollar, resulting in much lower profits for the company's exports.

Elite To Sell Foreign Factories

JERUSALEM — Elite Industries intends to enter negotiations with a European food company, in an attempt to sell its coffee factories in Spain, Belgium and France, the company said in a Tel Aviv Stock Exchange announcement.

The European company has offered to purchase all three of Elite's no-brand name coffee factories in these countries. Elite refused to provide additional details of the discussions.

Elite's coffee factories have suffered greatly over the last few years, primarily due to their inability to control the skyrocketing price of raw materials and sale prices, which are determined by the market's larger producers.

Israel's Economy Continues To Slow

JERUSALEM — The economy continued to slow in the third quarter, as it has since the start of the year, the Bank of Israel said in its seasonal survey of companies' activities last week.

The construction and hotel sectors saw the biggest declines.

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Building condos since they were introduced to the market, Tridel has sold more than any other firm. By listening to you, the customer, building homes you are proud to live in, and pioneering features which others strive to emulate, this single company has shaped the condo lifestyle of today.

Following the maxim "quality, integrity and value", Tridel's workforce are efficient, top-level professionals who pay attention to every detail from landscaping to doorjambs. To the accumulated knowledge of everything they have built, they wed state-of-the-art innovation and respect for your needs as a homeowner.

Each year since the Ontario New Home Warranty Program began, it has rated Tridel as an Excellent Builder; and no other condominium developer has received its Ernest Assaly Award for Best After-Sales Service.

The vision of quality homes that began with Jack DelZotto is still strong. Tridel is carrying it into the future, with the Skymark Excellence. The last of the seven buildings of the Skymark Place community in North York, the Excellence continues the tradition of unsurpassed luxury and trend-setting standards for which Skymark is renowned.

Set next to its sister building, the Classic, the Excellence commands a panoramic view from one of Toronto's highest elevations. Most suites have southern exposure. A 29-storey tower surrounded by landscaped walkways and gardens, the Excellence is impressive inside as well, with its lavishly furnished 2-storey lobby, circular staircase and cascading fountain.

There are 191 suites: 7 in 4 different designs on each floor, with starting prices at $221,500. Choose from 2-bedroom with optional den; 2-bedroom with den and family room; and 2-bedroom with den and family room or optional 3rd bedroom. There are also 6 terrace and penthouse suites, each for over $1,000,000.

Every home includes balcony with garden doors; cultured marble windowsills; European kitchen with ceramic tile or mirror backsplash, California lighting and dishwasher; bath with marble countertop; oval corner tub in ensuite; plush broadloom and polished marble in foyer and master ensuite; individually controlled heat pump with air conditioner; optional humidifier and central vacuum; and underground parking.

For outdoor relaxation, there is a swimming pool, double tennis court, sundeck and barbeque patio. Indoors, there is a party room with entertainment system, kitchen and wet bar; swimming pool with patio walkout; whirlpool; exercise room with gym and equipment; saunas and change rooms; ball courts; billiard room, furnished boardroom and 3 furnished guest suites.

Security and safety features are the best. They include state-of-the-art fire prevention devices, 24-hour gatehouse and concierge, common-area surveillance cameras, and personally encoded suite intrusion alarm.

The Excellence is a fine addition to a well-established community. Here, you will be near Seneca College, Leslie and Newnham Campuses; North York Library, Hillcrest Branch; Hillcrest Community Park; Fairview Mall, Skymark Place Shopping Centre, and the Shops on Steeles & 404; Old Cummer GO Train Station; and North York General Hospital.

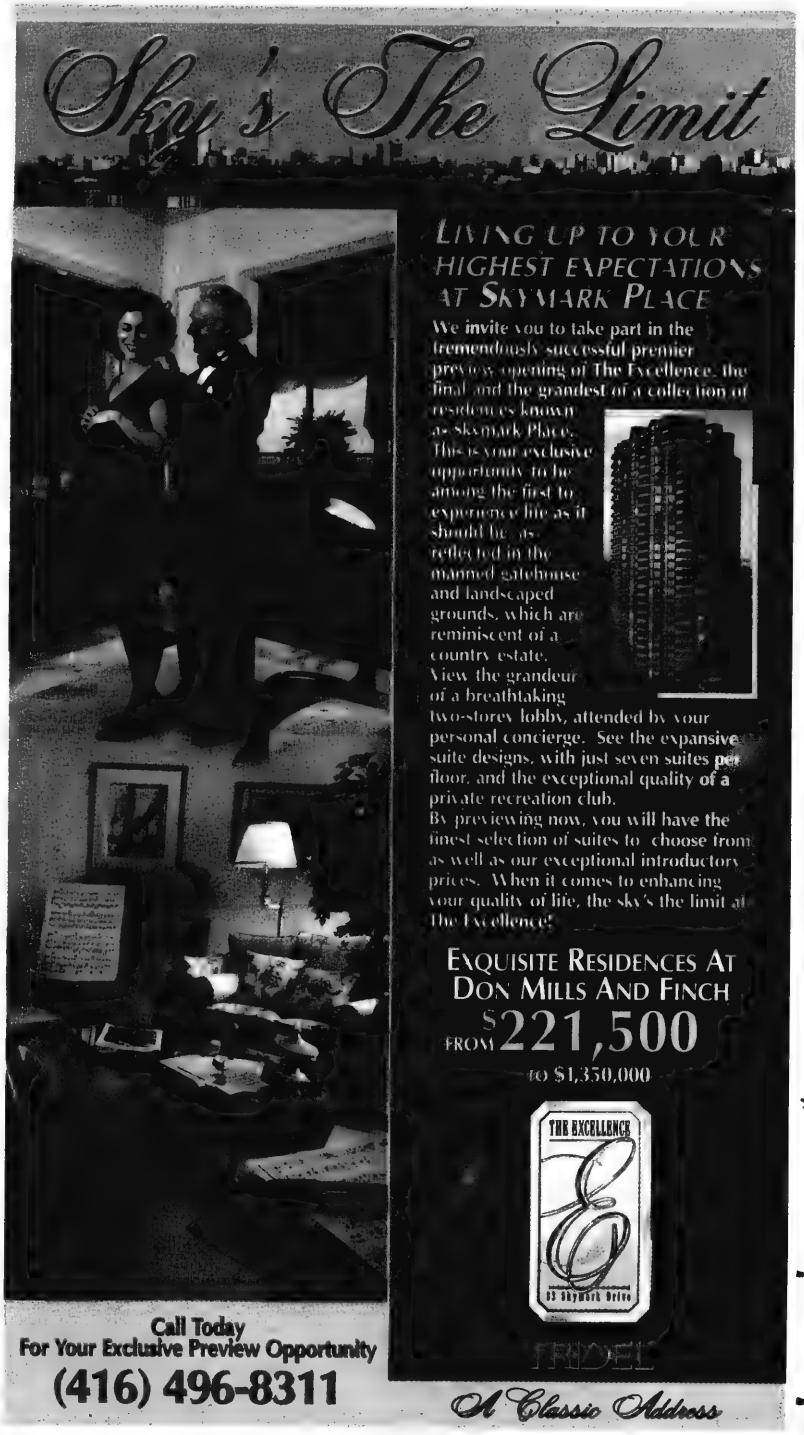
"It sounds good," you say; "but how to decide?" You don't buy a condominium on impulse; look at other builders, and compare. Tridel is confident that when you do, the Excellence will meet your standards.

Find out what the maintenance fees are, and what they include. Do they cover utilities? Parking? Lockers? What heating and cooling systems are used, and how will they affect costs? Is there enough visitors' parking? Are there recreation facilities and other amenities? What about fire safety and security? And if the project is not yet under construction, can you modify your home's layout?

You will want to know about the experience and reputation of the management company. Do they specialize in condominiums? Check all the documentation carefully: declaration, by-laws and rules, budget and financial statements.

Location is a prime factor. What part of the city do you like? What about transportation, and access to shopping, work and entertainment? Is the site well chosen, in an established neigbourhood with access to all amenities? Then there is the vital question of space and design; there is more to comfort than square footage.

Then, when you've considered other possibilities, make an appointment to see "The Excellence", near Don Mills and Finch in North York. The Excellence sales office is located at **4800 Dufferin St.** in Downsview. Hours are by appointment only, Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri.-Sun. and holidays 12 noon-5 p.m.; call **(416) 496-8311**.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Homelife/Bayview has the biggest gross sales of any Canadian Homelife office, with Steven as one of its star salespeople. Yet, he says, it's "more like a family than a company. The older people mentor the younger ones; and I've been there long enough to do some mentoring myself."

It fits that Steven likes Homelife/Bayview: he's generous and supportive in the community, as well as at work. As an executive member of the Toronto New Leadership Division of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, he has helped organize events like the Celebration of Hearts dance in February, the fundraiser at Michael Bregman's in honor of his parents, and the golf tournament in June.

Drop in on Homelife/Bayview, located at **8500 Leslie St.** at Hwy. #7, on the southwest corner in the Le Parc Office tower; or call Steven Green at **(905) 889-2200.**

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What can shrinkwrap framing keep fresh for you? An old album cover? Family snapshots? A T-shirt with a message? An inspired doodle? Let Mount 'N Seal preserve it as you want it, in any size from 4"x6" up to 48"x96". Mount 'N Seal also offers plaque mounting, drymounting, laminating and creative services. Drop in at **10 Brentcliffe Rd.**, Monday-Friday 9-5, Saturday 11-2; or phone Louise Joseph at **(416) 423-9975.**

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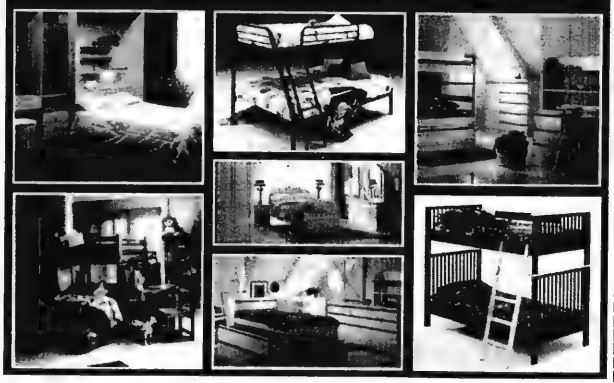

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On Sheppard just west of Bathurst, Ashlea Terrace is an intimate condominium development where the management will treat you like a "somebody". Located in a mature neighbourhood it has easy access to synagogues, convenient local shopping, Yorkdale, entertainment, the Allan Expressway, the 401, and the new Downsview subway station.

Ashlea Terrace with 6 storeys, has only 58 spacious suites; there are many sizes and floor plans to choose from, starting with 1-bedrooms with 683 sq. ft. to 3 bedrooms with 1,464. There are also 4 penthouses with rooftop terraces, which can be custom-designed. One penthouse is already reserved for the developer's parents.

Every suite has an ensuite washer and dryer, 40-oz. broadloom, marble tile entrance, washrooms with cultured marble vanity top and basin, custom-designed kitchen cabinets, and ceramic tile kitchen floor; and every 2-bedroom suite has 2 full baths. For a limited time, the sales program also offers you 5 appliances and a private storage locker.

Ashlea Terrace looks as handsome inside as it does outside. There is a richly appointed granite lobby; and behind the building is a large landscaped garden, with privacy walls, a trellised walkway, and plenty of greenery. There is also an outdoor barbeque patio.

On the main floor, at garden level, there is a common room with kitchen and bar, available for parties and meetings; there are also separate men's and women's saunas and change rooms, and an equipped exercise room.

Torblair shares your concern for security and peace of mind. Each suite has a security key pad linked to a 24-hour-a-day off-site security monitoring station; the pad also has a medic alert button. All building entry doors have card reader access; and the lobby camera is linked to the cable TV, so that you can view all visitors. You will receive a private encoded remote garage door opener; and the entry system to the underground parking garage will allow you to restrict visitor access.

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Torblair estimates that for an 892 sq. ft. 2 bedroom apt., monthly maintenance should cost approximately $268.00. This covers building insurance and upkeep, including garden maintenance and snow removal, heat, air conditioning, water, hydro and suite security monitoring — everything, in fact, except cable TV and telephone; and at Ashlea Terrace, you can lock your door and go away for vacation worry-free.

Torblair Developments is owned by the Torkin family, which has over 50 years of real-estate development experience in Canada and the US. Larry Torkin has drawn on his own substantial development experience to assemble a team of experts in condo design and construction, to make Ashlea Terrace "appeal to empty-nesters and first-time buyers alike."

Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 1997; occupancy is tentatively scheduled for spring 1998. Ashlea Terrace is located at **800 Sheppard Ave. West**, 4 blocks west of Bathurst. For an opportunity to view suite designs and features visit the sales centre on site, open Mon.-Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Sat., Sun. and holidays 12 noon-5 p.m.

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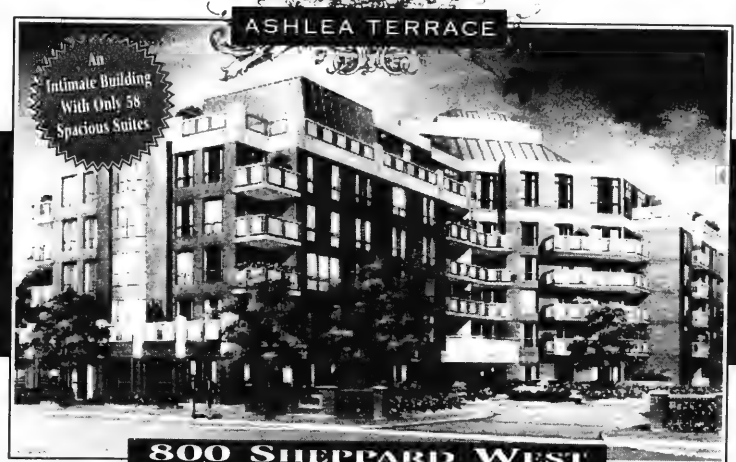

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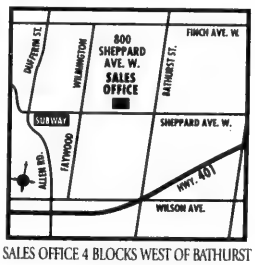

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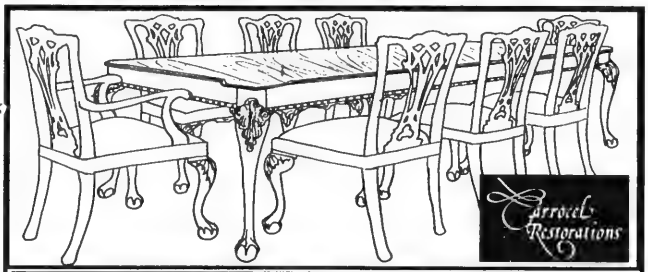
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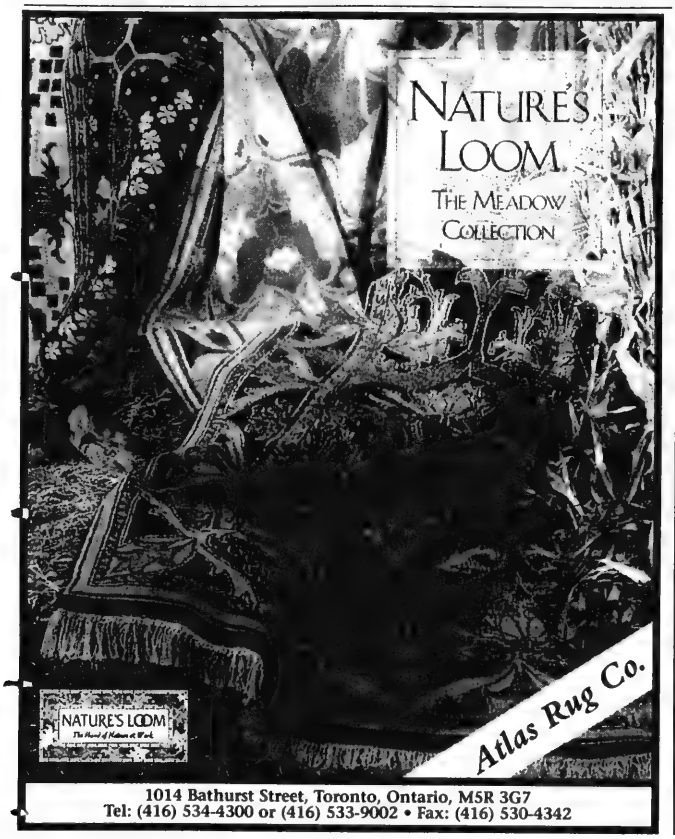
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Royal also carries track and recess lighting. Line voltage lights, which take regular or halogen bulbs, are available; so are low-voltage lights which have a transformer for a halogen bulb. As a low-voltage bulb is smaller, the fixture can be less obtrusive.

Because Royal's staff know what questions to ask, you go home with the product you want. Suppose it's an inside lamp for your rec room: the staff will inquire about illumination from windows, brightness of wall colour, and other variables affecting the light in the room, as well as your tastes.

"We're a full-service store," Gladstone emphasizes. "People spending money want personal attention, whatever their budget." The staff here are experts, some of whom have worked in the lighting business for 20 years; some have been with Royal since it opened in 1982.

You'll find Royal Lighting at **1549 Avenue Rd.**; telephone **(416) 782-1129**.

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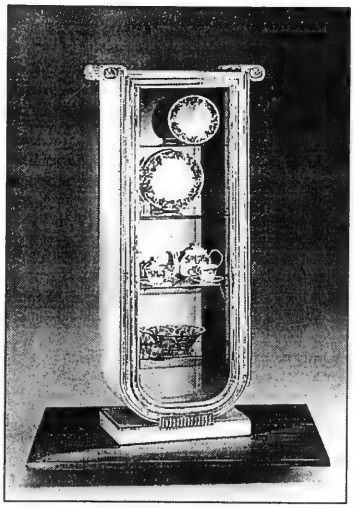

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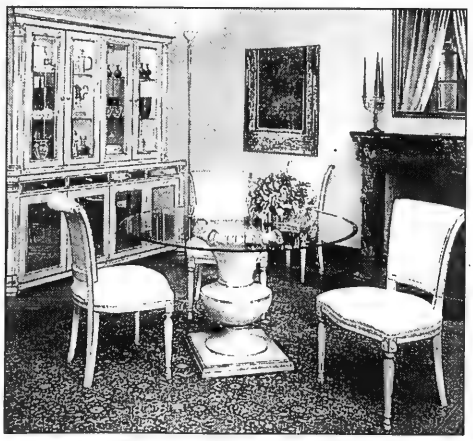

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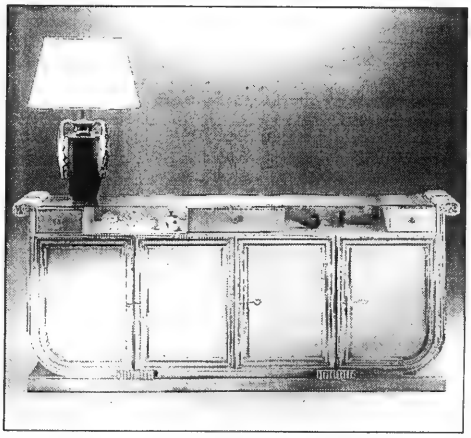

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Psychological, social factors linked to eating disorders

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The statistics on eating disorders given by Dr. Nira Piran to a recent scientific programme sponsored by the Weizmann Women & Science and the Women's Health Planning Committee of the University of Toronto were chilling.

Eighty to nearly 95 percent of women are discontented with their weight (a statistic so high that it becomes "normative behavior," Piran said); 80 to 95 percent of young women have dieted; and 50 percent of girls as young as nine say they have dieted as well.

Five percent of women will develop an eating disorder, either anorexia or bulemia, which she described as "fasting, binging or purging," and the number, which is increasing, also represents a younger and younger age of onset.

Serious medical effects include stunted growth, osteoporosis and menstrual problems. The heart, gastrointestinal tract, bones and brain may also be affected.

"Heart failure and suicide are the main causes of death in people with eating disorders," Piran said — adding that the mortality rate is 20 percent.

There are also psychological and social consequences, such as insomnia, poor concentration, social withdrawal and a lowering of academic and professional goals and achievement.

Young women pressured to be thin, such as models and ballet dancers, have an increased risk of eating disorders, she said.

But there is increasing clinical data suggesting that physical and sexual assault, especially during adolescence, also leads to eating disorders, especially bulemia.

Piran quoted studies showing that 26 percent of people with bulemia had been raped, as opposed to 13 percent of the general population, and 26.5 percent of bulemics had been physically assaulted, contrasting with 8.4 percent of the general population.

Eating disorders, she said, are only one form of disruption of life caused by abuse. Others include inflammatory bowel disease, gastrointestinal pain and substance abuse.

A recent study was done in a dance school where the students were young women from 10 to 18. The first finding, Piran said, was that they saw the body as "a site of violation of ownership," including control of their eating, a disrespect for their need for privacy, harassment, constantly being evaluated and abuse.

The body was also found to be a "target of societal prejudices, as once was the case with women of color."

Once girls develop into women, "they are described differently — as bitches or sluts. The body becomes a way of putting women down."

The body, Piran said, becomes "an arena of conformity to social restrictions to be compliant, good, silent, nurturing and sexual to others. Women are needed to be small in both size and in voice."

Women, she said, treat their own body the same as others do. "Eating disorders, then, are tied to human rights and gender equity."

Piran is a professor in the departments of applied psychology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and the department of psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and a consultant to the eating disorders program at the Toronto Hospital.

Other speakers at the program, held at the Hotel Inter-Continental, were Prof. Rebecca Cook of the University of Toronto, speaking on Women's Health and Human Rights, and Dr. Brenda Toner of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry and Women's College Hospital, who discussed psychosocial factors in irritable bowel syndrome: integrating gender issues.

Congress director attacks film

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The executive director of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, has lambasted a TVOntario documentary on ritual male circumcision.

During a TVOntario panel discussion last week, Manuel Prutschi described *It's a Boy,* which was recently broadcast on the *Human Edge* series, as unbalanced and malicious.

"*It's a Boy* was not an objective attempt at balance," he declared. "It was done with malice and manipulation."

The *brit milah,* he added, is a joyous family occasion, but the documentary portrayed the religious ceremony as "a spartan, grim, meloncholy event. Is that fair?"

Another panelist, Mohammed Ashraf, director of the Islamic Association of North America, was also critical of *It's a Boy,* a British film by Victor Schonfeld which pointedly questioned the ancient rite.

In Islam, he said, male circumcision is obligatory. If a Muslim is not circumcised, he removes himself from "the circle of Islam."

The third panelist, Dr. C. Robin Walker, chief of the neonatal pediatrics division at Ontario General Hospital in Ottawa, said that circumcision is not mandatory in strictly medical terms.

Walker, an authority in the field, cited a study by the Canadian Pediatric Society which concluded that there were no medical benefits to be gained from circumcision.

Prutschi described circumcision as "one of the most fundamental tenets of Judaism and a mark of peoplehood." Circumcision is practised by religious and secular Jews, he said, and it is irrelevant whether it is medically vital.

Walker observed that he was not opposed in principle to ritual circumcision, but he pointed out that newborn infants feel pain more intensely than adults.

Taking his cue from Walker's remarks, Prutschi lashed out at TVOntario, saying it didn't seem concerned by the pain *It's a Boy* had inflicted on the Jewish and Muslim communities.

Calling *It's a Boy* "anti-circumcision propaganda," Prutschi said that since Jewish men have "no memory of the event," the issue of pain is a relative one.

The purpose of circumcision, he explained, is not to inflict pain but to fulfil a religious obligation.

He said it is debatable whether Jews would agree to anesthetize an infant before the ceremony is performed.

Walker said pain-relieving drugs and ointments are available today, but there are side effects. He nevertheless advised the use of pain-control drugs should a circumcision procedure be performed in "a medical setting."

In an interview, Rudy Buttignol, executive producer of *Human Edge,* said a panel discussion became necessary when he realized that the film had offended Jews and Muslims.

He acknowledged that *It's a Boy* was not an objective treatment of the subject. But it was not meant to be, since the *Human Edge* airs "point-of-view documentaries."

Sol Littman, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Toronto, told *The Canadian Jewish News* that *It's a Boy* was "a very dishonest film" whose objective had been "to defame circumcision."

He said he was amazed that TVOntario – a government-sponsored educational station – "would stoop to such sensationalism."

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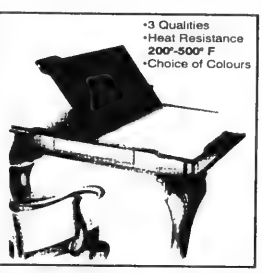

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Attn: Snowbirds!! House sitters are avail. to take care of and secure your home. Call Paul Lipson at 445-5866.

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Artege Table Pads
Custom-made, top quality, heat resistant. Wide selection, courteous home service. 745-2711.

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Bar Mitzvah lessons/tutoring avail. from young dynamic rabbi, top educator Call 905-731-2399 or pager 416-377-2028.

500 TUTORING/WORK SHOPS

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Hebrew lessons for children & adults, exper. qualif. teacher will tutor at her home. Please call Sarah 416-665-5559.

High educated Music teacher with exper. in Canada & Russia gives piano & keyboard lessons. Alex 225-4025.

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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These homeowners recently did – and the result was always the same. Sold!

100 ANTIBES DRIVE #1404
8 BARCLAY ROAD
3000 BATHURST ST. #812
43 BAYCREST AVENUE
91 BAYCREST AVENUE
45 BROOKVIEW DRIVE
48 BRUCEWOOD CRESCENT
184 CARIBOU ROAD
215 CARMICHAEL AVENUE
11 CHAMBERLAIN AVENUE
103 CHARLESWOOD DRIVE
66 CLANTON PARK ROAD
177 CLANTON PARK ROAD
537 COLDSTREAM AVENUE
106 FAIRHOLME AVENUE
160 FAYWOOD BLVD.
230 FAYWOOD BLVD.
80 GLEN PARK AVENUE
95 GLEN PARK AVENUE
110 GLEN PARK AVE...
128 GLEN PA...
27 GLEN RU...
500 GLENCAIR...
556 GLENCAIR AVENUE
SOLD
728 GLENCAIRN AVENUE
539 GLEN...OVE AVENUE
...USH CR.
...LVD.
...AVENUE
MEDALIST ROAD
542 MELROSE AVENUE
170 PANNAHILL ROAD
80 PRUE AVENUE
96 PRUE AVENUE
47 REGINA AVENUE
73 REGINA AVENUE
268 RIDLEY BLVD. #214
47 ROBERTA DRIVE
84 ROBERTA DRIVE
19 SHELBORNE AVENUE
45 SHELBORNE AVENUE
53 SHELBORNE AVENUE
80 STORMONT AVENUE

YOUR HOME?

THE ABOVE ARE JUST SOME OF THE PROPERTIES RECENTLY SOLD BY DAVID EICHORN. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN SELLING YOURS.

PRIMROSE CONDO – PENTHOUSE UNIT!
New listing! Spacious 2 bdrm., modern eat-in kitchen, balcony, bright southeast exposure, shows well! Only $209,000 — ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK AREA – SHOWS WELL
Spacious 3+1 bdrm. bungalow, fam. size kit., basement totally renovated, sep. entry to self-contained in-law suite, asking $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE – CUSTOM-BUILT BEAUTY
Spacious 4+1 bdrms., quality construction, loaded with extras, oak trim, hdwd. floors, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION BUILDERS! LOTS FOR SALE
AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN
• 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.
• 50x134 ft. lot in prime location, only $369,000.

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LYTTON BLVD. — CLOSE TO EVERYTHING
Prestigious location! 50x134 ft. lot, spacious bungalow, close to all amenities. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!
4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, dream kit., stone fireplace. An architectural masterpiece — MUST SEE! Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — HOME RENTAL
Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., gorgeous 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rooms, finished basement, reduced to $1895 / month. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BAYVIEW / YORK MILLS – PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION
Ranch bung., 3+2 bdrms., fam. rm., office, large rooms. Ideal for entertaining, gorgeous landscaped garden, 65x145 ft. lot, only $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712..

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HARVEY KALLES
-REAL ESTATE LIMITED-

NORTH

CALL SAMANTHA*/CHERYL GRAFF*
Reduced! $1,080,000 Misty Cres. Indoor pool, open concept, high ceilings, rare main floor master.

CENTRAL

CALL SAMANTHA*/CHERYL GRAFF*
$995,000 Forest Hill 3 sty...ed Victorian home. Fam. rm., high ceilings, bright & ...75" deep lot. SOLD

LOWER VILLAGE $699,000
Traditional centre hall home with 5 bdrms. 4 baths, situated on a lovely lot with ing. pool. **J. Solomon***.

HIGH TECH, VERY CHIC $629,000
Avenue Rd./Lawrence - Incredible 4 bdrm. 2 sty. fin. lower, nanny's rm., bleached & granite flrs. **J. Zinman***

WALK TO SUBWAY & SYNAGOGUE
Custom Built, very spacious with gleaming hdwd flrs. Priced for quick sale. **Tee Tee Ho***.

UPPER FOREST HILL! $369,000
Updated & charming! 3 bdrm, 2 baths, main floor den! Don't miss it! **Michele Rosen***.

RENT! BUILD A DOWN PAYMENT!
Bathurst/Wilson $1395/mth Immed. poss. 3 bed. center hall, bung. 2 car gar. C/A. **Maxine Povering****

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

EGLINTON - BATHURST
Charming, cozy 3 bdrm. detached, 2 storey, burglar alarm system, hdwd, flrs. throughout, oak finish woodwrk throughout, fin. bsmt. with lg. recreation rm., 3 wshrms., lovely garden.
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• Primrose 2 br balcony
• N.Y. Townhouse $180,000
• 171 Torresdale $269,900
• Thornhill 3,100 ft. $369,900

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Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View.

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$175,000.00 Large 2 bedroom condo + enclosed solarium, 4 & 5 piece bath, move in condition.
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2 lots side by side, 100'x180' each. Prestigious Old Thornhill.
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BATHURST SHEPPARD
Spac. backsplit, 4 bdrm, den, fam. rm., w/out, fin. bsmnt, dble gar., lge lot, A-1 buy & location!

• • •

FINCH WILMINGTON
3 Bdrm, 4 bth, L-shape liv & din., modern kit., fam. rm., w/out, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON
Ideal starter, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, 2 kits, fin. bsmnt, steps to all!

• • •

BATHURST PALM DRIVE
3 Bdrms, 2 bt...din comb, kit with w/out to deck, rec rm, move-in cond. SOLD

• • •

CONDO! CONDO! $98,900
Just listed! Bathurst/Finch, 2 bdrm apt, L-shape liv & din., w/out to balc, pkg, move-in cond, don't miss!

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High development area, ideal for professional use, don't miss these great buys & locations.

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Bathurst Manor/Beauty
$339,900 Large Immaculate 4 bdrm backsplit on quiet street, close to all amenities. Call Coldwell Banker Pinnacle.
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Bathurst Manor - $289,000. Lg. semi triplex, 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd. Good income.

CENTRE/ATKINSON
Magnificent, about 4,000 sq. ft, 4 bdrms, 3 ens, fin. lower lev.

BATHURST/STRATHEARN - Great Location
$229,000 2 stry, 3 bdrms, new furnace, walk to shuls.
MARSHA GOLDSTEIN (416) 229-4454
HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

31 Timberlane Dr., lge. 3 bdrm. sidesplit or magnificent ravine lot - 80'x 210'. 416-633-8903.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath. Manor, quiet St., 3 bdrms., newly renov., w/out bsmnt. to ravine lot, deck, fireplace, close to shuls, for Jan. 1st, $1,500/mo. + util. Call 416-398-0485.

Bath./Wilson, 2/3 bdrm., newly renovated, lge. lot, washer/dryer, near TTC. $1200./mo. Avail. now. 416-638-1475.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Centre, $159,900, 1300 sq. ft., bright, north east corner, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, balc., 5 appl's., window coverings, immed. occup., private sale, no agents. Call 416-636-2124.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
$129,900. Spacious 1 bdrm. + sol., eat-in kit., ens. ldry., pkg., locker, 24 hr. security, move in NOW!
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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

BREATHTAKING RAVINE/STATELY HOME
Approx. 1.6 acres! C. Joel/C. Kwinter* 488-2875

ABSOLUTE PERFECTION $2,195,000.
Location, lot, renovated! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

STONE & STUCCO BEAUTY - LWR. VILL.
Brand new quality home, o'sized gar.! D. Wagman* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE - MOTIVATED VENDOR
$569,000. Perfect family home! Eleanor Wagman* 488-2875

STEPS TO ROSEDALE GOLF CLUB
6 bdrms., exec. 3 stry. home! Cal Mark Cowan* 226-1987

CASA LOMA! REDUCED!
Legal triplex or one family! Ruth Trachter* 226-1987

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON JUST $549K
Just completed! Custom home! 4 bdrms.! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BEAUTIFUL RENOVATION $539,000.
For details call Celine Joel/Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

CENTRAL LOCATION! RENO'D. HOME!
$499,000., 2 stry., 3 bdrms. ++! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

NEW LISTING – UPPER FOREST HILL
Reno'd.! Won't last. $319,000! Celine Joel* 488-2875

PRIME ARMOUR HTS. 51 157 RENO/KIT.
New roof + furn. + CAC., 3 bdrms. rear! Goldie Kay* 226-1987

PICTURE PRETTY CAPE COD $309,000.
3 bdrms., mod. kit., 40' lot! Pauline Spence* 226-1987

AVENUE/LAWRENCE JUST $299,000.
Incredible reno., 3 bdrms., fin. bsmt.! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

OFFICE SPACE/MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON
Freestanding bldg. w/7-car pkg.! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE 4 BDRMS., CENTRAL AIR
Fin. bsmt., priv. dr.! Cathy Goldman* 226-1987

YONGE/EGLINTON SEMI-DETACHED
Totally reno'd. 3 bdrms! J. Wagman**/F. Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! DON MILLS/LAWRENCE
Lovely 3 bdrm. townhouse! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

YORK MILLS/OLD YONGE $1,295,000.
Custom home to be built! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

FOREST HILL REAL ESTATE INC. PRESENTS ...
6 top quality custom homes by Destiny Rose! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS ST. ANDREWS
Lovely 4200 sq. ft., 4 bdrm. home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CONDO ALTERNATIVE – MUST BE SOLD!
Exec. 3 bdrm. bung., TTC! Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/16-5500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrms., fin. bsmt.! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

MASTERPIECE! BAYVIEW/16TH
Magnificent 4095 sq. ft. home! J. Gofman*/F. Sversky** 488-2875

LOCATION, LOCATION! ATKINSON/CLARK
Adjusted price 4 bdrms., exec., main. flr. fam. rm.! R. Bass* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/ELGIN MILLS
Gorgeous 3530 sq. ft. home, 2 yrs. new! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/STEELES JUST $249,888.
Immac. 3 bdrm. home, mn. SOLD rm.! F. Sversky** 488-2875

STEAL THIS! $89,900. 2 LEVEL, 2 BDRMS.
Reno'd. kit., Bathurst/Finch! S. Greenbaum* 226-1987

BELLE EWART COTTAGE! GORGEOUS LOT
Near Shul & lake. A real buy! Rose Simon* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

The SKYMARK *Specialist*

CLASSIC: Unique open concept 2 br. + balc. 2,325 sq. ft.

ELEGANCE: One of a kind. 1,889 sq. ft. - 2 br. + fam. Don't wait.

SKYMARK II: Estate sale. Corner 2 br. + fam. Approx. 1,700 sq. ft., 2 1/2 baths.

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24 hrs

BATHURST/FINCH — SAVOY
3 Beautiful units to choose from! 2 are corner suites - all include 2 parking spaces, locker & appliances!
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FOREST HILL CONDO
Outstanding 2 bedroom, 2 bath, huge kitchen - stunning!
RISA FREEMAN, HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc. **416-229-4454**

**** SKYMARK ** CLASSIC** $318,900. Large 2BR, Fam. Rm. Upgrades! 2 car park, storage room! Terrace! Marty Wagman 449-2020. The Prudential Sadie Moranis Realty. Independently Owned Broker.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Luxury 1 bdrm. at Bath./Lawr., Dec. 1st, 5 appls., pkg., cable, air, Shabbat elev., $990./mo. 905-780-0685, leave msg.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Condo. to share with a lady, Bath./Shepp. area, a/c, balc., pool, fitness rm., etc. 630-7075.

Looking for female to share a condo., 2 bdrm., 2 bath, immac. cond., close to shopping & amen., pkg., pool & sauna. Call 905-731-9010.

Looking for a 3rd roommate, Finch/Wilm., a spac. 3 bdr. triplex, $350./mo.+ util. 636-3567.

Looking for a male to share a 2 bdrm. beautiful apt. 2 baths, Bath./Lawr. area. 785-1071.

Luxury 2 br. condo. to share, North York $400./mo.661-9982.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

York student, 20 yrs.old, seeks roommate to share/rent 2 bdrm. apt., Yonge/Egl. area, a/c, carpet, fully equip., low rise, rec. renov., $450./mo. Will also consider joining existing arr. in Yonge/Egl.area.650-3542, Zack

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., 1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. for rent, main flr. 635-5031.

Bath./Egl., spacious 2 bdrm., Nov. 1, fully furn., 787-2468.

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. 782-0774.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath/Steeles, beautifully furn. newly reno'd. large studio bsmt. apt., sep. entr., lndry fac., close to all amen.,n/smoker, pkg. Prefer female.Avail. mid-Nov. $700. inclusive. 250-8171, lve. msg.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, furn. room, private, TV, washroom, kit. priv., suits female, n/smoker, a/c, 256-1256.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST
Bathurst & Steeles

RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS

REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS

Call for appointment

635-2910 9:00-4:00 445-8811 4:00-7:00

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BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bsmnt. apt., n/smoker, incl. pkg., cable & elec.,sep. entr., single people pref., good for students, avail. Dec. 1st. 781-1209, after 5pm.

85 APARTMENT WANTED

Bath./Lawr. area, 1-2 bdrm., ASAP, for 9 mos., furn./unfurn., resp. young couple. 781-3346.

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Bath. S. of Egl., Forest Hill area, lge. 2 bdrm.+, upper duplex, $1,095./mo.+. 783-5500.

Bath./Fairlawn, Small Twnhse., suit responsible couple, 2 bdr., bsmnt., pkg., $905./mo., refs. Avail.Dec.1.633-9667 Lve. msg

Thornhill, spacious 3 bdrm., 5 appls., avail. Dec. 1. 787-2468.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

BAL HARBOUR, FLORIDA
1 Br., 1½ Baths furn., mod. condo, oceanside, min. 4 mos. @ U.S. $1,500 or $6,000 a yr. Occupancy Jan. 15/97. Call **LILLIAN COOPER (416) 488-2875/787-7830.**

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE SIMCOE – STRATHALLAN WOODS – $159,000
Gorgeous 2,000 sq. ft. Cottage, f.p., 2½ Bath, sits on beautiful lrg lot with narrow frontage to shared sandy beach - great family cottage.

LAKE SIMCOE - BIG CEDAR - DOUBLE LOT
135'x187' (2 sewer hook-ups). Existing cottage in good cond. Beautiful sand! **$479,000.**

Lake Simcoe Waterfront is my SPECIALTY.
Please let me know **WHAT** you are looking for & I'll find it!

BERNICE WHELAN RLTY (705) 739-8000

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Aventura, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, cac, overlooks pool & golf course. Minutes from beach & Aventura Mall. Call 416-733-9767.

Boynton Beach, Indian Spring, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn., gated community, lake view, screened porch, eat in kit., owner, $71,900.00 U.S. 561-738-0439.

Miami Beach, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., on 5000 Collins Ave., 2nd flr. 416-787-0626.

WYCLIFFE
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB - LAKE WORTH
Designer decor. Immed. Poss. Just bring your toothbrush. Fully furn. 2 BDRM. + den. garage, golf, tennis, health spa, swimming pool.
Call (416) 485-8230.
After Oct. 27 (561) 967-0557.

Winston Towers 500, immaculate two bedroom apartment, 2 baths, highly upgraded, tiles, mirrors, new kitchen, gorgeous view. Beautifully furnished by owner. (954) 454-6547.

Hollywood, South Ocean Drive facing QUADOMAIN on Intercoastal, one bedroom, 1½ baths, furnished, top floor, low maintenance/taxes $52,900.00 US (514) 481-1849.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Apt. located at **The Meadows,** Sarasota, Fla., 1st flr., fully equip. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, with view of lake & golfcourse, priv. pkg., pool, avail. Dec. 1. Call 941-379-6712 or 410-358-3115.

Aquarius condo., Hllywd. Fla., lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn., on ocean, 14th flr., spec. ocean view, avail. Jan. 6/97, $500.00/wk. U.S., min. 10 wks. 416-969-0336.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Arlen House, beautiful 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath,compl. furn.,great water view, facing South.Just bring your clothes! Lease for 3-4 mos.,$1,500/mo. U.S. 416-927-993. Call 780-1551 after Oct. 24th.

Commercial & University, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, equip. 636-3845, after 5 pm.

Hallandale, Tower of Ocean-view, 1 1/2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, fully furn., all amen., avail. Nov. 15th for season.$1200/mo US., neqot.636-8548/905-738-9518.

Hollywood, Fla., 2 bdrm., 2 bath, oceanside condo., secur. bldg., underground pkg., 2 pools, steps from the Broadwalk. $3100./mo. U.S., avail. Nov. - Apr. Call 312-281-5666.

Indian Spring, Boynton Beach, fully furn. condo for seasonal lease, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2nd flr., overlooks canal & golf course, full golf membership incl. Call 508-993-8045.

North Miami Beach, beautiful 2 bdrm. condo. apt. avail. for rent for 2-3 mos. as of Dec. 17/96. 416-471-4936 or 416-494-8229, after 8pm.

North Miami Beach, lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, facing pool, tennis, secur., Plaza of Americas. 163rd & Collins. Dec.1st-Feb.15th,$4800.U.S. 252-2521.

Oceanfront, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths. First 2 wks. in Dec. ($500.00 U.S./wk.) & from Mar. 8th-Passover, $2000 U.S. per mo. 905-770-0358.

S. Miami Beach, 1 bdrm.,pkg., near amenities, $1100/mo. U.S. Call Bernice 667-8045.

South Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700. U.S. 783-3288.

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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

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Woman, retired, college grad., would like to meet a man who is able to travel, Israel or Fla. CJN Box 6836.

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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff & Linda Mandlsohn
are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter
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Glazier, Rose on October 12, 1996, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
Diamant, Bela on October 12, 1996, late of 668 Winona Dr.
Myzels, Nettie on October 13, 1996
Eidelberg, Leon on October 13, 1996, late of 2121 Bathurst St.
Swartz, Murray on October 14, 1996
Bukh, Llya on October 15, 1996, late of 6030 Bathurst St.
Anidjar, Hanna on October 14, 1996, late of 12 Rockford Rd.
Franco, Toni on October 14, 1996, late of 21 Mayfair Ave.
Sealove, Lillian on October 15, 1996, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Charlotte Rotenberg on October 3, 1996, late of 5444 Yonge Street, Room 1406
Fred Wolff on October 2, 1996, late of 164 Lyndhurst Avenue
Jack Tarnow on October 4, 1996, late of 94 Ridgehill Drive
Anna Leibovici on October 6, 1996, late of 42 Plumtreeway
Murray Weinstock on October 7, 1996, late of 65 Skymark Drive #1402
David Aaron Pearce on October 5, 1996, late of 147 Kingston Road
Fanya Katsman on October 7, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst Street #410
Matilda Feldstein on October 7, 1996, late of 2085 Finch Ave. West
Roy Sack on October 7, 1996, late of 74 Chiswell Crescent
Harold Brenner on October 7, 1996, late of 174 Upper Canada Drive
Phil Cohl on October 8, 1996, late of 3000 Bathurst Street P.H. #2
Rose Fine on October 9, 1996, late of 240 Heath Street West #504
Sam Oslinger on October 9, 1996, late of 5444 Yonge Street #508
Harry Landsman on October 5, 1996, late of 55 Willett Crescent
Dora Kumer on October 11, 1996, late of 80 Antibes Drive #606
Sadie Berman on October 9, 1996, late of 342 Spadina Road #102

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
BEN LENNICK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Eastern Children of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY ROTBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 27th, 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Leah Teitelbaum ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stopnitzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GOLDIE TITLE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, November 3, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Apter Friendly Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The Inside Back

About Life

Dear Ella,

I have a dear friend who has a very annoying habit. She seems to need to acquire everything that I have. When I buy new shoes, she says, "Those are gorgeous. Where did you get them?" and the next thing I know, she has bought the same pair. She has much of the same clothing that I do, as well as the same dishes and believe it or not, she even has the same wallpaper in her bedroom.

She is a very warm and decent human being, but I find myself hiding things around my house every time she comes over. Not to mention that I wouldn't be "caught dead" now in a new outfit.

I imagine that some people might find this behavior sweet or even flattering, but after so many years of this parrot like behavior I am almost ready to move to another country!

Any suggestions you could offer so that my family and I don't have to relocate would be appreciated.

Polly Get Your Own Cracker

Dear Polly Get Your Own Cracker,

I agree that imitating the odd item you own could be considered flattering. Most people at one time or another have bought something they saw on someone or at someone else's house. I even remember an *I Love Lucy* episode where Lucy and Ethel stood on stage in the same dress singing the song *Friendship* while ripping each other's dresses to shreds.

Some people copy because they genuinely like what you have, others because they want to be more like you and others because they are too lazy to find something that looks nice on their own. After all, once you see great wallpaper in someone else's home, why bother searching through stores and sample books to find something else?

I'm sorry to have to be the one to inform you that if you don't want to spend the rest of your life hiding every new item from your friend, you will have to confess how you feel to her.

Be brave and let your friend know that you are a "one of a kind" type of gal and you would feel more comfortable if she would try to develop her own taste instead of imitating yours. To get her started, offer to go shopping with her and help her find the things she needs. Give her some pointers on style, matching and show her the best places to go. Who knows, your lessons maybe so successful eventually you may be asking her where she found that gorgeous pair of shoes?

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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A great way to use up stale challah

1 medium challah	3 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup sugar	4 tblsp. oil
6 cups sliced apple	3 eggs

Soak challah in water. Drain well. Combine challah, beaten eggs, cinnamon, oil and apples. Pour into a greased 9x15 inch pan. Bake at 350°F for 1 hour.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Eva *(Fishman)* Turk ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 10:00 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Shaarei Tefillah Stashover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MANCI BECK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BESSIE WALES ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 27, 10:30 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Royal York Road
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Diplomatically Speaking

BY JEHUDI KINAR

"Instead of being arrested, as we stated, for kicking his wife down a flight of stairs and hurling a lighted kerosene lamp after her, the Rev. James Wellman died unmarried four years ago."

I was reminded of this quotation from an American newspaper, sent by Sir Edward Burns Jones in a letter to Lady Horner, when I followed the reporting of the confrontations which recently took place in Jerusalem and the territories.

Although I had hoped to use this column to inform you about developments in our region and not necessarily in the political field, I cannot always follow my intentions and my wishes.

While writing these lines I do not yet know the outcome of the negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Both sides are aware of the need to come to a solution. At the start of the crisis, most journalists and politicians referred to the opening of the Hasmonean tunnel at the Via Dolorosa as "the straw which broke the camel's back," and thus caused the above-mentioned confrontations. Only a few journalists were honest enough to report on what Charles Krauthammer called "a desecration of the truth" (*Time*, Oct. 14).

I am not discussing the timing of the opening, because there would never be a suitable timing for the opening of any tunnel or any excavation in Jerusalem that would satisfy the Arab side. Let us not forget the uproar caused by earlier excavations (some 20 years ago) outside of the Temple Mount, when Israeli archeololgists once more proved the irrefutable link between Jerusalem and the Jewish people. For years, UNESCO would send an expert to write a report about the damage suffered from the excavations. But, like Balaam, instead of cursing the people of Israel, he would bless the work done by the Israeli archeologists.

Every excavation in Jerusalem will cause the fear of "Judaization" of the town. This of course cannot be helped, as it is impossible to change the course of history. Even if one claims (as some do) that Jesus was a Palestinian, it is difficult to fight facts. Although reading some of the "facts" given by some journalists, I cannot refrain from quoting Winston Churchill when he replied to Aneurin Bevin in the House of Commons: "I should think it is hardly possible to state the opposite of the truth with more precision."

Israel opened an exit to the Hasmonean tunnel after the Waqf had abused a one-time approval to use Solomon's Stables on the Temple Mount as a place for prayer services during bad weather conditions. Over the last few months, these stables, which had been used for the horses of the Templar Knights in the Crusader period (the connection with King Solomon is legendary) were converted into a mosque. Long before Israel opened the Hasmonean tunnel, which, contrary to Arab assertions, is not in or under the Temple Mount, the Waqf, in violation of the Interim Agreement, had already changed the status of the sites on the Temple Mount.

Interestingly enough, the same journalists who denounced the Israelis for opening this tunnel did not deem it necessary to report on the infractions perpetrated by the Arab side. Their papers merely quoted news agencies and not their correspondents on the issue of the King Solomon Stables. By the way, research on this news item would not have been too difficult, as the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* often quoted by them had on Oct. 10, a research article by Nadav Shragai that provided all the background to the opening of the tunnel.

Could it be that for one reason or another the journalists had not yet found the time to read the Interim Agreement? Had they read it, they would have noticed that this agreement does not provide for any transfer of powers and responsibilities in Jerusalem to the Palestinians.

In fact, the Interim Agreement does not prohibit Israel from taking steps that may change the status of Jerusalem — Article XXXI.7 only prohibits the parties from taking steps which may affect the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

I am reminded of a story of someone who once proposed this bargain to his opponents: If they stop telling falsehoods about us, I will stop telling the truth about them.

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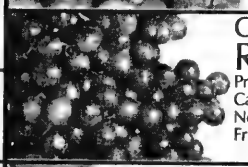

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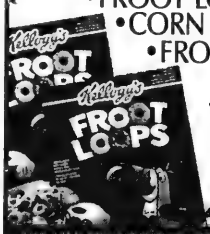

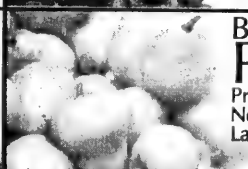

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This Week

Coast to Coast

PQ rejects motion to condemn Villeneuve, seeks to link separatist with Galganov. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Dow Marmur calls on the government of Ontario not to ignore the poor. *Page 5*

Toronto proclaims Holocaust Education Week Nov. 7 to Nov. 17. *Page 6*

20,000 people hunt bargains at 72nd Hadassah-WIZO Bazaar. *Page 22*

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel's relationship with Egypt has turned downright frosty. *Analysis.* *Page 37*

TAB news

Privatized El Al will still not fly on Shabbat, transportation minister says. *Page 40*

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Cheshvan19, 5757
Havdalah: 5:54

Netanyahu warns Syria

'No question of possible surprise'

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week issued a clear warning to Syria not to engage in any military adventure, while reiterating his call to President Hafez al-Assad to resume the peace talks.

Netanyahu stressed that Israel is closely monitoring all developments in Syria and Lebanon and was prepared for any eventuality.

Asked whether there was a risk of war with Syria if the deadlock in the peace talks continues, he said: "It would be a tragedy, because we have offered to resume the peace talks and we have also said that our purposes in Lebanon, as on the Golan, are purely defensive.

"It should be clear, however, that we observe everything that goes on and there is no question here of a possible surprise.

"We have taken all the necessary countermeasures for our defence. I stress again our purpose is defensive, but we will not be surprised and we will know how to react to a potential attack.

"What I would like to see is not a discussion about countering a plot or potential threats, but the resumption of the peace talks between Israel and Syria, which was and remains our basic goal."

Netanyahu spoke during a visit to the navy base in Haifa, during which he visited a submarine and later embarked on a short trip aboard one of the navy's biggest and most modern missile ships, the Saar 5 Eilat.

"I want to say, here, while we are on the deck of the Israel Navy ship, that we have a strong, determined army, with special technological capabilities and exemplary officers and soldiers," said Netanyahu.

"This army, which is changing its face every day, can answer any threat facing us. This army, however, has one aim – to defend the country and give Israel the strength and power to achieve a lasting peace.

"The strength of the IDF, such as the navy, is vital to help achieve and preserve peace and these two aims we will achieve."

THE FLAME OF REMEMBRANCE
Leah Rabin reacts as a gust of wind hits the eternal flame beside her husband's grave. Behind her is her son Yuval. Please see related story on page 30. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Infinite edges of a far off horizon

Editorial

If you look carefully at the accompanying photo, you can see the track of the sun on Yitzhak Rabin's face. General Rabin, chief of staff of Israel's Defence Forces, is standing beside the Western Wall of the Second Temple, which only two days earlier had been restored to Jewish sovereignty by the army he led, nearly 2,000 years after the ancient Roman empire had wrenched it away.

The general is looking heavenward into the south sky, undoubtedly into the impenetrable deep blue that seems a permanent covering high above the city in which he was born. By the expression on his face, it appears he is looking very far indeed, toward a horizon whose infinite edges are being framed by the golden glow of the sun leaving its mark on him at that very moment.

In that horizon he likely sees more than most people can: perhaps the soldiers he sent into battle who fell, or the companions alongside whom he fought years before, who also fell; perhaps his parents; perhaps his children; perhaps an image of time's mysterious line.

[David Rubinger photo]
Eretz Magazine

We will never know for certain how far he cast his eyes. We do know for certain, however, that he described himself as "standing at the very heart of Jewish history." And from the heart – any heart – beating assuredly with strength, giving life, at peace, we know the soul can reach vast heights, as the young General Rabin's soul did.

Two weeks and two days after this photo was taken, he spoke to the nation from the amphitheatre of Hebrew University on Mount Scopus: "Our soldiers prevailed, not by the strength of their weapons, but by their sense of mission, by their consciousness of the justice of their cause, by a deep love of their country and by their understanding of the heavy task laid upon them: to ensure the existence of our people in their homeland and to affirm, even at the cost of their lives, the right of the Jewish people to live its life in its own state, free, independent and in peace."

He was 45 years old then.

Continued on page 8

WE'RE MOVING:

As of Nov. 5 our new address will be 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, M3B 3K4. Our new phone number is 391-1836 and our fax numbers are (editorial) 391-0829 and (advertising) 391-0949. Because we'll be in the process of moving, our office will be closed Monday, Nov. 4.

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Syrian movements concern IDF planners — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

Remembrance Day

MONTREAL – Canadian Jewish Congress is urging Jews across the country to join war veterans in a meaningful Remembrance Day ceremony at synagogues on Nov. 9.

During World War II, more than 16,883 Jewish men and women served in the Canadian army and air force.

Hebrew U's Programs

TORONTO – A new master's degree program in volunteer organizations is being inaugurated this fall at the Hebrew University, in order to train a new generation of professionals skilled in working in the rapidly growing field of voluntary, non-profit organizations in Israel. A new pre-med specialization program in English is also being initiated this year at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students.

ISRAEL

Non-confidence Vote

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government lost a non-confidence vote last week and then continued about its business.

The vote underscored how the government has been strengthened by Israel's new electoral law.

The outcome of the vote, submitted in response to the government's economic policies, was 45-43 against the government.

Under the law on direct election of the prime minister, a majority of 61 is needed to bring down the government.

Dayan Attacked

JERUSALEM – Labor Knesset member Yael Dayan suffered burns on her face and chest after a religious Jew threw a cup of tea at her during a tour of Hebron.

The assailant fled after he was brought to a nearby police station.

Chirac Visits Israel

JERUSALEM – French President Jacques Chirac last week called for a greater French and European role in the peace process and for Israel to make concessions.

He urged the Israeli government to accept the concept of a Palestinian state alongside Israel and to try to achieve peace with Syria and Lebanon based on the principle of territories for peace.

Despite his perceived pro-Arab stance, Chirac said he was speaking as a friend, and stressed the fact that France's friendship with Israel is both trustful and demanding.

WORLD

Yeshiva U Rep Visits

NEW YORK – Dr. Anita Rotman of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work, in New York will be in Toronto from Nov. 17 to 26 to meet with individuals interested in learning about Wurzweiler's summer block education plan.

Individuals interested in setting up appointments may call Rotman at 1-914-254-6215 before Nov. 17. During her visit she can be reached at the Park Plaza Hotel 416-924-5471.

Holy Sparks

PHILADELPHIA – Jewish Reconstructionists from across North America will gather in Philadelphia, Penn., for their 36th annual convention Nov. 7 to 10. The convention will focus on the interaction of religion and the arts.

Conservative Life

NEW YORK – A wide-ranging new study of life in Conservative synagogues has found a vibrant, living and continuity-minded Judaism thriving within Conservative shuls across North America.

The study found that levels of Jewish educational attainment among younger shul members are on the rise, young people identify positively with Judaism, and Israel and baby-boomers who join synagogues are more active and attend services more often than their elders.

Jewish Graves Vandalized

BUENOS AIRES – Vandals desecrated about 100 headstones at the Jewish cemetery in La Tablada, near Buenos Aires, Argentine police said.

At least seven people took part in the attack, police said, adding that no one had been apprehended.

The vandals daubed swastikas on headstones, smashed others and painted "The Holocaust is the great Jewish lie."

Anti-Semite Sentenced

MOSCOW – A court in the former Soviet republic of Georgia has given a one-year jail sentence to the author of an anti-Semitic article that appeared in a Georgian newspaper in August.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday October 29, 1971

ISRAEL WAS NOT INVITED BY SHAH

The Shah of Iran did not officially invite Israel to the celebration to mark the 2,500th anniversary of the founding of the Persian Empire.

Although Iran has never established formal diplomatic relations with Israel, the Israelis are disappointed that on a major state occasion of a country whose history is bound up in many ways with that of the Jewish people, the Shah did not ignore the rigid policy of cold-shouldering Israel.

******

THOUSANDS JOIN INSPIRING DEMONSTRATION

"The Jews of silence are silent no more!" proclaimed Elie Wiesel at the close of this week's demonstration in Toronto on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

About 6,000 Jews, mostly young people from high schools and universities, assembled in Toronto, with 1,000 torches blazing at the Science Centre, where Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin was addressing the Canadian Manufacturers Association.

"Jewish people be proud," Wiesel urged. "Be proud of your children in Toronto. Jewish people, you have found your soul again!"

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PQ rejects motion to condemn Villeneuve

Seeks to link radical separatist with Galganov

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A Liberal motion in the National Assembly condemning radical separatist Raymond Villeneuve for his attacks on anglophone Jews died because the Parti Québécois (PQ) refused to debate it unless anti-separatism activist Howard Galganov was also included in the motion.

Liberal leader Daniel Johnson's motion read: "That this House declares that the recent statements of Raymond Villeneuve of the Mouvement de Liberation Nationale du Quebec on English-speaking Quebecers of the Jewish faith represent intolerance in its ugliest and most repulsive excess possible in a free and democratic society, and that this House calls upon all Quebecers to condemn such statements."

The government has to give its consent before such a motion from the opposition can be debated and voted on.

PQ House leader Pierre Belanger called a recess to study the matter, indicating he did not know exactly what Villeneuve had said.

Returning about a half-hour later, Belanger suggested an amendment to the motion that would "denounce at the same time Mr. Villeneuve and Mr. Galganov," which prompted shouts of "Bravo!" from the government benches.

Belanger explained the government wants to denounce "all forms of intolerance."

Premier Lucien Bouchard added: "As premier of Quebec, I have no hesitation to denounce the condemnable remarks of Mr. Villeneuve ... However, I want the National Assembly as a whole to adopt a motion that is going to eradicate the intolerance in all political camps, and in particular that of Mr. Galganov, that must be said."

D'Arcy McGee Liberal MNA Lawrence Bergman, in a *CJN* interview, accused the PQ and Bouchard of making "a nasty and deliberate attempt to confuse racism and anti-Semitism with political activism ... It's deceitful and malicious."

David Sultan, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), termed the reaction of the government to the motion "very disturbing ... Making this sort of parallel [between Villeneuve and Galganov] is dangerous.

"Whatever one thinks of Galganov or his strategy, he has never threatened any community and has acted peacefully and within his rights. It's like comparing apples and oranges."

Galganov thinks the matter points to the government's being "morally and factually bankrupt."

"I never suggested violence, or political, cultural or religious exclusion, nor have I ever been involved in a terrorist group [like Villeneuve, a convicted former Front de Liberation du Quebec bomber]."

CJC is also disappointed that the PQ has refused to expel Villeneuve from the party.

In response to a letter from Sultan and Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum, party official Fabien Bechard wrote: "You know as I do, that organizations like ours and yours, that comprise tens of thousands of members, cannot control all of their statements and exclude any person who, at one moment or another, would make declarations that don't conform to the ideas, principles or fundamental goals that we defend."

Bechard notes that Villeneuve's remarks concerning Jews and the use of violence were not made as a PQ member but as MLNQ president.

He also notes that the party issued a public statement dissociating itself from Villeneuve's remarks.

CJC, meanwhile, has not backed off from its demand that Bouchard "as the premier of all Quebecers" unequivocally condemn Villeneuve.

CJC has been criticized for doing the same thing as Bloc Québécois leader Michel Gauthier who asked CJC to denounce Galganov, apparently for no other reason than he is Jewish.

Sultan said the CJC request was not made because Bouchard and Villeneuve are both sovereigntists, but because Villeneuve made "racist and violent threats" in violation of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights. The same would have been done if the Liberals were in power, he said.

CJC has received no response to its complaint against Villeneuve of incitement to hatred lodged with the office of Attorney General Paul Begin.

New war crimes cases announced

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Federal authorities are moving to strip two more Canadians of their citizenship because of their alleged involvement in war crimes.

The two men both reside in the Montreal area, according to Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit. Vickery declined to release further details, saying legal documents pertaining to the revocation proceedings would be released in Federal Court on Thursday of this week.

The announcement brings to seven the number of Canadians facing deportation for their alleged involvement in war crimes. Two years ago, Justice and Immigration officials announced it would advance 12 war crimes cases.

Some are citizens who must be denaturalized before they can be deported, others are not Canadian citizens.

The case involving three Canadian citizens — Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck — is currently before the courts on preliminary legal matters.

The case of Oshawa resident Josef Nemsila, who acquired Canadian domicile but is not a citizen, is also before the courts on questions of law. Antanas Kenstavicius of Hope, B.C., like Nemsila, is not a citizen but he too faces deportation for alleged war crimes.

In Toronto, Konrads Kalejs, an Australian citizen who is not among the 12 cases, faces deportation. His hearing is nearing its final stages as government officials attempt to remove him for alleged involvement in war crimes.

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Greater Toronto Area

Rabin's yahrzeit fills with melancholy

Melancholy is hardly adequate to describe the atmosphere at the community memorial service for Yitzhak Rabin last week in Toronto. For melancholy and sorrow blended still, one year later, with disbelief.

Approximately 600 people gathered in the warm, protective sanctuary of the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, a cocoon-like chamber of muted browns and beige, a station for private worship and public assembly in which the whispers of the "still small voice" are silently encouraged to find their path from conscience to heart.

The service brought together into one river of effective communal expression the different streams of religious and organizational affiliations. Organizers are to be commended for the example of unity and coalescence which the program embodied. It was a short, poignant program forcefully punctated at the centre like a blow to the solar plexis, by the emotional, pained, insightful reflections of Irwin Cotler.

Cotler delivered a treatise in which he reflected on "what went wrong, what is still going wrong and what we must all do." He began his presentation by recalling three images of the many that "engulfed" him when he was in Israel immediately after the assassination. I reproduce only one of the images which he shared with us.

Along with thousands of others, Cotler went to Har Herzl, the pine-scented western slope of Jerusalem where Rabin is buried, to light a candle and to say a prayer at the gravesite. He saw a 5-year-old leave his teddy bear at the grave. On the doll, written in the pure, plaintiff innocence of a guile-free child was the inscription: "May this teddy bear comfort you in heaven."

The image of the young boy laying down his most precious possession to comfort Rabin's soul, stabbed at my heart. It was an expression of sheer selfless generosity – true generosity toward the other – a generosity all the more poignant for its absence, alas, among our people today.

Melancholy is hardly adequate to describe how I felt.

* * *

After the assassination, *The CJN* received an outpouring of letters and poetry from its readers. We attempted, at the time, to publish as many as possible. Due to lack of space however, many went unpublished.

The following two poems were among those sent to me which I was unable to publish at the time.

We Miss You,
We Miss You, Shalom

Gentle, as sacrificial Isaac
Bold, as Father Abraham
David, at Jerusalem's Gate
Solomon, in Israel Reborn,
We miss you, Yitzhak
Shalom.
We miss you, Yitzhak
Shalom.

Father, husband, grandfather -
"...the softness of your eyes' caress,
half smile that said everything."
Cruel is the dagger of November.
Nations mourn. "Shalom Chaver."
Shalom.
My blooming cactus 'cross a
scented ocean
– Sabra to Sabra –
drapes in carmine your coffin,
steeled dove.

We miss you, we miss you, Abba.
A tear from Machpela. Moses'
thunder from Nebo.
Psalms from Moriah.

Soldier, commander, liberator,
statesman.
Son of a grieving people.
Your yearning, your vision shall
lead us.

Yitzhak
Lover of Peace.
Shalom…
Shalom!

by Donia Blumenfeld Clenman

The poem *To Cry for Us* was written by Noam Reshef, a writer of Hebrew poetry who lives in Montreal. He sent Leah Rabin a collection of poems which he wrote after the murder. This one especially moved her. The poem in its original Hebrew is reproduced below. The translation from the Hebrew is by *The CJN*.

To Cry For Us

To cry for the man
who was taken,
To cry for the fighter
who parachuted from the skies,
But will be no longer
among us.

To cry for the generation
that has grown thus,
To cry for the people
that has sinned thus,
To cry, to cry my friend,
for us.

by Noam Reshef

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נועם רשף

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Greater Toronto Area

Marmur urges government not to ignore poor

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Dow Marmur has added his voice to those calling on the government of Ontario to respect the needs of the poor and to promote social justice.

Rabbi Marmur, spiritual leader at the Holy Blossom Temple, declined to support last week's Days of Action campaign of protests, picketing and work stoppages.

Instead, he participated in a multifaith service sponsored by the Interfaith Social Action Reform Coalition (ISARC) and the multifaith organizing committee of the Days of Action coalition. The service held last Sunday included music, readings and reflection.

Rabbi Marmur also joined clergymen from other faith groups in signing a statement urging the government of Ontario "not to resolve the fiscal deficit by creating a social deficit in its place."

Rabbi Marmur said he participated in the multifaith service "because the ISARC has challenged the Harris government's approach to the disadvantaged."

And he signed the "statement about social justice" noting "it doesn't say anything about strikes or disruption."

He emphasized that in doing so, he was acting in his personal capacity and not as a representative of the Holy Blossom Temple. He said he wished to limit his comments to a statement of principles.

The statement that he and other spiritual leaders signed on Oct. 15 affirms "the right of workers to freedom of association and to pursue forming a union without fear of persecution."

It also expresses support for "a publicly funded school system that allows all children to develop to the full extent of their potential and to post-secondary education that is accessible and affordable for all.

"We call on the present government of Ontario to acknowledge and respect these rights. In particular, we urged the government not to resolve the fiscal deficit by creating a social deficit in its place," the statement says.

"What is more important to the survival of an Ontario of goodwill, compassion and harmony is a sense of community. Let us reconfirm and celebrate our commitment to such a community," the statement concludes.

Holy Blossom joins program to help the homeless

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Holy Blossom Temple recently announced it will join 33 other places of worship in participating in the Out of the Cold program to aid the homeless.

The program will begin on Dec. 5 and will see the temple provide kosher meals for 70 homeless "guests" and sleeping facilities in the downstairs south foyer for 30. The program will run once a week on Thursday until the end of March, according to Walter Seaton, co-chair of the program.

The Holy Blossom board of trustees agreed to host the program after two sometimes emotional public meetings in which temple members and neighbors raised concerns over health and safety issues.

"A lot of people have a very understandable feeling that because the [homeless] don't look or smell very nice, they aren't very nice," Seaton said. "They equated being down and out with being criminals."

Some parents of children attending the Leo Baeck Day School in the temple were concerned their children might contract tuberculosis (TB) from the homeless people, he added.

At both meetings, a police officer and a City of York health officer were present to address those concerns, Seaton said.

Bill Mindell, director of health services for the City of York's health unit, said the possibility of contracting disease from the homeless were "extraordinarily low." There's a greater risk of getting TB on subways, streetcars or shopping malls, he said.

In additon, the risk of body lice being transferred is minimal given the facilities being used by the homeless and the cleanup procedures, he said. They will be sleeping in their own clothes on plastic-covered mattresses and the surfaces nearby are all hard and easy to clean, he said.

Security concerns were addressed by a Metro police officer who explained that "these people don't cause problems," Seaton said.

Seaton said the program has been running successfully for about eight years without incident.

Despite that, the temple has arranged for a professional security guard to be present overnight as well as three specially-trained Holy Blossom volunteers.

In addition, the start of the dinner program was pushed back from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., about two hours after the last of the children will have left the building. The homeless "guests" will be awoken at 6 a.m., given a light breakfast and will be out of the building by 6:30 a.m., Seaton said.

Seaton said concerns that the program will attract homeless to the area, south of Eglinton on Bathurst, were unfounded. In fact, "they're [already] here. They're in the ravines, the laundry rooms of apartment buildings and in bank foyers," he said.

While there are 33 Metro places of worship and secular institutions that participate in the Out of the Cold program, the Holy Blossom Temple is the first synagogue involved. Last year, about 200 temple volunteers participated in a mentoring program at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

A similar number have expressed interest in the temple's own program and Temple Sinai and the First Narayever Congregation are offering volunteers as well. The Beth Tzedec Men's Club has offered financial assistance, though the bulk of the program's funds are coming from the Edward Bronfman Family Foundation and from Mazon Canada, which is allocating $4,000 to the program,

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Greater Toronto Area

Toronto proclaims Holocaust Education Week

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a show of solidarity with the Jewish community and to counter white supremacist hatemongering, the City of Toronto has declared Nov. 7 to 17 Holocaust Education Week.

The move will help sensitize younger people to the realities of the Holocaust, honor the memory of the millions who were killed and ensure that truth prevails over hatred, Mayor Barbara Hall said in making the announcement at City Hall.

Pointing to the proliferation of white supremacist and Holocaust-denial material on the Internet, Hall said "it's very important that every opportunity be taken to counter that hatred.

"There are a lot of lies out there. People are manipulating those lies to create a threatening environment for all of us. It's important to see that it's not just a concern for the Jewish community, but for all the community. If one group is threatened, then any group can be threatened," she said.

Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall proclaims Holocaust Education Week. With her is Holocaust Education Committee co-chair Michael Herman. [Pnina Zilberman Photo]

Hall's announcement marks the first time a Canadian municipality has declared a week dedicated to Holocaust education. It comes about one month before the start of the Jewish community's 16th annual Holocaust Education Week, a project of films, speakers and other programs sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Responding to Hall's proclamation, UJA Federation President Sandra Brown said it is "our sacred obligation to the millions of martyrs" to educate the public about the events of half a century ago and to confront "the peddlers of hate."

Rev. Brian Prideaux, chair of the Holocaust remembrance committee of Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto, said remembering the Holocaust was not just a Jewish challenge.

"Once, Jews stood alone against the Nazi onslaught. Now we all stand together.

"We are determined that racism and mass murder must never be met with silence," he said.

Twenty churches will host events during Holocaust Education Week in a show of solidarity with the Jewish people

Holocaust Education Week opens on Nov. 7 with an address by Kurt and Gerda Weissmann Klein, whose Holocaust experiences inspired the Oscar winning documentary *One Survivor Remembers*.

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Tribute to Givens

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The link between the late Phil Givens (Pinchas Givertz), former mayor of Toronto, and the famed Yiddish writer Shalom Aleichem is that both had "the popular and populist touch," a tribute evening in Givens' memory was told recently.

Givens was a true *folksmensch*, the closest English translation being "having a common touch," Ben Kayfetz told a packed meeting at the Workmen's Circle sponsored by the Federation's Committee for Yiddish. Givens' wife, Min, and other members of the family, attended.

Both as an MPP and MP, and onetime head of the Metro Police Commission, Givens had a gift for oratory and was so eminently quotable that journalists pursued him, said Kayfetz, former Canadian Jewish Congress community relations director.

His skills at arbitration were so great, Kayfetz added, that he headed the Canadian Zionist Federation for 12 years and kept peace between the left and right factions within the federation.

Givens got his first taste of Jewish politics "in which he revelled" when his father took him to hear Chaim Weizmann in Toronto.

Chair David Newman, who read some of Shalom Aleichem's work on the latter's 80th *yahrzeit*, recalled he was present when Givens made his first public bid for Jewish votes in an aldermanic race in 1951 at the Victory Theatre.

Givens was so overcome at a performance given by a Yiddish troupe at the Skylight Theatre in Earl Bales park that, although he had already given a contribution on entering, he emptied his pockets "including a heavy wallet," when he left, recalled entertainer Nathan Garnick, one of that night's performers.

A dramatic interpretation of one of Shalom Aleichem's stories was given in tribute to Givens by Garnick.

A commentary on the Yiddish writer by Simcha Simchovitch and a recital of Yiddish songs by Stella Walker, accompanied by pianist Saguv Ore, rounded out the evening.

Greater Toronto Area

Zimmerman to head Reform education institute

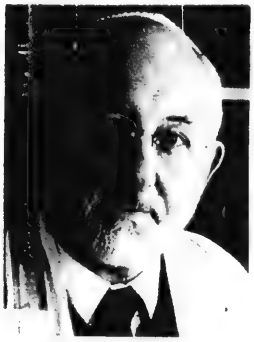
By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto-born and educated, Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, an 11th generation rabbi, is to be inaugurated Oct. 31 in Cincinnati as the head of the world's leading Reform education institute.

"I consider Toronto to be one the unique Jewish communities in the world," Rabbi Zimmerman told *The CJN* on the eve of his inauguration.

Now 54, he decided as a young man to become a Reform rabbi, although his grandfather, Chaim Meir, who was the rabbi at the Orthodox Minsker shul and at the Pride of Israel Benefit Society shul here, had advised him against going into the rabbinate.

Rabbi Zimmerman is the new president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion with campuses in Cincinnati, Los Angeles, New York and Jerusalem.



Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman

The Zimmerman family can trace its lineage back to Rabbi Pinchas of Koretz, a colleague of the founder of the chassidic movement in the early 1700s.

A graduate of the first Hebrew Day School in Toronto and of Forest Hill Collegiate, Rabbi Zimmerman is a son of the late Morris Zimmerman, manager with his late uncle, Willie Bernstein, of Stitsky's Textile Centre on Spadina Avenue and later on Bathurst Street. His mother, Helen, lives in Toronto.

He went to the Minsker shul as a boy, when the family lived over the store on Spadina Avenue. Later when the family moved north, he attended Shaarei Shomayim, which he described as the city's first modern Orthodox synagogue.

At the age of nine, he attended a service at Beth Sholom, a Conservative synagogue whose spiritual leader was Rabbi David Monson.

"The rabbi gave sermons in English, not Yiddish, and there was mixed seating, an extraordinary cantor and a mixed choir," Rabbi Zimmerman was quoted as saying in a *Reform Judaism* article.

"For me it opened the door to a more modern view of Judaism."

Later he took classes with Prof. Emil Fackenheim at the University of Toronto, where he graduated with an Honors BA in 1964 and received an MA in philosophy a year later. He taught Hebrew school at Temple Sinai at the urging of its founding rabbi, Jordan Pearlson, and became a member.

Before taking on his new post, Rabbi Zimmerman was senior rabbi of Temple Emmanu-El of Dallas, Tex., (1985-1995) and senior rabbi of Central Synagogue in New York (1972-1985).

He speaks fondly of his days in Toronto in the *Reform Judaism* article. "I attended Toronto's first Hebrew day school and spent my summers at the [Orthodox] Machaneh Massad camp, north of Toronto. I grew up in a nurturing Yiddish-speaking immigrant Jewish community."

He and his wife Judith have four children, Rabbi Brian Zimmerman, of Temple Beth Ami in Rockville, Md., Kira, David and Micol.

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Editorials and Letters

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Distressing signals

The signals emanating from the government of Quebec continue to distress us. The government recently refused to permit debate of a motion in the national assembly censuring Raymond Villeneuve for his unveiled threats against Jewish Quebecers unless the motion also censured Howard Galganov.

Premier Lucien Bouchard claimed to be willing to denounce Villeneuve. But he refused to do so, saying he wanted the assembly "to adopt a motion that is going to eradicate *the intolerance in all political camps,* and in particular that of Mr. Galganov." (Our emphasis.)

The comparison was invidious. The refusal was shocking. And the result, once again, another stone tossed into the well of communal unease.

Galganov may indeed be an extremist. There is room for legitimate debate on this question. But his "extremism" was fully within the law, a valid, if sensationalist exercise of the rights available to everyone in a democracy.

Villeneuve, however, has already been judged by the courts to be an extremist. Here there can be no debate. His extremism was fully outside the law. And he himself has made ominous suggestions that there could be more in the future. In fact, the reason for which the Liberal opposition introduced the motion of censure was the threat of violence against the Jewish people of the province if they persisted in resisting separation – anathema in every possible way with democratic process and the exercise of democratic rights.

Galganov's "intolerance" is toward the political cause of separation, an intolerance which millions of Canadians share with him. Villeneuve's intolerance is toward an identifiable group of people, an intolerance, we hope, which no Canadians share with him.

What does it say about the government of Quebec that they would equate the intolerance of the one with that of the other? David Sultan, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress said it was "very disturbing."

In our view, Sultan was being polite.

...infinite edges

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Twenty-eight years later, one year ago, Rabin was murdered by one of the people whose freedom and independence as a Jew in the sovereign Jewish state he helped to secure; by someone who claimed to know God more perfectly than the soldier, general, Jew who brought God's city, united, back into sovereign Jewish history.

It is unlikely, even though he could see far into the horizon, that the young general was unable to see that far.

If only those among us who claim to know God more perfectly than the rest would also love His creations, His people, more perfectly as well. If only His people too would learn to love each other more perfectly.

The sun that kissed the general's face, that tracks a new path every day in every sky, now burnishes a different horizon.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Woe to the world that has lost its leader."
(Talmud, Baba Batra)

THEY'RE ANGRY, FRUSTRATED AND TIRED OF BEING PUSHED INTO A CORNER..
BY THE LIES AND TRICKERY OF THE OTHER SIDE!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ISRAELIS OR PALESTINIANS?
ACTUALLY, I'M TALKING ABOUT BOTH!
TV
PRESS

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Oct. 29, 1911 a mass meeting in Fort William, Ontario resulted in the establishment of a Talmud Torah. Bora Laskin eventually studied and taught there. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Questions job action by doctors

Re: Physicians' proposed job action. (*CJN*, Oct. 24)

The proposals laid out by Dr. David Mendelssohn to those who attended the recent UJA meeting are in conflict with secular and Jewish medical ethics. Physicians should never sacrifice the well-being of their patients individually or collectively for any reason, and certainly not for their personal financial benefit. The fact that physicians have a conflict with the government is no reason to make patients suffer from lack of access to necessary medical services, even on a temporary basis. It is disheartening to hear physicians complain about their personal fiscal plight when other health care workers are losing jobs, needy and deserving welfare recipients are being deprived of adequate funding, food banks are oversubscribed, deserving wheel-trans recipients are being deprived of essential services, seniors who must co-pay for their medications are enduring hardship and many other professionals and ordinary citizens are experiencing financial difficulty.

Doctors' yearly incomes are such that it cannot be said that they are ever working "for free," but rather it is the peculiarity of the fee-for-service system that creates the impression of income not being evenly distributed on an annual basis. Rather than withholding patient services and alienating our health care provider colleagues whose own funding base is being eroded, we should be lobbying, petitioning and mobilizing ourselves, the public and the media to persistently and relentlessly badger their MPPs, the premier and the provincial ministers to stop the destruction of the province's health care and social service system. If the message were loud, clear and persistent, we could achieve our goals in a manner that is professionally and ethically sound.

Michael Gordon, MD, FRCPC
Vice-President, Medical Services
Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

Why two major Jewish events on the same night?

Every year I notice it! Why do the dates of the Jewish Book Fair and Holocaust Education Week coincide? I see that on Saturday night, Nov. 9, there is an excellent program at the book fair and also a very good program for Holocaust Education Week. Why can't groups sponsor their excellent programs one week later or one week earlier?

Mitzi Cohen
Toronto

Fast track these war crime trials

Over 10 years ago, the Deschenes Commission reported without naming them that there were over 200 Nazi war criminals in Canada who should either be prosecuted or denaturalized and deported.

It is a sad comment on the political and judicial process that a decade later, the federal government is in the process of appealing a dismissal of the charges against three accused: Johann Dueck, 76, St. Catharines, Helmut Oberlander, 71, Waterloo and Erichs Tobiass, 84, Toronto, on the basis of a finding by Justice Bud Cullen that his chief justice, Julius Isaac, was patently wrong to have attended a clandestine meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice Ted Thompson whose sole purpose was to get the cases tried expeditiously.

These are not abstract and philosophical legal arguments, but cases with real victims and three men who stand accused of horrendous crimes against humanity. While, of course, respecting the fundamental rights of the accused, is it so wrong to expedite a resolution so that at least on behalf of the victims and their families there is some finality? The Federal Court of Appeal should fast track these cases so that at long last there is accountability.

Bert Raphael, President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Ramah School searching for alumni

Ramah Hebrew School in Winnipeg will be closing its doors in June 1997 to reopen in September 1997 under a new name at the Winnipeg Jewish Community Campus. It will be the end of an era that will be honored with a fabulous farewell celebration weekend April 19 and 20, 1997, featuring a beautiful Havdallah service, open house and children's art show and a gala dinner and dance. All profits from the weekend activities will be dedicated to the Ramah Judaica collection of educational resources to be located in the new school.

Ramah Hebrew school opened at its present location in 1958 and has graduated almost 2,000 children in 36 years. With these graduates come many memories of days gone by.

The planning committee is hard at work searching for alumni, friends and former teachers and principals, to join us in remembering Ramah.

For further information and a registration package, please call 1-800-463-2495.

Susan E. Rykiss
Winnipeg

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

We must restore the fabric of our people

By RABBI MARK DRATCH

Where were you? Everyone with a memory recalls where they were when they heard about the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963, a disturbing defining moment in the modern political history of the United States. And everyone with a love of Israel and Zionism remembers where they were when they heard the news of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin on Nov. 4, 1995, a disturbing defining moment in the modern political history of the Jewish state and the Jewish people.

Yitzhak Rabin was a patriot who served his country in many capacities: prime minister, defence minister, diplomat, chief of staff during the Six Day War and commander of the Harel Brigade during the War of Independence, to name a few. He led Israel successfully in war and attempted to lead Israel into peace. This led to the "handshake" with Yasser Arafat in the White House rose garden and a new era of recognition, relations and agreements with the Palestinians and others in the Arab world.

However, the attempt to create harmonious relations with longtime enemies abroad led to inharmonious discord at home. Israel was marred by disagreements, disparity and dissent; torn by polarizing polemics of the political and religious right and left that transformed political opponents into personal enemies; and poisoned by all sides with the most vile rhetoric of words that were inciting without being insightful. All of this led to Nov. 4, 1995, the horrific culmination of events, political ideologies, "religious" passions and emotions.

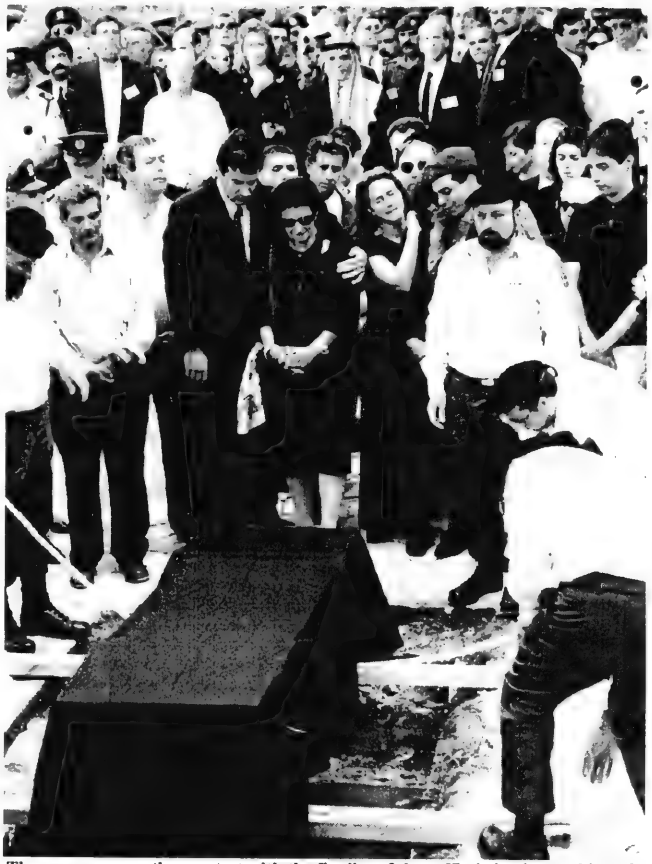
On the occasion of Rabin's first *yahrzeit*, let us stop to consider: How this could have happened?

The Talmud (Yevamot 96b) tells us that in a synagogue in Tiberias, Rabbi Eleazar and Rabbi Jose, two highly dignified and respected sages, disputed so vigorously over a certain point of Jewish law that they tore a Torah scroll in their excitement.

Did they intentionally tear a Torah? Could this be imagined? Say rather that "a Scroll of the Law was torn in their excitement." Rabbi Jose ben Kisma who was then present exclaimed, "I shall be surprised if this synagogue is not turned into a house of idolatry," and so it happened.

Now, neither Rabbi Eleazar nor Rabbi Jose would intentionally tear a sefer Torah. God forbid. They each wanted to protect the Torah. They each wanted to establish the law. Neither thought that his position or his advocacy of it would lead to such destructive results. But the hostility and aggressiveness of their ideological tug-of-war had tragic, long-term consequences beyond the relevance and importance of the immediate issue, and in their fight for truth and principle, a Torah scroll was torn. The long-term consequence: a synagogue transformed into a den of idolatry, holy became profane, the sacred was defiled. Couldn't happen? It did!

It happened then and it happened now. In our own day, we were witnesses to the assassination of the prime minister, and we continue to witness a host of other tensions and disputes that divide us along political and religious lines. Disagreements in Israel and in North America have deteriorated into dissension, distinctiveness has corrupted into contentiousness and splits have eroded into schisms. Many of the details are known and need not be recounted. What is important is that a Torah scroll was torn in our excitement.



The sorrow seems the greatest with the finality of the coffin being lowered into the ground. [RNS/ Reuter photo]

While there have always been disagreements in the past, they have rarely reached such heated heights or descended into such depths of discord as have the disparities of the last few years. One of the disturbing elements of this disunity is that it was — and continues to be — based on principle, with each party knowing that he, and only he, is right and that his ideas, and only his ideas, are the correct ones. The opinions of others are irrelevant at best, blasphemous at worst. Compromise and accommodation are impossible. We have become a house divided against itself, and in many ways have created a climate of *sinat chinam*, wanton hatred, the kind that destroyed the Second Temple.

Do not misunderstand. I am not advocating the abandonment of principle or the acceptance of a meaningless political and religious relativism. Abraham Lincoln put it well in his second inaugural address when he said that we must strive "with firmness for the right as God gives us to see right" and we must articulate our beliefs, values, opinions and ideals and work hard to establish them.

But in doing so, we must keep in mind that others may be as committed and concerned as we, and that they may very well have something worthwhile to contribute to the marketplace of ideas. And we must keep in mind all of our values and remember all of the ends we hope to achieve. In fighting for religious principle, we must remember that *ahavat Yisrael*, the love of all Jews, is also a religious principle. In advocating the godly, we must bear in mind that *derech eretz* and *mentshlechkeit* are also divine. In fighting for the integrity of Israel, we must never sacrifice her people or her past. We must always consider carefully the consequences of our actions.

What is ahead? To continue the sefer Torah metaphor: What do we do with the torn remnants of the sefer Torah, with the ripped pieces of the fabric of our people that each of us holds in our hands? Of course, we are saddened that we have descended to such depths of demonization and debasement. Jewish law even dictates that those who see a scroll that is torn must themselves tear *keriah*, rend their clothes, as a sign of mourning.

But it is forbidden to leave a sefer Torah in a state of degraded disrepair, it must be mended. But — and here's the rub — not all Torahs can be repaired. If the damage is too extensive, it cannot be fixed. And when the integrity of the scroll is so bad that it can no longer be used, there is no alternative but *genizah*, to bury the Torah with dignity.

What is the state of the sefer Torah of Israel and of the Jewish community today? Can its torn parchment be sewn or have the issues that divide us irreversibly torn us apart? Has our heated and often angry tug-of-war over political and religious principle irreparably split our scroll and severed our souls?

Despite the continuing tensions and the fundamental issues about which we disagree — be they political, religious or personal — the Torah of our people, of our religion and of our history is not and cannot ever be considered to be beyond repair. We can never allow it! The Torah of our people, of our religion and of our history cannot and can never be buried in some *genitzah*, left to decay. But we must be realistic and understand that if we fail to moderate our rhetoric, the breach may become irreparable. And we dare not allow it!

If our Torah is torn, we must resew it. If its letters are broken, we must make them whole. If the parchment is destroyed, we must replace it.

Eit likroa v'eit litfor. "There is a time to rend and there is a time to sew." Following this period of rending is the time for us to gather the scattered remnants of our people and the divided pieces of our community and, with stitches of sensitive words and seams of responsible actions, carefully and lovingly restore the fabric of our people, of Israel and of our Torah.

This is a hard task, but it is one that we must learn to complete successfully. The most important lesson is to prevent the schisms from happening in the first place. We must treat each other with at least as much dignity and respect as we treat a sefer Torah. And we can learn to prevent such damage to our community by protecting each other from injury as carefully as we protect a sefer Torah from injury. After all, it was the tug-of-war over personal principle and ideas that caused that sefer Torah in Tiberias to be torn. We must take the larger view so that we can analyze our positions, our actions and their consequences in the context of all of the religious and political values that are dear to us.

Abraham Lincoln concluded that inaugural address with the famous lines that are so appropriate for us today:

With malice toward none, with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations.

The proper observance of Rabin's *yahrzeit* is for us to commit ourselves to the restoration of the fabric of Israeli and Jewish life. If we succeed in doing so, we will once again read our scroll, be inspired by its message, and we will be able to recite with confidence:

Eitz chayyim hi — the Torah is a tree of life to all who grasp it, and all who support it are fortunate. When can such blessings be fulfilled? *Deracheha darchei noam* — only when all of its different paths and perspectives are expressed with integrity and pleasantness, and all of its divergent and diverse ways are peaceful.

Rabbi Dratch is the spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto.

Opinions

Israel is a work in progress

ISRAEL DIARY PART I

It's only a few hours from Prague to Israel, but the green of Europe quickly vanishes to be replaced by the burnt-brown hills of Israel. In the next few articles, I would like to describe some of the people I met and the issues they are raising in today's Israel.

By Joan M. Gerber

Israel is a work in progress. As we drive through the countryside to our first stop in Ramat Ha-Sharon, our friend warns us – you won't recognize the place. And is he right! Where in 1981, there were fields and fig trees, there are now villas and high-rise apartments. This was the first of many indications that growth of the population in Israel is a major factor both in economic boom and, for some, who are unable to adjust to the changes, in psychological bust. We are stunned here and later, as we travel to Nahariya, Ashkelon and Jerusalem, at the building explosion (it's too big for a simple boom).

Beside Nahariya, once a sleepy town with cafes and evening rides in horse-drawn carriages, a whole new second town is being created. Ditto in Ashkelon, where thousands of people will live and stroll the beaches. A high-speed train will carry them to and from work in Tel Aviv. While Russian signs are everywhere, the countryside is a veritable babel of languages – French, Russian, and English and Hebrew of many accents. What do we share in common?

And Jerusalem? Words fail as one climbs from Beit Shemesh (with its own new suburbs) to the entrance to Jerusalem below Givat Shaul. On the hills where once remote Ramot looked onto the barren hillside as far as the minaret of Nebi Samweel, gleaming new hillside buildings stand. There seem to be no trees anywhere among them. No matter. If you build it in Jerusalem, people will come, in droves, to live in it.

In the early '30s the British announced that Palestine was full. The population of less than one million, a majority of them Arabs, was as much as the country could sustain. This attitude was, of course, vehemently opposed by Zionists who saw the land as the fulfilment of a dream and, as the decade progressed, as the only refuge against Hitler. Today the land has over five million inhabitants, and one study projects a population of eight million in Israel and four million in a Palestinian state by the year 2020!

From the days of the Second Temple we prayed for the return to Zion and now that it has become a reality, we can look forward to the time when no Jew will live in a country of oppression, when all will have the opportunity to go up to the land of Israel, and for the first time since the Babylonian exile, more Jews will live in Israel than in any other country in the world. But a little voice warns us – be careful what you want because you might get it.

Growth and peace come with a price. Old-timers grumble about the decline of Zionist virtues. There is a sense of loss of something indefinable and a feeling of being constricted, squeezed into a smaller space now that three-quarters of a million newcomers are sharing that space.

Ironically, this sounds like the opinions of Canadian Jews after 1880, as the wave of eastern European Jewish immigrants began to wash ashore.

But there are real concerns. How will the fragile environment be served by development? What will be the outcome of the intense political battles being waged behind the expansion of cities, roads and industry? Here the economy is really part of a political agenda for expanding the state, holding on to the territories or letting go of them, letting the Palestinians in to work or keeping them out and letting in other foreign workers who live in squalor in hope of quick financial rewards.

There are over 250,000 foreign workers in Israel, at least half of them illegal. Not only does Israel have to define itself anew, but it has to decide what to do with a very large segment of the population which is there solely to do hard labor or low-paying service jobs and whom the state has no intention of allowing to stay on indefinitely.

Add to this the stresses revealed by the recent elections – between secular and religious, and between religious and religious, and you have a very heady mix of issues to discuss around the campfire and coffee cup.

Yitzhak Rabin – one year later

At the end of Shabbat, on Nov. 4 last year, Yitzhak Rabin, prime minister of Israel, was gunned down by a Jew. On Monday, the day of his funeral, mass rallies were held all over the world, and some 7,000 people turned out in Toronto. What follows are excerpts from the memorial address I delivered that night. I hope they may recapture a little of our sorrow.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

At 7 o'clock this morning, Toronto time, life stood still in Israel, where it was 2 p.m. and Yitzhak Rabin was about to be buried. I felt I too was there as I heard the sound of the sirens and watched the assembled get to their feet. Instinctively I too got up, and as I did I cried. Like Rabin, I was once a soldier and don't cry often any more; today I did — and the sirens still wail in my ears.

I wept like David when he heard of the deaths of Saul and Jonathan, and in the language of David I say: *Eich nafal hagibor*, How has the mighty one fallen, *tzar li aleicha achi Yitzhak*, I grieve for you, my brother Yitzhak. I knew you in life and you remain my brother in death.

The assassin thought he had heard the word of God. How could he come to this dreadful conclusion, and even now assert that he is glad to have done what he did and only regrets that he failed to kill Shimon Peres as well? Because he belongs to those who don't believe in argument or democratic give-and-take.

More than that: the gunman does not understand what Judaism is all about. For in addition to Torah and the rest of Tanach, what is the great document by which our people have lived? It is the Talmud, and that huge compendium is essentially a record of argument and counter-argument, of weighing one idea against another. Our sages insisted on reminding us that in the service of God and Israel, *elu va'elu divrei Elokim Chayim*, both sides of the issue are words of the Living God. *Words, not violence.*

But words too can breed violence. When you call the prime minister of Israel "traitor" and "murderer," sooner or later someone will come and take the defamation to heart. And someone did, alas, and now the prime minister is dead. There is double reason to remember the warning of our sages: *Chachamim, hiz'haru bedivreichem*, you who guide the people, watch your words!

Israelis have learned to guard against external enemies, not against one of their own. Now they are like other nations in this way too — *chaval.*

Still, the death of Rabin has reminded all of us once again that we are one people, united in our love for Israel. Look about you and feel the warmth of love — a love inspiring also the thousands who stand outside in the cold and proclaim their sorrow ... We haven't met like this for a long time; it took murder most foul to bring us together. Let us not wait for the next tragedy; rather, may we assemble the next time out of our mutual love and common hope.

Whether we as a people shall live is up to God; but whether we shall live as one people or divided against one another, is up to us ... Let our finale reflect both heaven and earth. *Am Yisrael chai!*

An astute observer of Jewish people

His name is not widely known outside of academe but I have no doubt that Sander L. Gilman will be recognized in the next century as one of the most astute observers of the Jewish people in our time.

By Arnold Ages

Gilman has the unusual distinction of being the Henry R. Luce Professor of the Liberal Arts in Human Biology at the University of Chicago. Unfortunately, this professional designation obscures the fact that Gilman possesses an intimidating knowledge of history, medicine, psychiatry, sociology, literature, religion, esthetics, linguistics, chemistry, physiology, theatre and cinema — not to speak of his immense learning in such esoteric fields as craniology and semiotics.

In the many books he has published in the last two decades, Gilman has used many of the above disciplines to analyse and dissect the Jewish condition in the last 100 years. His books are not easy to read. They require a significant investment of time and energy, but the dividends are priceless because Gilman is one of the few original thinkers of our time. I would nominate him for the post of "thinker-laureate" of the modern age.

For obvious reasons, Gilman has been interested in that non-filterable virus known as anti-Semitism and he has sought to isolate and explain its many ugly contours, especially as they manifested themselves in European (especially Viennese) society in the latter part of the 19th century. Using his vast knowledge of the history of medicine, Gilman has shown how the most scientifically advanced civilization of that day entertained and promoted physiological theories about Jewish deformities so ludicrous that they would be laughable — had they not been accepted by minds attuned to hatred of Jews.

Sigmund Freud grew up and matured in that intellectual matrix and produced the epoch-making science of psychotherapy, a science of the mind designed to cure and rehabilitate the unbalanced and the emotionally fragmented. Gilman, having read carefully all the relevant works by Freud and his contemporaries and having digested libraries of books on the era, makes the astounding claim in one of his studies that Freud's invention of the jargon of psychotherapy was designed in part to parry the anti-Semitism of the epoch by generalizing negative portraits of the Jews into identikits of man-in-general.

In Gilman's scenario, Freud leapfrogged over the culturally saturated German language with its built-in bias against Jews, and created the new language of psychoanalysis with its Greek myths and oedipal archetypes. He also suggests that the language of psychotherapy was a surrogate for the Yiddish and Hebrew that assimilated Jews had rejected.

It is in Gilman's pursuit of the assimilated Jew that we find one of his most stunning revelations. Last year, he published a book on Franz Kafka, the German-speaking Czech Jew whose novellas and short stories are considered to be among the most influential works of fiction of the 20th century.

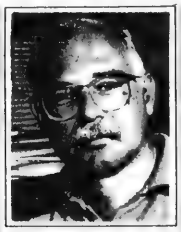
Literary critics have been trying for 50 years to understand the meaning of *The Metamorphosis*, the story of a man who wakes up one day to discover that he has turned into a centipede and cannot, with his 100 legs, get out of bed. Critics have exhausted their interpretive skills in trying to decipher the symbolism behind that shocking image of the man-insect. Gilman says that Georg Samsa's plight is that of the Jew who converts to Christianity — with the resulting grotesquely disabling condition. For Gilman, Jews who try to cross into gentile society are "cultural cross-dressers," to use his phrase.

Last month the University of Nebraska Press published the latest of Gilman's bold inquiries into the Jewish condition. It is called *Smart Jews* and in this groundbreaking essay, he brings to bear again an exhaustive excavation of sources and a keen analytical sense. He shows here that the much-touted idea of Jewish intellectual superiority has deep roots in western European culture, and demonstrates that there were many scientific theories to buttress the racial component of the idea. But there were equally strong trends among both Jews and gentiles to downplay the claims of Jewish intelligence by characterizing it as cleverness rather than intellectual originality.

In his latest foray, however, Gilman skilfully traces the way in which ideas about Jewish intelligence are filtered through modern literature, opera, art and films — not always to the benefit of Jews. Praise for Jews in this regard is often a mask for a more subtle form of anti-Semitism in which Jewish intelligence is equated with a lack of moral virtue.

The Kirshner File

Academic mixes political science, psychoanalysis



By Sheldon Kirshner

World leaders supposedly make foreign policy decisions on the basis of domestic constraints, economic and political factors and strategic imperatives. In the modern era, however, this cardinal rule has been broken more than once. Just think of the disastrous gambits of Adolf Hitler in the Soviet Union and Saddam Hussein in Iran and Kuwait. But in the main, this theory has withstood the test of time.

More than a decade ago, a McGill University political scientist named Blema Steinberg seriously began to question this enduring dogma. No longer was she convinced that presidents, prime ministers or chancellors act solely out of cool rationality. Maybe personality had something to do with it.

Influenced by theorists like Harold Lasswell, Fred Greenstein and Alexander and Juliet George, Steinberg gradually came to believe that psychoanalytic elements should be factored into the equation. "The more I read, the more I felt, 'There's something to this.' "

In 1984, Steinberg enrolled at the Canadian Institute of Psychoanalysis in Montreal. Five years later, she was a full-fledged psychoanalyst. Today she is one of only half a dozen researchers in North America trained in both political science and psychoanalysis.

Thanks in large part to this rigorous training, Steinberg — an associate professor who specializes in U.S. foreign policy — has written a provocative book entitled *Shame and Humiliation: Presidential Decision Making On Vietnam* (McGill-Queen's University Press).

"As someone whose formative years as a young academic were shaped by the intense debate over the Vietnam War, it seemed to me that that conflict provided a textbook example of the way in which the character and personality of successive presidents had played a significant role in shaping political decisions," she writes in the preface.

Steinberg, who holds a PhD in international relations from McGill, zeroes in on three presidents: Dwight Eisenhower, Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. (She leaves out John Kennedy because, while he increased the number of American advisors in Vietnam, his assassination spared him the headache of having to decide whether or not to escalate the war by sending in foot soldiers.)

Providing case studies of Eisenhower, Johnson and Nixon, Steinberg describes the childhood, maturation and career of each president, showing how each man's personality had a bearing on his respective Vietnam policy.

According to Steinberg, Eisenhower was reluctant to get too involved in the war because his healthy self-confidence and strong sense of identity enabled him to analyse the issues in a completely rational manner.

Eisenhower, she adds, was psychologically secure and was able to carry out a careful and thoughtful analysis of the problems he faced in Southeast Asia.

Johnson and Nixon, being exceedingly narcissistic, were assailed by self-doubts and acted aggressively in order to dispel perceptions of weakness.

"Narcissistic personalities are characterized by intense self-involvement and an inordinate preoccupation with success and fame," she writes. "Achievements often become a substitute for the love they failed to receive, and their interpersonal relations are frequently marked by a lack of empathy for other people. They oscillate between feelings of grandiosity and omnipotence ... and feelings of inferiority and low self-steem.

"Because of their need to accomplish, to feel superior and to be acclaimed, they are particularly susceptible to feelings of shame and humiliation."

Steinberg, who is probably the only academic in Canada who melds political science with psychoanalysis, is perfectly aware that her spin on events is not shared by most political scientists.

"Not everyone appreciates it," she readily acknowledged. But she thinks that the majority of her McGill colleagues are supportive of her work.

To head off inevitable criticism, she offers a disclaimer in *Shame and Humiliation:* "My argument is not designed as a substitute for any of the alternative explanations of the Vietnam War. Instead, its more modest goal is to complement them through an exploration of the psychodynamic context in which all these variables may have been operative."

Be that as it may, Steinberg is of the opinion that the application of psychoanalysis to political science is gaining momentum. "As an intellectual discipline, it does seem to be growing," she said in an interview in her Toronto publicist's house. Apart from political scientists like herself, historians, philosophers and literary critics have adopted this mode of inquiry. "It seems like a natural fit," observed Steinberg, a stylish woman in her early 60s.

Nonetheless, Steinberg's initiation into the ranks of a new discipline, 20 years after she had completed her doctorate in political science, was an arduous one. As she put it, "Retooling was a lot more difficult than I expected."

Colleagues supportive

Inexhaustible intellectual curiosity is the acme of a prototypical academic. Yet, during her quest to master the intricacies of psychoanalysis, there were moments when she felt overwhelmed by the sheer quantity of the literature.

Steinberg's immersion in the labyrinths of psychoanalysis has changed her for life. "It has softened me and made me less judgmental. It has given me an awareness that patterns of behavior are not accidental and are frequently a response to earlier traumas."

Steinberg practises her psychoanalytical skills not only on campus and in books, but in a private practice and in a seminar and a research program at the Jewish General Hospital.

In general, she devotes about 15 hours a week to off-campus activities. This hectic schedule regretfully means that she cannot always attend to her interests in golf and downhill skiing or to cultivate her friendships.

The mother of three grown children (Margot, an actress with a Harvard MBA degree; Donna, a clinical psychologist; and Adam, a businessman), she is married to Arnold Steinberg, the former senior vice-president of the now-defunct Steinberg food store chain.

In her preface to *Shame and Humiliation,* Steinberg praises her husband for his editorial suggestions, his love and his belief in her manuscript. She will doubtless rely on these qualities again now that she has decided to write another book on American politics.

Steinberg's new volume will deal with the modern presidency and the effect of family relationships on character and leadership. And if it is as stimulating as *Shame and Humiliation,* Steinberg may well be hailed as one of the chief practitioners and exponents of political science with a psychoanalytical twist.

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A treasure trove for historians

Roots & Remembrance

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

As chilly winds pluck the last of this season's autumn leaves from the trees, I have been turning over some other leaves – weathered pages from the records of the Young Hebrew Men's Benevolent Society of Montreal (YHMBS), the Jewish Colonization Association and the Montreal branch of the Paris-based Baron de Hirsch Institute (BHI).

Preserved in a set of eight microfilms from the National Archives, the records are a treasure trove for historians – and genealogists whose ancestors may have reached Canada in the 1880s, 1890s and early 1900s. The BHI provided seed money for many Jewish immigrants to become farmers in Canada's vast uncharted North West. Excerpts:

Ignatius Roth, a colonist in the Jewish agricultural settlement of Hirsch in the Canadian North West (now southern Manitoba), wrote often to the BHI in Montreal. On Nov. 26, 1892, he apologized for the poor quality of the ink, which had been frozen, and described what it was like "to sit near a stove, hand and face warm, your back freezing, the wind blowing in from all sides."

In 1893, "Moses Schatsky, one of the colonists, received with the others a cow. A few days later he came to McDiarmid [the administrator] and said, I do not want the cow but give me the value of it in cash. McDiarmid...gave him $35 in cash, which the man immediately sent over to his friends in Russia."

On Jan. 25, 1894, treasurer Lazarus Cohen wrote the YHMBS that some colonists had exhausted their funds "and owing to the drought, hot winds and prairie fires that our farmers have suffered so much by, they are without means to procure seed for next season and in some cases without means of supporting their families till next harvest."

"Amongst the colonists," he continued, "are seven good farmers whose families are still in Russia and who have no means of bringing them out to Hirsch. They are: H. Furman, wife & 5 children; Sam Schatzky, wife & 6 children; I. Vineberg, wife & 10 children; N. Vineberg, wife & 3 children; N. Kornman, wife & 2 children; J. Shere, wife & 1 infant; M. Vestelnick, 6 children.

"This man's [Vestelnick's] wife died since coming out here and his children are without any means of support. He has two grown up sons with him. All these men are to be pitied, they are suffering very much and working at a great disadvantage; whilst their families are starving at home."

All 10 of the Jewish agricultural settlements in Western Canada faced extreme hardships, such as the calamity that befell the community in Wapella (Sask.) on Aug. 28, 1900. Beseeching the BHI for assistance, one writer reported: "A terrible cyclone swept through our district, and caused a terrible disaster; the hail swept everything before it. There is not even straw for our cattle....

"Two years ago, we were offered $500 as a gift for a Hebrew School, but we declined to the proposition, as we are not of beggarly nature, we thought that we could build a school of our own, and support it ourselves, but now as the wheel of progress took its turn backwards, we see that we are deceived in our imaginations, we cannot possibly get along without a Hebrew School...."

As the BHI was preparing to accept some 700 Jewish immigrants enroute to Montreal in the early years of the century, BHI president D. A. Ansell wrote to then prime minister Wilfrid Laurier to protest "the awful state they are now placed in by our Government inducing them to immigrate and on landing at Quebec being told that the laws of the Country forbid that they should go inland without having $25 per capita.

"These unfortunates have been misled by the agents of the Government and I think in the cause of humanity that they should not be turned away from our shores....The immigrants were not advised or prepared for such a severe monetary demand made without an hour's notice."

The records contain many names. For example, a 1908 list of young men from Galicia who received agricultural training includes the surnames Beutler, Buchhalter, Edelmann, Edelstein, Froehlich, Gaertner, Geltner, Kessler, Krampf, Rosenheck, Rosenstock, Schauben, Spindel and Wasser.

Are your ancestors mentioned somewhere in these pages?

* * *

Has some aspect of your family tree research got you stumped? Write to me c/o *The CJN*, Roots & Remembrance, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York M3B 3K4, and I'll try to answer your query in a future column.

Rabin was a true leader...

Guest Voices

By STEPHEN VICTOR

As we mark the anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, I am drawn to the speech he delivered to the Knesset on May 11, 1994. In this address, the late Israeli prime minister laid out the policy of his government and the details of the Declaration of Principles signed in Washington on Sept. 13, 1993.

It was the preamble of that landmark speech that sent chills through my spine. Here, in paying homage to Haim Bar-Lev and Aaron Yariv, two heroes who had recently died, Rabin used words that seemed to presage his own demise a mere 18 months later. In the words of Natan Alterman, Rabin described them as leaders who "carried their people on their shoulders."

Rabin added that they were of "the generation that struggled to create the state — and the generation that built it from its foundation. [They] served that state in its difficult hours — as soldiers, as commanders, as Knesset members, as ministers. They always served the public as its emissaries."

How poignant that a year and a half later, Rabin's words could be so powerfully and tragically applied to himself.

But Rabin was more than a soldier, more than a politician. He led his country into uncharted territory to make peace with a longstanding enemy and put an end to the wars and bloodshed that had plagued Israel since its founding. As a soldier, he paid the ultimate price for that peace.

Rabin embodied Israel's modern history. He was successively the underground fighter, soldier, architect of victory in the Six Day War, prime minister and Nobel Peace laureate. He was the nation's first native-born prime minister and its first to fall victim to assassination.

As a sabra and a soldier, Rabin understood as few of his contemporaries could the historical and cultural factors that contributed to the Arabs' longstanding animosity towards Israel.

But Rabin was also a keen observer of the regional and global strategic landscape. He early on recognized that the shift of power in the Arab world away from the rejectionists and towards the moderate pro-western camp was fundamental and not merely temporary. He viewed this as an opportunity for Israel to try to redefine its relationship with its major Arab neighbors. And so it was that Rabin was transformed from soldier to peacemaker.

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Jewish Life

Jewish mystical system explored

Books

By Bernard Baskin

The Essential Kabbalah, by Daniel C. Matt (Harper Collins, 25).

Opening the Inner Gates, by E. Hoffman (Random House, $21.95).

Kabbalah, the Jewish mystical system that developed in the 11th and 12th centuries, seems more popular today than ever. Persons who hardly know the letters of the Hebrew alphabet are eager to uncover the secrets of the Zohar, the difficult classical work of this esoteric tradition. Although not easy to absorb because of its symbolism, obscure allusions and multiple layers of meaning, Kabbalah still has the power to allure and attract.

The original tenets and teachings of the Kabbalists were recast and reinterpreted by Isaac Luria and his followers — mostly in the city of Tzfat — in the 16th century.

A prime doctrine of Kabbalah is that there are two aspects of Deity: God as He is in Himself (*En Sof*) and as He manifests Himself in nature through a process of 10 spheres or emanations (*Sefirot*).

These emanations descend through all forms of creation with men and women as final links in this great chain of being. When human beings are virtuous, they send beneficent impulses on high to promote harmony among the 10 spheres. When this happens, the divine grace flows freely to all. When, however, human beings are vicious and unworthy, they generate harmful influences that destroy the tranquillity of the 10 spheres and God's grace is withheld or diminished. In effect, men and women play a supreme role in God's world. They literally hold up the heavens.

A starting element in Kabbalah is the division of the *sefirot* into male and female genders and the acknowledgement of a female element in the Godhead known as the *Shechinah*. A source of controversy was the formula introduced by the Tzfat Kabbalists before the performance of a mitzvah in which they declared that the act to be performed was "for the sake of the unification of the Holy One, blessed be He and His Shechinah." Just what this means, even for those who recited it, remains uncertain and inexplicable.

The chassidic movement, starting in the 18th century, incorporated many mystical ideas and practices. Today all Jewish religious denominations agree that Kabbalah contains numerous insights that are still valid for the cultivation of spirituality.

The Essential Kabbalah is a slender but valuable anthology of kabbalistic thought from its foundation texts to teachings of our own time. The author's knowledgeable selections, rich and evocative translations, precise notes and helpful introduction to the subject make for lucid and stimulating reading.

Two typical selections from the book:

- "The theory of evolution accords with the secrets of Kabbalah better than any other theory. Evolution follows a path of ascent and thus provides the world with a basis for optimism. How can one despair, seeing that everything evolves and ascends? ... *En sof* generates, actualizes potential infinity." These are the surprising words of Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, former chief rabbi of Palestine.
- "God said to Abraham, 'Go forth.' This verse is addressed to every person. Search and discover the root of your soul, so that you can fulfil it and restore it to its source, its essence. The more you fulfil yourself, the closer you approach your authentic self."

Opening the Inner Gates contains 16 essays that explore new paths in Kabbalah and psychology. The contributors present both theoretical considerations and methods of Kabbalah applied in many directions: healing, the mind-body relationship, storytelling, women's spirituality and working with the elderly.

For the most part the essays are accessible to the interested reader and open up unexpected vistas of effective communication and therapy.

These volumes make available aspects of Judaism's "hidden wisdom" for those in search of old-new guidelines for their lives.

Dancing with the Torah. Painting by Ira Moskowitz.

...a soldier, a prime minister

[Cont'd. from page 12]

Of his most satisfying moment he had no doubt: the liberation and unification of Jerusalem after the Six Day War. But this was perhaps superseded by his final legacy in September 1993, when he led Israel to come to terms with the Palestinians "to live together on the same soil in the same and ... to open a new chapter ... of mutual recognition, of good neighborliness, of mutual respect, of understanding."

When he went to Washington, he said: "We have come to try to put an end to the hostilities, so that our children, our children's children will no longer experience the painful cost of war."

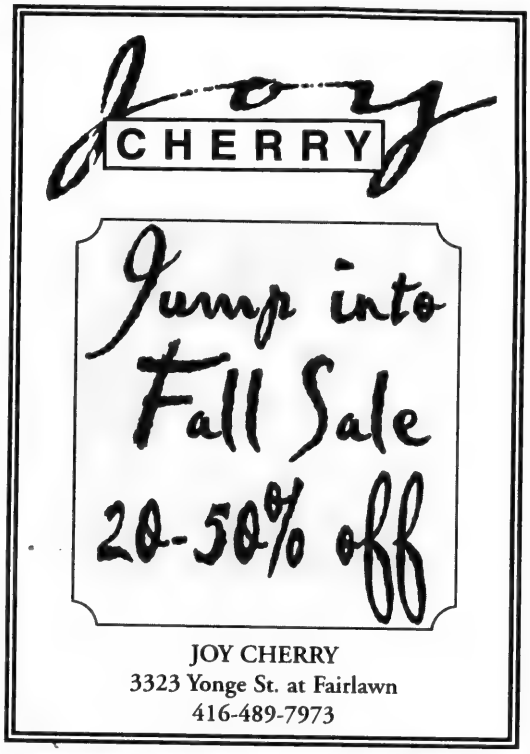
As for the leaders who "carried the people on their shoulders," Rabin was destined to outshine them all and become an illustrious star who served his people well and will always be remembered with warmth and admiration.

We may feel, as Rabin wrote, that "slowly our friends are departing the land of the living and we painfully take leave of them. A generation is disappearing, a generation which, in the glorious history of the state, will be enshrined as the 'builders' and protectors of the State of Israel."

In an interview in 1987, Rabin expressed a tinge of disappointment with his life for what he saw was a loss of national spirit, the failure of the creators of the state to pass on their sense of commitment. However, the Jewish people have always been inspired by fallen heroes like Rabin to reaffirm their faith in the future. Perhaps Rabin's greatest quality was his ability to learn and grow.

The finest homage we could pay to his memory is to learn from his example of courageous leadership, to continue to seek the common ground between neighbors and amongst klal Israel, and to grow from the tragedy of his untimely demise.

Stephen Victor is the national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee.



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Rabin assassination marked with warning about rhetoric

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews everywhere must tone down their differences so as not to recreate the heated rhetoric that led to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, an assembly marking Rabin's first yahrzeit heard last week.

Keynote speaker Prof. Irwin Cotler told some 600 people at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue that Jews in Israel and the Diaspora must turn down the volume of debate and express differences in a more civil way.

Cotler, an international human rights expert, said several disturbing trends continue, despite Rabin's murder. One is Israel's "politics of exclusion," in which the Likud touts itself as "the national camp, implying that anyone not part of it is somehow less authentically Jewish and Zionist, and a traitor." Labor, meantime, calls itself the "peace camp," implying that anyone not on its side is anti-peace.

The labelling "is wrong and dangerous," while "silent acquiesence" to it is "no less wrong and dangerous," Cotler said.

The "existential nature" of politics in Israel has led to each political camp viewing the other as hastening the country's demise, he said. "Each side can make arguments to substantiate their claim, but demonizing each other is not only dangerous, it's lethal."

The "politics of hate" have resulted in references to the religious as "ayatollahs." On the flip side, early calls for Rabin's death came from the Orthodox rabbinate in North America, Cotler said.

The "politicization and falsification" of Halachah following Rabin's death have also contributed to the discord. Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir, invoked Jewish law to justify his action, claiming, as others did, that the Talmud calls for the killing of a *rodef* (pursuer or would-be murderer).

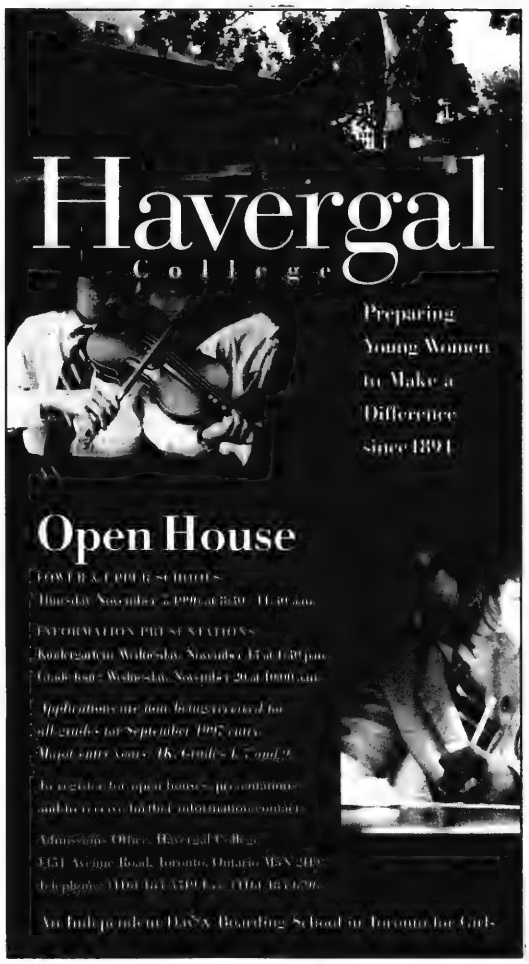
"Amir was listening and believed he had the halachic mandate to kill a *rodef.*"

It's not enough to disclaim responsibility, Cotler said, "We have to clear the air of the poisonous atmosphere." Words "can incite and kill."

Rabin touched so many people "because he embodied the contradictions in every Jew, our hopes and fears."

Greetings were brought by Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar, who said "we have to get used to" the sight of Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat shaking hands.

A musical tribute to Rabin was provided by Israel David and Yitzhak Argaman, and Cantor Efraim Sapir chanted K'El Maleh Rachamim. The evening was sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, B'nai Brith Canada and the Canadian Zionist Federation.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FALL FOOD DRIVE

Students from Associated Hebrew School, Finch campus, took part in North York Harvest Food Bank's annual Sukkot Festival Food Drive. Associated is one of a total of 13 Hebrew day schools and synagogues taking part. Seen here is Faygle Train, 9, David Cross, 6, Loren Freid, executive director of the food bank, and Eitan Laufer, 11.

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Greater Toronto Area

Controversial columnist invited to Reform event

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Even as the Reform party attempts to chart a middle course in Canadian politics, it continues to attract members of the radical right, sometimes with the active recruitment of its own MPs.

B.C. Reform MP Ted White recently sponsored a panel discussion in North Vancouver to discuss the issue of Quebec. Included in the program was columnist Doug Collins, who has questioned the Holocaust.

Meanwhile, the white supremacist Heritage Front has included an Internet hyperlink on its home page to connect it the Reform party's Web site. And in yet another development, Reform MP Herb Grubel is being blamed for helping create a welcoming atmosphere for a U.S.-based militia group that has created a presence in Smithers, B.C.

Canadian Jewish Congress has written to Reform leader Preston Manning to complain about the public program in which Collins participated as a speaker.

'It is absolutely offensive'

Collins was one of two reporters who were invited to query Bloc Quebecois MP Pierre de Savoye about the propects of Quebec separation. In addition to White, two other Reform MPs, Grubel and Paul Forseth, also attended the forum.

In a letter to Manning five days before the scheduled program, Congress Pacific chair Michael Elterman expressed "grave concerns that the Reform MP from North Vancouver is organizing a public meeting which will include Doug Collins, who has repeatedly published articles questioning the Holocaust."

Elterman pointed out that Manning had told a Congress national delegation earlier in the year that he wished to be alerted when Reform members "are involved with

Preston Manning

activities that may be construed as negative and extremist to Jewish and other community groups."

Following the program, Congress wrote to White as well, requesting his explanation for inviting Collins. In that letter, Elterman pointed out that Congress "has filed a complaint with the B.C. Human Rights Council in which Congress alleges that the *North Shore News* published an article by Collins which discriminates against Jewish persons and is likely to expose those persons to hatred and contempt on the basis of their race, religion and ancestry ..."

Bernie Farber, national director of community relations for Congress, said about 400 people attended the program about Quebec. "I think it is absolutely offensive" that Collins was asked to participate, he said. "There ought not be any legitimate political parties that make common cause" with extremists.

Commenting on the presence of a U.S.-based militia group in the northern part of the province, Elterman said "this type of activity in our own backyard should be of grave concern to all British Columbians. Private militia groups are illegal in Canada ... While not all militia members are racist, much of their rhetoric is filled with anti-Semitic and racist ideologies."

Elterman pointed out that in August, Grubel participated in a conference in Whistler, B.C., which included known U.S. militia supporters. In a letter to Grubel, Congress noted that the networking between Canadian and American far right activists represents a dangerous trend and suggested that Grubel's participation in the conference lent credibility to its radical agenda.

While the Reform party did not return *CJN* calls, party spokesperson Larry Welsh was quoted as denying any link to the Heritage Front, despite the computer connection.

Earlier this week, the Heritage Front altered its Web site to include the Reform party's denials, but it maintained the hyperlink to Reform's Web site.

Among other links are those to Resistance Records, National Alliance, Ernst Zundel and Stormfront.

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Wednesday, Oct. 30, was deadline for Nov. 14 issue and Thursday, Nov. 7, is deadline for Nov. 21 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. As of Nov. 4, phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Nov. 1

SJA ONEG SHABBAT

Secular Jewish Association family Oneg Shabbat, North York Central Library, 5110 Yonge St. Fun for the whole family. Bring snack to share. RSVP 364-7002.

Saturday, Nov. 2

STILL THE NIGHT

Na'amat Toronto sponsors **Theresa Tova's** production, *Still the Night*, at Theatre Passe Muraille, followed by tribute event honoring Holocaust survivors who are members or whose children are members. Proceeds go to the Na'amat Canada Shelter and Counselling Centre in Tel Aviv for victims of domestic violence.

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

Yiddishland Cafe features An Evening of Yiddish Love Songs, vocalists **Stella Walker and Michael Mandel**, clarinetist **Martin van de Ven**, pianist **Sageev Oore**, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Yiddishland Cafe is produced and presented by Workmen's Circle, supported in part by Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. $10 advance tickets, $12 at door, $8 students. 783-5919 or 633-4212.

FUN AUCTION

Queen City chapter, Jewish Women International of Canada, annual fun auction of hotel weekends, dinners, theatres, new merchandise, 7:30 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave.

Sunday, Nov. 3

MUSIC, MYSTICISM

Music and Secrets of the Torah, musical scholar **Rabbi Matityahu**, director of Lev Eliyahu Razot Institute in Jerusalem, and **Aaron Skitri**, lutist/guitarist, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. $20 in advance, two for $36, students/seniors $12, at door $22. 789-3213.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Selma Sage speaks on Judah Maccabee: The Real Story of Chanukah, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen or tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Nov. 4

ABOUT DIABETES

Jewish Diabetes chapter, Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA), meeting, Talk With Pharmacist About Your Medications, pharmacist **Bonnie Berken**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. CDA members $1, non-members $2. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Chaverim meeting, 1:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue, **Henry Alkin** speaks on Women of the Bible: Tamar — Was She Wicked?

EQUAL RIGHTS

Rabbi Moshe Stern lecture, Man and Woman — Equal Rights? What is the Halachah?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

GOURMET COOKING

Gourmet Cooking and Entertaining, presented by Kosher Cooking School of Kashruth Council of Toronto, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

HARRY RASKY

Beth Tzedec Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library presents filmmaker **Harry Rasky** speaking on How Being Jewish Affected My Creative Life, 7:30 p.m.

OSTEOPOROSIS

National Council of Jewish Women, Orah branch, forum on Osteoporosis, **Dr. Robert Josse**,

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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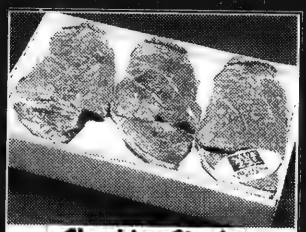

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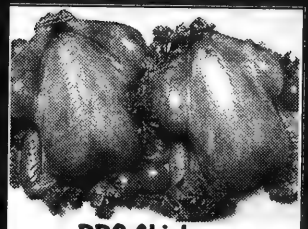

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

dietician **Jane Manly**, physiotherapist **Mairwen Thornley**; moderator **Catherine Callaghan**, health editor, *Chatelaine* magazine, 7:30 p.m. $12. RSVP 633-5100.

Wednesday, Nov. 6

SATURDAY OR SHABBOS?

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's Class 2 — Is It Saturday or Shabbos: "Can't I Rest Watching TV?", 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

MODERN MEDICINE

Modern Medicine and Its Continuing Nazi Heritage, topic of Itta & Eliezer Zeisler Beth Midrash series lecture, **Dr. William E. Seidelman**, medical director, HIV Ambulatory Program, Wellesley Hospital, 7:45 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar lecture, Sin, Sacrifice and Atonement, 8 p.m. Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library. 789-2851.

And What Else Is New...

SHABBATON: UNPLUGGED

The Shabbaton: Unplugged, Nov. 8-9. **Shaul** 782-6490:

Friday, Nov. 8 — Dinner and speakers **Rabbi J. Immanuel Schochet** of Beth Joseph (topic Beyond the Head: Transcending Intellectuality) and **Rabbi Meir (Michel) Abehsera**, Sephardi mystic from Jerusalem (topic The Language of the Soul), 7 p.m., Beth Joseph, 44 Edinburgh Dr. $18, students $8. Whole Shabbat experience (including melaveh malka, lodgings, meals, talks), $24, students $12.

Saturday, Nov. 9 — Melaveh malka: Mystics and Music, dinner, speaker, concert, Rabbi Abehsera, **Ronnie Wiseman** and his band, Kadusha, 8:30 p.m., 770 Chabad Gate, 8:30 p.m.; $18, students $10.

MARKHAM MINYAN

Markham Minchah Minyan, Mondays through Thursdays, 1 p.m., starting Nov. 4, 35 East Beaver Creek, Unit 1A (Hwy. 7/Hwy. 404 area). 783-0064.

STUDY LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Congregation Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Nov. 9, **Prof. Arnold Ages** speaks on Anti-Semitism of the Great: Shakespeare, Voltaire, T.S. Eliot and the Jewish Question. Reservations deadline Tuesday, Nov. 5, 781-3511, ext. 13. Unpaid reservations cannot be accommodated.

CHANUKAH SHABBATON

Canada-wide Chanukah Shabbaton for young adults Dec. 6-8, sponsored by the Association of Young Jewish Adults (AYJA) of the Snowdon YM-YWHA and Beth Ora Synagogue in conjunction with Pro-Montreal, at the synagogue. Theme is Being Jewish in the 1990s. $99 until Nov. 1, $129 as of Nov. 2. **Davina Shapiro** 514-737-6551, ext. 237, or AYJA Hotline 514-856-8585, ext. 2952.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Senior youth group social action project Oct. 31; Tri-City shul-in weekend in Montreal, Nov. 16; and Tri-City weekend Nov. 22-24. Book review, *Blue Mountain* Nov. 25. Kallah retreat Nov. 29-Dec. 1. Rabbi's Torah study potluck lunch Mondays at noon. Family Friday night services Nov. 1, 15, 7:30 p.m.; regular Friday night services Nov. 8 (Grade 7 dinner), 22, 29, 8:30 p.m.; regular Saturday services Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 10 a.m.; family Saturday service Nov. 30, 10 a.m.; Tuesday minyan continues 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

CREATIVE ARTS SALE

Baycrest Centre's annual Creative Arts Sale, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 3-7 p.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Here's your chance to buy unique gifts for the holidays as well as potted plants from Baycrest's horticultural programs.

DINNER AND DRAW

Temple Sinai Brotherhood dinner and draw, $10,000 in prizes with grand prize of $5,000, Wednesday, Nov. 20, 6:30 p.m. at the temple. 494-4461 for tickets.

MINCHAH-MAARIV MINYAN

Minchah-Maariv Minyan for the winter months, Mondays through Thursdays, 5 p.m., Anshei Minsk Shul, (Spadina/St. Andrews). **Sam Moskowitz** 961-8864.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Adult Heder, **Leonard and Mora Matzner**, Argentina, Uruguay, Sunday, Nov. 3, 9:45 a.m.; Jewish Prayer, **Rabbi Mitch Cohen**, Monday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.; From Shtetl to Kibbutz, **Naomi Bell**, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.; Hitler's Willing Executioners, **Gerald Zeidenberg,** Thursday, Nov. 7, 8 p.m.

UNDERSTANDING PRAYER

Temple Sinai four-part series, Understanding Jewish Prayer: Tradition and Innovation, with **Rabbi Michael Dolgin**, Mondays, 8 p.m.: Nov. 4, Basic Categories and Terms of Jewish Prayer; Nov. 11, The Structure and Meaning of Communal Jewish Prayer; Nov. 18, Personal Prayer: Public and Private; Dec. 2, New Directions in Jewish Liturgy. Non-members $40. Reserve. 487-4161.

MACCABI TRIALS

Maccabi Canada indoor soccer (mini-football) national trials, Dec. 20-22, in Montreal. **Joe Amar**, head coach, 514-956-6000 (business), 514-684-5017 (home) or **David Rumak**, assistant coach, 416-424-2525.

WIDOWED PARENTS

Young Jewish Widowed Parents support group, founded by members of Temple Kol Ami, focuses on the challenge of raising young children through early adolescence after loss of their other parent through death. **Harriet Bravbaum**, 250-6103.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Single Parenting begins Nov. 12; Positive Parenting begins Nov. 11; Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together begins Nov. 7. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

ICRF YOUNG ASSOCIATES

Young Associates of Israel Cancer Research Fund presents Get Funked, a back to the '70s scene, live tunes of The Reflections, DJs, boutiques, Sunday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m., at The Docks, 11 Polson St. $30 in advance, $35 at door. 487-5246.

LONG-TERM CARE

Jewish Family & Child Service group, Placing Family Members in a Long-Term Care Facility, begins Nov. 5. Register. **Toby Maskowitz** 638-7800, ext. 287.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club orientation for 17-day kosher Arizona trip, Monday, Nov. 11, 1 p.m.; Purim all-inclusive vacation trip to Israel, March 2-24, 10 days of touring. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip, four, six and eight weeks, Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building) **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: free blood pressure check-up Tuesday, Nov. 5; free manicures, Avon Cosmetics, Thursdays 10 a.m., members only; Thornhill Square Monday, Nov. 4; Dixie Mall, Thursday, Nov. 14; Casino Rama, Thursday, Nov. 21; Las Vegas Nov. 24-28, For information on *Beauty and the Beast* and *Ragtime* 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute presents War and Peace in the Middle East, **Avner Meiri**, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Monday, Nov. 4, 1 p.m. Non-members $2. **Bookie Kwart**.

Bernard Betel Centre/Bathurst Jewish Centre trip to Palm Springs and San Diego, Calif., Jan. 15-Feb. 5. **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112 or Teme Kernerman 636-1880, ext. 364.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets Wednesdays. Nov. 6 is Jerusalem 3000 celebration, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., speeches, singing, dancing, Israeli buffet. **Anna**.

Sunday dance to music of Creative Band, Nov. 3.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC events — *Private Lives*, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1:30 p.m., St. Lawrence Centre. $22/seniors $18.50. Shopping trip to Buffalo, Wednesday, Nov. 27, leaving from Bloor JCC. $24. **Judy** 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club presents Understanding Your Blood Pressure, with nurse **Vanessa Rudolph**, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2 p.m. Includes personal consultation and reading.

RECEPTION

Raoul Wallenberg Yorkdale Lodge B'nai Brith, in conjunction with State of Israel Bonds, held a cocktail reception honoring Fila and Jerry Blitzer at the home of Gita and Sam Ganz. A dinner-dance honoring the Blitzers will be held at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue Sunday, Nov. 3, featuring Aelita and Friends Showband. Pictured at the reception are (from left) Ralph Snow, dinner co-chair; Michael Rosenberg, dinner co-chair; Fila Blitzer, Sam Ganz, Jerry Blitzer, Gita Ganz, Douglas Bloomfield, guest speaker. For information, Rose Shapiro, 789-3351.

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UJA telethons propel campaign

UJA Federation's outreach to first time contributors is on a fast track, thanks to several successful telethons helping the campaign reach $27 million.

For the first time, campaigners made calls from the Promenade Shopping Centre on October 20 to raise awareness within York Region's huge Jewish community of nearly 50,000.

"It gave me the opportunity to do more than just give dollars," said telephone volunteer Evelyn Farber. "I had tons of fun."

"People are welcoming the opportunity to become more involved," observed campaigner Helen Silverstein.

"It's really great that we're gaining visibility in Thornhill," said Debby Feldman. "It's offering people a connection to the Jewish community."

On the same day, dozens of volunteers turned out for another new gifts telethon at the Lipa Green Building, where early pledges were coming in at the rate of one a minute.

"It's really gratifying to finally be reaching people who have never contributed before," said Agi Mandel, Vice-Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign.

"There are people out there with fire and passion," explained New Gifts Co-chair Gary Grundman, "and all we've got to do is get to them."

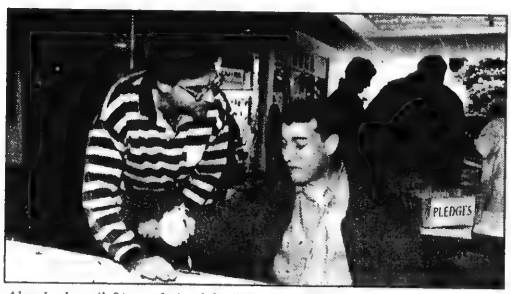
"We can only go forward from here," said Dennis Bader, who is active in UJA Federation's South African Network, one of the many divisions that participated in the telethon.

Harvey Cooperberg, who helped train campaigners summed it up. "It's very exciting and rewarding getting new gifts."

The new gifts phase of UJA Federation Campaign '97 was officially launched two days ago, during an evening program featuring Israel affairs expert Shira Herzog as the guest speaker.

Lily Tepperman loves to lend a helping hand at UJA telethons.

Agi Mandel was keeping count of funds raised at the New Gifts telethon at the Lipa Green Building.



Alan Lechem (left), co-chair of the Promenade telethon gives campaigner Jeff Dorfman some telephone tips.

Wonderful Wonderfun Day

UJA Federation's first ever Jewish Community Wonderfun Day at Paramount's Canada's Wonderland, earlier this month attracted nearly 2,000 community members. *Community Matters* photographer Stephen Epstein captured the fun-filled festivities.

Above: Tony Lipsey, owner of Kosher Food Warehouse, doling out the sweets.

Right: Jewish community spirit came alive at Wonderland's International Showplace Theatre.

The Pink Panther gets a ride from a couple of friends, Tammy and Mickey Korolnek.

UJA FEDERATION

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For more information, please join us

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 – 7:30 pm
Lipa Green Building – 4600 Bathurst Street

with special guest Charles Fischgrund, *Principal, The Alexander Muss High School in Israel*

Call Karen Worb at (416) 631-5731

Sponsored by the Israel Experience Committee of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UJA Federation welcomes new contributors

Shira Biderman: feeling good about giving

Shira Biderman

When Shira Biderman was asked to become involved with UJA Federation, the recent ex-Montrealer wasted no time saying "yes." But as a new contributor, she had no idea just how much her volunteerism was going to change her view of the Jewish community.

"I said 'yes' right away," recalls the 24 year old insurance broker, after a colleague from work approached her less than a year ago.

"At the time, I didn't know much about UJA Federation but I knew that I wanted to give back to the community."

Her decision to contribute both time and money was affirmed at this year's Campaign launch when Biderman was touched by the UJA Federation's *Keep the Fire Burning* video. "I don't think there was a dry eye in the audience," she says. "I was absolutely blown away by the strong sense of community surrounding me."

After the launch, Biderman volunteered as a campaigner at UJA Federation's Super Sunday where she was warmed by the "receptive and generous people at the other end of the phone."

"The whole experience has made me more aware of my own community and more in tune with my Jewish heritage," says Biderman. "I only wish I could give more."

"UJA Federation gives people in need something to lean on."

Community Matters

16th Annual Holocaust Education Week

Holocaust author reveals humanity

The author whose life story inspired an Oscar-winning documentary is making a special trip to Toronto to share more of her war time experiences.

Gerda Klein will be opening the 16th Annual Holocaust Education Week, sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation. She has been on the lecture circuit since the HBO film *One Survivor Remembers* won the coveted award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences last Spring.

But although Klein was "completely surprised" about the Oscar night win, publicity has been a part of her daily life since arriving in the U.S. from war torn Czechoslovakia in 1946.

"I started speaking publicly and writing about my experiences right away," says Klein. "I felt they had to be recorded."

What makes Klein's stories different from the similar accounts of thousands of other survivors, was that she yearned to tell them and they focused on the more humane and uplifting aspects of her horrific past.

"Silence conveys shame," Klein says. "I wanted to testify to the dignity I had witnessed throughout the ordeal in the way the Jews dealt with their circumstances."

Her unique perspective won her international recognition for the autobiography she published in 1957, *All But My Life*. Excerpts from the book which describes her liberation from a death march by American intelligence officer Kurt Klein, who later became her husband, appear in high school text books.

Klein, who is the sole survivor of her family, says the success of the documentary was "a humbling experience" that left her with "a tremendous responsibility to continue telling my story."

"The award belongs to all the people who showed tremendous courage in the face of unimaginable adversity."

Her husband, who still remembers first laying eyes on Gerda in an abandoned factory in the Czech countryside, says "it's very rewarding to see my wife bring her story to the people. It's the most important thing we can do."

Gerda and Kurt Klein will appear Thursday, November 7, 8:00 p.m., at the University of Toronto's Convocation Hall, 31 King's College Circle.

Gerda Klein

Tickets cost $5 and can be purchased in advance by calling (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301.

For a complete brochure with programs during Holocaust Education Week, November 7 -17, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301.

REMEMBER זכור

IMPORTANT CHANGES

to HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK Programming

UJA FEDERATION

Programming for the 16th Annual Holocaust Education Week was outlined in a supplement to the *Canadian Jewish News* (October 17th issue).
To order a copy of this supplement or for more information, please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153 or 301.

NEW PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 **7:00 PM**
CANADIAN YOUNG JUDAEA, 788 Marlee Avenue
"The Holocaust Through the Eyes of Our Children."
A creative workshop suitable for 15-18 year olds.
To RSVP (416) 781-5156.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 **7:00 PM**
JEWISH CAMPUS SERVICES
Leah Posluns Theatre –Studio Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St.
"The 50th Anniversary of the Nuremberg Trials: An Epic in History." Whitney Harris, former Nuremberg prosecutor and author of the first major work on the trials.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 **7:30 PM**
LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF B'NAI BRITH CANADA AND VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, Emmanuel College, Room 001, 75 Queen's Park Crescent (across from Museum subway station) *"Hate on the Internet: Countering Hate and Holocaust Denial"* with Ken McKay, O.B.C., Director, Nizkor Project. Annual Metcalf Lecture.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 **8:00 PM**
THEATRE ASYLUM AND NEW GLOBE THEATRE
Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Avenue
"My Mother's Courage," by Jewish-Hungarian author George Tabori. A one-act play telling the incredible true story of how Mr. Tabori's mother, through courage and luck escapes deportation from a death camp. Directed by Jennifer H. Capraru and featuring Elizabeth Shepherd, Thomas Hauff and Tom Barnett. Discussion follows the play.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 **7:00 PM**
TEMPLE SINAI, 210 Wilson Avenue
"We Were Once Children, Too." Temple Sinai Youth interviewed Holocaust survivors, focusing on their experiences as children and their confrontations with anti-semitism. This program highlights presentations by the teenagers and comments by the survivors.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 **7:30 PM**
FOREST HILL UNITED CHURCH, 2 Wembley Road (416) 783-0879. Film *"Courage to Care,"* a powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to save Jews. Followed by a panel discussion.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 **8:00 PM**
BETH EMETH BAIS YEHUDA SYNAGOGUE, 100 Elder Street. *"Fortress Of My Youth,"* an intensely personal account by Jana Renee Friesova of her adolescent years as a prisoner in Terezin (Theresienstadt). Ms. Friesova is a Philosophy and Judaica Professor at the University of Prague.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15 **7:00 PM**
BEACHES HEBREW INSTITUTE,
109 Kenilworth Avenue. Speaker: Sol Litman, Former Director, Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Toronto.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 **7:30 PM**
ST. ANSGAR LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1495 Avenue Road (416) 783-3570. Lecture *"Faith After the Holocaust"* with Rabbi Mark Dratch, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 **8:00 PM**
NEW FRATERNAL JEWISH ASSOCIATION
Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton Street Medina Theatre Ensemble presents a reading of excerpts from *"The Investigation"* by Peter Weiss, an award-winning play dealing with war criminals. Directed by Miriam Laurence.

Due to publication deadlines, we regret that we were unable to thank Zitofulmian Communications for their assistance or to list Tracie Wagman as a member of the Holocaust Education Week Sub-Committee in the Holocaust Education Week brochure.

PROGRAM CORRECTIONS

NOVEMBER 12 - DEC. 1 **Opening 6:30 PM**
JOSEPH D. CARRIER ART GALLERY
Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Avenue West
"Visas for Life: The Righteous Diplomats" photo exhibit. Jan Zwartendijk, Consul of the Netherlands is honoured in addition to Sempo Sugihara, Japanese Consul in Lithuania and Aristides de Sousa Mendes, Portuguese Consul in France.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 **8:00 PM**
Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Avenue
Program correction: Readings from *"We Are Children Just The Same: 'Vedem,' The Secret Magazine by The Boys of Terezin,"* a journal produced by concentration camp inmates; and a rare screening of *"Night and Fog (Nuit et Brouillard),"* Alain Resnais' brilliantly composed look at the camps with narration by Holocaust survivor Jean Cayrol.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 **ALL DAY**
Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Avenue
Program correction: Anne Michaels, discussing the research from her novel "Fugitive Pieces."

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 **8:00 PM**
Film *"Anne Frank Remembered."*
Correct name of location: Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, 55 Yeomans Road

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 **8:00 PM**
Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst Street
Correct title of presentation: *"The Vatican & the Holocaust."*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 **2:30 PM**
Lodger Centre Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton Street
Correct spelling of performer: Lenka Lichtenberg

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 **10:30 AM**
West Ellesmere United Church
"Faith After the Holocaust."
Correct spelling of speaker: Rabbi Dow Marmur

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Community Partners

It's centre stage for UJA's A&E division

Richard Sadowski and Howard Lichtman are raising the curtain on UJA Federation's Arts & Entertainment Division.

Howard Lichtman

Sadowski, who co-chairs the division with Lichtman, is partner in Movie Seller/Entertainment Depot. He comes from a long line of community volunteers. In fact, it was his cousin Wendy Eisen, a past UJA Campaign Chair and his good friend Scott Staiman, former co-chair of UJA Federation's Business Cabinet, who got Sadowski involved three years ago.

"I've always been community minded," explains Sadowski, whose volunteerism includes working with Jewish teens and Mount Sinai Hospital.

After attending the 1994 UJA Federation Campaign Launch, Sadowski says he was "compelled to do more for the community." Beginning as a Super Sunday campaigner, he eventually co-chaired last year's Countdown '96.

But it was his involvement with UJA Federation when Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated that most affected Sadowski. "The spirit of community at that emotional time filled my heart."

Sadowski and co-chair Howard Lichtman have helped to restructure the division, create a newsletter and organize a successful program on "the business of entertainment."

Lichtman, who is the Executive Vice-President of Marketing and Communications for Cineplex Odeon, has been in charge of the A&E division for the past three years.

Richard Sadowski

Lichtman grew up in Montreal where he spent his youth working with various Jewish organizations including B'nai Brith and Young Judea.

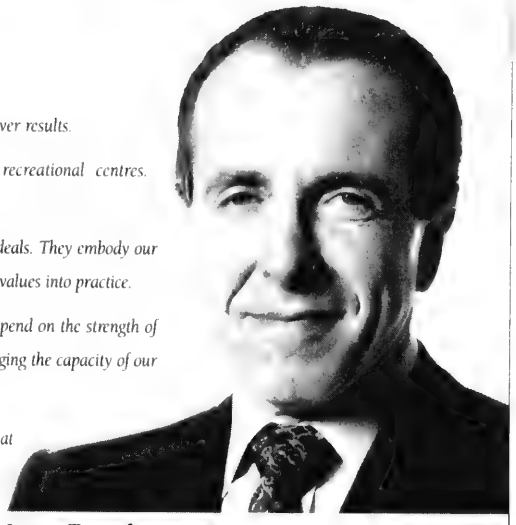
After having put his volunteer career on the back burner while completing his MBA, Lichtman began working for UJA Federation as a campaigner and underwent the Leadership Development Program.

"I wanted to get back into the loop," explains Lichtman. "I felt I had been lucky and the time had come to give something back."

Lichtman sees a lot of opportunity for growth within the A&E division. The challenge, he says, is creating a sense of community among a very diverse group. "Artists and reporters don't see themselves as being in the same business," explains Lichtman. "But what they share in common is Jewish identity."

Lichtman is proud of the strides the division has made. "We've already had success in the area of new gifts and it's great to know we're reaching those we've never reached before."

I BELIEVE



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Larry Tanenbaum

By funding our community's institutions, UJA Federation enriches Jewish life in Toronto. It provides help and hope to those in need. It ensures access to a Jewish education and fosters Jewish culture. It enables us to speak out on the critical issues that affect Jews here and abroad. It builds living bridges with Israel.

But for all we have, demand is not being met. The resources we need can only come from one place: Our community. Each and every one of us.

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Bazaar draws bargain hunters

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The 72nd Hadassah-WIZO Bazaar brought bargain hunters out in droves.

An estimated 20,000 people — some lined up as early as 4 a.m. — attended the bazaar held recently at the Automotive Building at Exhibition Place.

Bazaar chair Mindy Kirsh, who had spent a year planning for the big day, said she was pleased with the turnout.

The mood was festive as shoppers staked out bargains and haggled over prices, but there was a sour note to the day — someone had passed off phoney $20 bills.

Despite this setback, it was business as usual at the bazaar, with Hadassah members hawking everything from vinyl flooring and carpet remnants to fun fur coats and bridal wear. Every-day household items like soaps, shampoos and packaged and fresh foods were also available at fire-sale prices.

Shoppers sifted through mounds and racks of second-hand clothing, books and collectibles. And for t'shatshke lovers, there was an endless array of old and new merchandise that included porcelain picture frames, figurines, key-chains and decorative boxes,

With something for everybody, few people left empty-handed or hungry. The food-laden second level of the building was a nasher's paradise with Hadassah chapters dishing out home-made soups, salads, fresh sandwiches and gourmet cakes and pastries.

Emily Weizel, 9, helps out Tzedakah chapter selling t'shatshkes. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

One of the oldest Hadassah members helping out at the Bazaar was Clara Smith of the Olga Shayne chapter, a Hadassah member since 1928. Bazaar organizers lauded Smith's commitment, noting that despite a hospitalization for a hip injury last year, she came to help out at the bazaar — she hasn't missed one in 45 years — shortly after being discharged from the hospital.

Lillian Levy, another member of Olga Shayne — she joined Hadassah in 1935 — has seen 62 bazaars. The only thing that's changed over the years is that there are "a lot more schmattes," she said. "I love the bazaar. I like the way everyone participates. It's the one time when all the women get together and participate as a team."

The volunteers spanned several generations and one of the busiest was 9-year-old Emily Weizel who was helping out Tzedakah chapter, of which her mother is a member.

Emily's aunt, Linda Friedlich, recalled coming to the bazaar as a child. "It was very exciting. I loved finding the bargains."

After modelling bridal hats and veils, Karen Goldberg and Carla Forrin of the Adena-Hanesse chapter said they looked forward to overseeing the clean-up of the building, a responsibility they've taken on together for the last six years.

The bazaar lasts a few months longer for these two women. They collect all broken toys left over, repair and wash them and bring them to the pediatric ward at Doctor's Hospital.

Karen Goldberg (left) and Carla Forrin model bridal hats. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

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Jewish people must stay united conference told

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Regardless of the diversity which exists in the Jewish community, its future lies in the coming together of its people, panelists agreed at a recent conference on Creating the Jewish Future.

"Jewish *emunah* [faith] does not come out of lectures, but out of being together," said Prof. Susan Handelman of the University of Maryland, one of three speakers at a panel on Faith and Religion in a "Secular" Age.

Handelman said the Jewish people are not living in a secular age, but in a post-secular age; that in this age, the Jewish people want to believe, but simply do not know how.

"We've become skeptical of skepticism," she said, acknowledging that many Jews feel confused about their identity.

"G-d is still there in the void," she said, "because without the divine light, the void could not exist."

Rabbi Gunther Plaut of the Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto said that the skepticism in the Jewish community has led to a change from belief in G-d to belief in science.

"Western society has adopted a new *emunah*," he said. "It has replaced the old G-d with a new one of science."

"What 'believe in G-d' means is unclear," he added. "Nowhere are we commanded to believe."

Because of this, he suggested, G-d has become a concept the Jewish people turn to only in crisis.

Rabbi Plaut said there has also been a change in the Jewish community's priority.

"A traditional Jewish environment began with community and then the individual. The western society begins with the individual and then the community," he said.

Regardless of the community's change in focus, however, Rabbi Plaut maintained that "Jewish continuity without faith is limited."

The third panelist, Prof. Robert Eisen of George Washington University in Washington, D.C., said the growing interest in Jewish spirituality has sparked a revival of the study of Kabbalah. While the older Jewish generation is often perplexed by Kabbalah, Eisen said young Jews and often the unaffiliated are attracted to it.

"Kabbalah is an attempt to have a universal, direct intimate relationship with the Divine," he said.

"Jewish baby boomers are seeking religious spiritualism outside of the synagogue," Eisen suggested.

It is the supernatural element of Kabbalah that attracts young Jews, he believes. "The mythical description of G-d makes Him more acceptable."

A later panel on Educating for the Future featured two panelists, professors Michael Rosenak of the Hebrew University and Alvin Schiff of Yeshiva University, who agreed that it is important to encourage Jewish practice through education.

Rosenak said Jewish education should focus on the two aspects of the Jewish faith – language and literature. He explained that language refers to the terms associated with Judaism and literature to the Jewish use and understanding of those terms.

"It is not always possible for [the Jewish people] to come to an agreement as to what constitutes language," he said.

But, he said, in teaching children this language, it is still important that they understand and become familiar with the observances or the use of this language.

Language, literature said key aspects of Jewish faith

Speaking on effective Jewish education, Schiff said, "The Mishnah says that there are two kinds of future, immediate and distant. The success of any project depends on its short-term and long-term planning."

Schiff said funding for education should go first to the affiliated and marginally affiliated Jews, to ensure that neither groups strays towards the unaffiliated. Priorities should also be given to those programs that best support Jewish continuity.

The future of Jewish education, he said, depends on five things: family; cognitive and affective domains; Hebraic teaching and learning; the transmission of universal and paternalistic Jewish values; and technical methods of instruction.

At the same time, Schiff said that adequate Jewish education can provide a sense of belonging in the Jewish community.

"Students who graduated from a Jewish high school show more Jewish adult activity than those who just graduated from a Jewish elementary school.

"Hebrew may be the channel for Jewish spirituality," he said.

The two-day conference at York University was sponsored by the university's Centre of Jewish Studies.

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Holocaust survivor hoping to learn fate of lost father

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

Alex Barmherzig

David Barmherzig

TORONTO — A Toronto Holocaust survivor and former Israeli paratrooper is hoping against hope that after 53 years, he may find out what happened to his father.

The last time Alex Barmherzig saw his father, David, then 41 and a native of Wolbrom, Poland, was when his father escaped from a transport carrying Jews to Auschwitz in August 1943.

"The last words he said to me were, 'Look after your mother,' " Barmherzig said in an interview.

Barmherzig himself, now 70, was on the same transport and survived to be liberated in 1945.

But his mother, two sisters, ages 13 and 14, and twin brothers, age 11, died at Auschwitz.

In all the years since, despite his having made countless inquiries, Barmherzig has had no word about his father, who may have joined the underground. His father would be 94 if still alive.

But a photograph taken at Auschwitz, possibly in the museum there, has led him to renew his quest. It shows boxes containing the personal effects of Auschwitz prisoners. One of them is clearly marked with his father's name, David Barmherzig.

The picture appears in *Dachau, Book Two* by Toronto survivor and writer Irving Eisner.

"Mr. Eisner told me that the picture may have been taken by one of the participants in the March of the Living in Poland, in which Eisner took part. I am appealing to anyone who took the picture or who saw the box with my father's effects to get in touch with me. I have already called about 25 people who were on the march and who took pictures — without success," he says.

There are about seven boxes of effects in the picture and in addition to the name David Barmherzig, which appears clearly, there is the number 290.

Alex Barmherzig made his way to Israel in 1948 and fought as a paratrooper with the Israeli army. He took part in three wars there, and in Canada, became a volunteer paratroop instructor with the Canadian army.

Although he has never visited Poland since the Holocaust (he came to Toronto in 1964), he said he would eagerly go back to Auschwitz to check on the belongings in the box if he can confirm that indeed the photo was taken at the museum. His son, Morris, a lawyer, would accompany him.

Barmherzig can be reached at 416-225-9962.

Nursing research chair launched by hospital, U of T

TORONTO — Mount Sinai Hospital and the University of Toronto (U of T) recently announced the creation of the $2-million Heather M. Reisman Chair in Perinatal Nursing Research, the first nursing research chair ever established in Canada.

The endowed chair will provide the hospital and U of T's Faculty of Nursing with a permanent senior researcher and a new junior faculty member in perinatal nursing, to study care throughout the childbearing period. It will also ensure continued funding for a number of research projects already underway.

Dr. Ellen Hodnett has been named the first chair holder. Hodnett is director of the Perinatal Nursing Research Unit at Mount Sinai Hospital and a professor in the U of T's Faculty of Nursing. Her current research is international in scope and focuses on the impact of nursing care on women before, during and after childbirth.

"This chair is extremely significant because it will ensure that we can maintain a strong research program in perinatal nursing," said Dr. Dorothy Pringle, dean of Nursing at U of T. "It will also help raise awareness of the importance of nursing research in Canada."

The chair is named for Reisman, president of now! industries inc., and a member of the executive committee of Mount Sinai Hospital. Reisman provided the lead gift and spearheaded the effort to raise $1 million to fund the chair, and U of T matched the gift.

"Nursing plays a vital role in the health care system. It's time to begin boosting and investing in this critical profession," said Reisman. "I am proud to help support nursing and honored to have my name associated with the chair."

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From coast to coast

Clinton may pressure Israel if re-elected: journalist

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If Bill Clinton is re-elected president of the United States it will mean more pressure on the Israeli government to achieve some kind of peace with the Palestinians, a vetern CBC TV correspondent predicted recently.

Clinton's position vis-a-vis Israel is shown by his "evasive answers" on whether he would send U.S. troops to police a peace in the Middle East, Joe Schlesinger told a forum sponsored by the UJA Federation Marketing Division at Leah Posluns Theatre.

All three panelists, Allan Gotlieb, former Canadian ambassador to Washington; his wife, Sondra Gotlieb; and Schlesinger agreed that Clinton will beat Republican Bob Dole in the election.

The panelists and moderator, Global TV news anchor Peter Kent, were presented with colorful T-shirts bearing the slogan "Luv Ur Roots" promoting the current UJA campaign.

The strength of the fundamentalist Muslim movement in the world and the supply of arms it receives in a roundabout way from the United States are important in assessing what will happen if Clinton is re-elected, Schlesinger said.

Joe Schlesinger

He also predicted that the Helms-Burton bill penalizing Canadians who do business with Cuba will go on the "back burner" if the Democrats win power.

If Democrats win the presidency and the control of Congress, as is likely, it will result in a more protectionist U.S. policy, Allan Gotlieb said.

The two major U.S. parties have moved so close together on policy that a Republican will be next president of the U.S. whether his name is Clinton or Dole, Gotlieb said.

"The election is a big yawn, the voters are bored, integrity, character and foreign policy are off the radar screen. This is the election of the 'big shrug.' Clinton, well ahead in the polls, is a flawed man for flawed times."

Gotlieb said Clinton was "remarkably amorphous" and a "genius at shifting positions.

"He is running as Ronald Reagan," he added.

Sondra Gotlieb said Clinton would never have been elected without the support of his wife, Hillary, and noted that in this election she is being kept in the background because she is now considered a political liability.

She said a public debate by the wives of Clinton and Dole would be as "irrelevant" as are the debates by the candidates themselves.

Elizabeth Dole is a better campaigner than her husband, "but her husband doesn't always listen," Sondra Gotlieb said.

UJA marketing chair Howard Brown and forum co-chairs Heather Scott and Penny East also took part.

POLITICAL THOUGHT

Olivier Bertrand, 21, of Hull, Quebec had the opportunity to study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem this past summer. Bertrand has a BA in political science from the University of Ottawa and is working on his MA thesis in political thought, focusing on the tension between individual freedom and the goals of the collective.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5715

DATE	EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
NOVEMBER				
Sat 2	"Yiddishland Cafe"	Workman's Circle	8:00 pm	471 Lawrence Avenue West
Sat 2	"The Maximum Montreal Reunion"	UJA Federation	8:00 pm	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Sun 3	Telethon	UJA Federation	8:00 am	Lipa Green Building
Mon 4 - Thurs 7	Telethon Week	UJA Federation	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Mon 4	Annual General Meeting	Bathurst Jewish Centre	7:00 pm	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Mon 4	"Taste of Judaism" Classes	Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning	7:30 pm	Various locations
Wed 6	Lecture with Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich	Pride of Israel Adult Education	8:00 pm	Pride of Israel Synagogue
Thurs 7	Holocaust Ed. Wk. Opening Night with Gerda W. Klein & Kurt Klein	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation	8:00 pm	University of Toronto Convocation Hall
Sat 9 - Sun 17	Holocaust Education Week	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation	Various times	Various locations
Sat 9 - Sun 17	20th Annual Jewish Book Fair	Bathurst Jewish Centre	Various times	Leah Posluns Theatre / other locations
Mon 11	Dramatic Presentation	Canadian Friends of Hebrew University	7:45 pm	To be announced
Tues 12	CJC Regional Executive	Canadian Jewish Congress	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Wed 13	"How to Make a Painted Floor Cloth"	Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles	8:00 pm	National Council of Jewish Women
Thurs 14	"The Singing Shtetl" Puppet Show (Book Fair event)	Jewish Storytelling Arts	10:30 am & 1:30 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Sun 17	Annual Bazaar	Na'amat Pioneer Women	10:00 am	Toronto Congress Centre-650 Dixon Rd.
Sun 17 - Tues 19	Convention '96	Canadian Hadassah-WIZO	Noon	Sheraton Centre
Sun 17	Du Maurier Concert	Koffler Centre for the Arts	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Tues 19	"Timeless Treasures" Series	Jewish Women's Federation	9:15 am & 7:45 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sun 24	National Executive and National Council Meetings	Canadian Jewish Congress	9:30 am	Lipa Green Building
Sun 24	Major Gifts & Atarah Dinner	UJA Federation	6:00 pm	Four Seasons Hotel
Sun 24	"Religious Pluralism in Israel?" with Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg	New Israel Fund	7:30 pm	Beth Tzedec Synagogue
Thurs 28	Award of Merit Dinner	B'nai Brith Canada Foundation	6:00 pm	Sheraton Centre
Thurs 28	CJC Ontario Region	Canadian Jewish Congress	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
DECEMBER				
Sun 1	National Annual Meeting	Canadian Society of the Weizmann Institute of Science	9:00 am	To be announced
Sun 1	Volunteer Recognition Dinner	Emunah Women of Canada	6:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim
Sun 1	Open House for Toby & Henry Battle Development Centre	Reena Foundation	7:00 pm	New Centre - 927 Clark Ave. W.
Sun 8	New Gifts Telethon	UJA Federation	8:00 am	Lipa Green Building
Sun 8	Annual Negev Dinner	Jewish National Fund	5:00 pm	Sheraton Centre
Sun 8	"A Brave New World" Concert	Beth Tikvah	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah
Mon 9 - Thurs 12	New Gifts Week	UJA Federation	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Tues 10	Lou Lenkinski Memorial Lecture on Human Rights	Canadian Jewish Congress	6:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Fri 13 - Sun 15	March of the Living Shabbaton	UJA Federation	4:00 pm	Maple Lake Resort
Sun 15	Du Maurier Concert	Koffler Centre for the Arts	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Sun 29	Yachdav '96	UJA Federation	Noon	Israel

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto reserves the right to include/exclude calendar listings on the basis of tentative scheduling and confirmation with the Committee to Authorize Community Campaigns (CACC). Fundraising organizations are required to follow standing CACC authorization procedures. *Material compiled by UJA Federation of Greater Toronto*

UJA FEDERATION

From coast to coast

U.S. summit taught Arafat a lesson: Arens

By ADAM KORBIN
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — Yasser Arafat learned a diplomatic lesson in Washington recently when he faced Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the summit called by U.S. President Bill Clinton, according to former Israel ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens.

"It was good for Arafat to leave empty handed and that Netanyahu didn't make any concessions. Otherwise it would have sent a message to Palestinians that violence is their negotiating tool," Arens said.

Arens was at Vancouver's Temple Sholom to address a Combined Jewish Appeal fundraiser.

Arens said Arafat has to make the transition from a leader of a terrorist army to a leader of civilians. "Personally, I am not concerned that he was disappointed with the results of the summit, because he learned, perhaps once and for all, that violence doesn't pay off."

Arens, who served for nearly 10 years as foreign affairs and defence minister in the Likud governments of Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, told his audience of about 250 they should take into consideration two major factors in assessing Netanyahu's diplomatic approach. First, 90 percent of Israeli Arabs voted for Shimon Peres and about 56 percent of Israeli Jews voted for Netanyahu. In addition, the Oslo peace accord, he said, was passed by the Knesset by a very narrow margin.

"If you understand these two factors then you can see there is no reason for frustration by either the Palestinians or the Israelis," Arens said. "As a nation constantly seeking international support, Israel cannot renege on the Oslo accord. But don't expect the Netanyahu government to pursue diplomatic obligations it would have preferred not to have made in the first place," Arens said.

Moshe Arens

The speaker, who was involved in the negotiations when the Sinai was given back to Egypt, claimed that if Peres and the Labor party had won the last election, Peres would have moved quickly to trade the Golan Heights for a peace treaty with Syria.

"If such a deal had been made before the elections," he added, "Netanyahu would not have been able to back out of it."

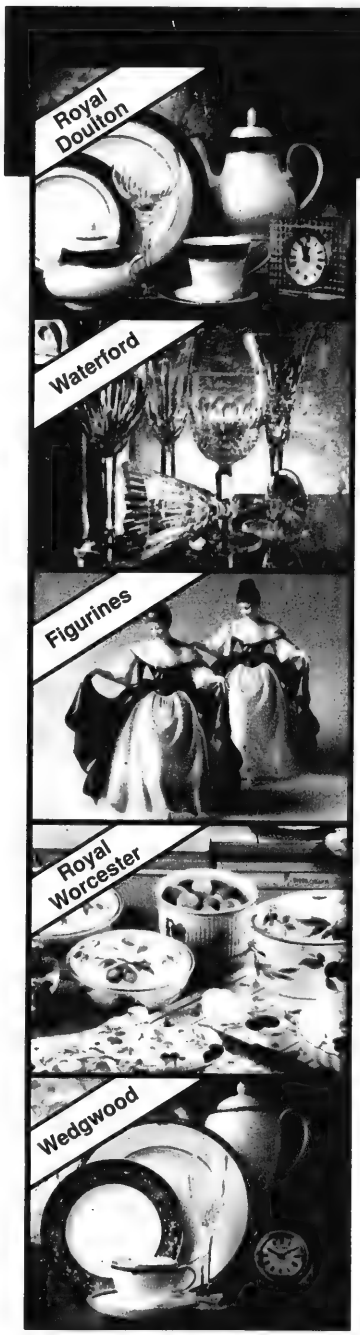
Arens said he was convinced Israelis knew that this was the direction Peres was headed, and by voting Likud, they voted against giving up the Golan.

But Arens praised the former Labor government for not pulling out of Hebron, since there was no guarantee that the Jewish population there would be protected by the Palestinian police force.

"The only thing that was certain was that the PLO would likely have destroyed the Hebron Jews in 24 hours. Can we expect the Palestinians will ever protect the Jews in Hebron?" he asked.

The answer lies with Yasser Arafat, who must find a way of policing his own population, while still protecting the Jews in Hebron.

"This is as important to the Palestinians as it is to Israelis," Arens said. "This will be Arafat's greatest challenge in his transition from terrorist to politician."



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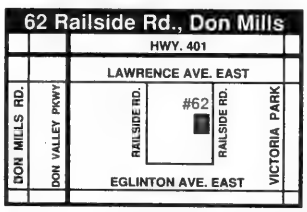

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From coast to coast

Netanyahu panned as PM by Middle East analyst

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Despite Benjamin Natanyahu's "brilliance" and "meteoric rise," he's been a dud so far as prime minister, a Middle East analyst suggested here recently.

"I really don't know what to make of him," Daniel Pipes, editor of the *Middle East Quarterly*, told a recent "insider briefing" of the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research (CIJR).

"He's an unknown figure in many ways, in some ways competent, in some ways incompetent."

In terms of the peace process, Pipes said one of the main problems has been Likud's failure to present an overall "strategic vision."

Netanyahu, for example, backed off his opposition to Oslo and to dealing with the PLO, but has, since his election, been "grudging," "half-hearted," and "inconsistent" about it.

Instead, advised Pipes, who is also director of the Philadelphia-based Middle East Forum, Netanyahu should accept Oslo — including withdrawing from Hebron — while demanding equal "full compliance" with the accord and "reciprocity" by the Palestinians.

Asked by CIJR director Frederick Krantz whether Netanyahu's delaying tactics might in itself be a deliberate "strategy," Pipes replied, "Delay is more effective on the military battlefield, not the diplomatic one."

Pipes predicted that the Likud government, assuming U.S. President Bill Clinton is returned to office next month, will face a "far more difficult situation" because the United States will really begin to pile on the pressure.

Clinton will be in his second term and there is an "emerging alignment" among U.S. liberals and conservatives to exert pressure on Israel, Pipes said.

Should no progress be made on the ground, he predicted, "there will be a fairly serious change in [U.S.-Israeli] relations."

Earlier, Pipes, who is also an expert on Syria and Islamic fundamentalism and the author of several books, spoke on Syria.

He told CIJR members that President Hafez al-Assad's willingness to talk peace with Israel had more to do with ensuring his own survival and opening Syria up to more positive contact with the West, than it did with actually attaining peace.

"It brought him prestige and attention," Pipes said, "as well as access to European armaments and foreign investment."

Achieving an actual peace with Israel, maintained Pipes, would threaten the minority Alawi group of which Assad is a member.

Assad "is too fearful of what it means to go ahead [with peace]," Pipes said. "He believes the only way for the Alawis to survive is to stay in power."

However, Pipes also noted that Syria, without a peace treaty, remains an "existential threat to Israel."

"The chances for peace are quite slender as long as the Alawis are in power," he said.

That evening, Pipes delivered a public lecture on Islamic fundamentalism at the the Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Synagogue.

Pipes' most recent book, just published, is titled, *The Hidden Hand: Middle East Fears of Conspiracy*.

Philanthropist leaves $3 million to Manitoba Jewish charity

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

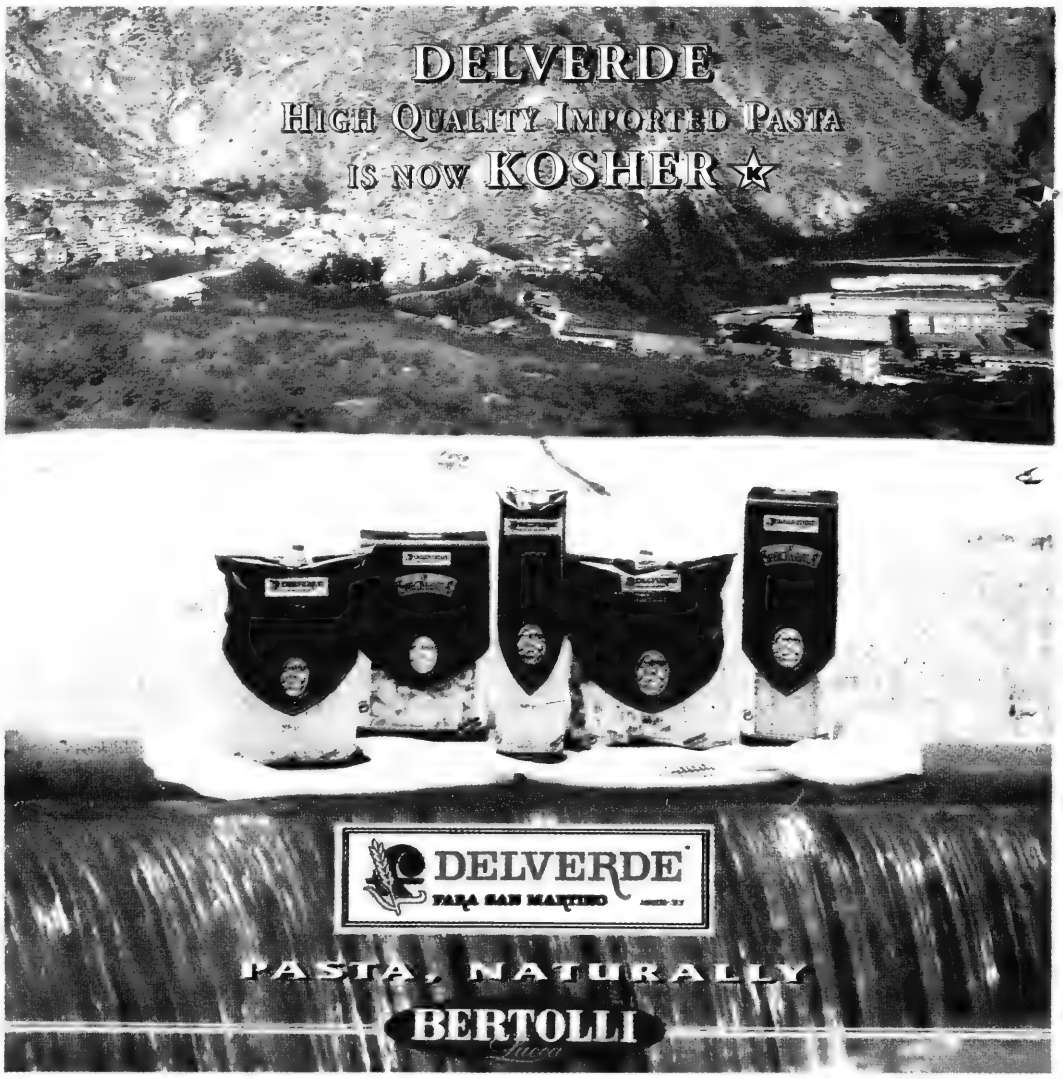
WINNIPEG – The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba has received the largest individual gift in its 32-year history.

The late Mark Danzker's $3-million bequest is the second largest ever given to a public foundation in Manitoba. With the already existing Mark and Dorothy Danzker Perpetual Trust Fund of $550,000, the Danzkers have left the foundation $3.55 million, pushing the organization's capital assets past the $20 million mark.

Mark Danzker died in February 1995, just before his 93rd birthday. He was successful both as a businessman and as a politician. For 10 years in the 1960s, he served on Winnipeg City Council retiring undefeated. He also served on numerous community boards. In the Jewish community, he was president of the YMHA Jewish Community Centre and the Mid-West region of the Canadian Zionist Organization. He was an early supporter of the Jewish Foundation, serving as president in 1972 and 1973.

An all-round athlete in his youth, he particularly loved baseball and was instrumental in bringing the first Winnipeg Goldeyes minor league baseball team to Winnipeg in 1954.

In gratitude to the Sharon Home, where he lived his last eight years (his wife, Dorothy died in 1988), he has designated 20 percent of the interest earned annually on his bequest to the foundation to be directed to the Winnipeg Jewish seniors home. Some funding will also go toward construction of a baseball diamond – to be named after Danzker – at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.



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From coast to coast

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Canada-Israel free trade debated in Ottawa

The following are excerpts from the debate in the House of Commons on Bill C-61, which will implement the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement. The bill will put most aspects of the deal into force as of Jan. 1, 1997. Excluded from the agreement will be egg and dairy products and poultry.

The Hon. Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade: This historic agreement is both significant and symbolic. Significant because it marks the first free trade agreement Canada has signed with a partner outside this hemisphere, and symbolic because it stands as further evidence of Canada's commitment to freer trade around the world.

For the first time we will have direct access to the Israeli market without having to funnel our trade through the United States or any other country.

While recent developments in the Middle East have been a source of concern to all of us, they should not blind us to the progress to date, nor discourage us from the long term goals. We should be encouraged by the pledges recently made by both Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Netanyahu to renounce violence and continue negotiations toward peace.

We must recognize that the peace process has already brought concrete benefits to Israel. A large number of capital projects in the areas of transportation, energy and communications are being considered by Israel and her neighbors, a development which would have been unthinkable just a few years ago.

This agreement is also important to Canada because of the nature of the Israeli economy. With a thriving private sector, an educated workforce, modern banking systems, an important stock exchange and an excellent communications system, Israel is one of the fastest growing economies in that region.

The new Israeli government's far-reaching economic program is aimed at lowering taxes, reducing government spending, cutting red tape and reforming restrictive labor practices.

Complementing Israel's economic reforms are its growing political relations. At the end of 1995, Israel had re-established relations with more than 40 countries that had broken ties in the 1960s and 1970s.

Trade between our two countries is modest, but it is growing. Two-way trade last year is up 37 percent to stand at $450 million. Our exports stood at $216 million in 1995, up 49 percent from the previous year. I am confident that with the implementation of this agreement those figures will grow dramatically.

Art Eggleton

Many Canadian companies, some well-known, such as Bombardier and Newbridge, and some not so well known, such as Claridge Israel, Global Upholstery, Reikh International, Signatel and Telespace, are on the ground, already exploring new partnerships and bidding on new infrastructure projects. These firms are spearheading an increase in exports and imports between our countries. They are boosting investment and encouraging innovation through research and development and joint ventures. All of their efforts and those of others will be made much easier by the agreement we are considering here today.

Deal also being offered to Palestinian Authority

This agreement, as I have pointed out, is being offered to the Palestinian Authority to cover the people in the Gaza and West Bank. The sooner we put that into effect for them, the sooner job opportunities will help flow through and improve their economy. That kind of economic development is needed to help bring about stability in the area.

Benoit Sauvageau (Bloc Quebecois, Terrebonne): When [Eggleton] said that free trade with Israel would solve practically every problem, would create lots of jobs, and so on, he forgot to mention three relatively important aspects. First of all, political or economic stability did not seem to be a prerequisite for Canada to sign a free trade agreement with Israel. So it is possible to trade and to talk about job creation with a country that does not enjoy complete political and economic stability.

We just have to watch television or read the international section in the newspapers to see that if it is so good for Canada to sign a free trade deal with Israel in terms of job creation, it does not necessarily mean that political stability makes Quebec's economy unhealthy. If we apply what the minister said to the situation in Quebec, that statement is true.

If the government is so happy to sign a free trade deal with Israel, a country that does $450 million a year in trade with Canada... I think we can assume that it would be all the more happy to sign such a deal with a country that does $250 billion in trade with Canada...

In addition, we call on the Liberal government to urge the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, to re-establish and maintain peace with the Palestinian people, so as to stabilize the situation in the Middle East.

We suggest to the Canadian government that it not exclude the Palestinians from trade resulting from this agreement. Discussions with Palestinian representatives are therefore necessary in order to look at the possibility of extending the agreement to this territory.

The Bloc Quebecois will vote in favor of Bill C-61, and enthusiastically welcomes the signing of a Canada-Israel free trade agreement. We hope that this agreement will increase trade with Israel, and subsequently with all the other countries in the world, as the minister said.

Although the Bloc Quebecois encourages increased trade between Canada and the State of Israel, because we believe that it can contribute to the peace processs and to stability in the region, we call on the Canadian government to ensure that the State of Israel respects fundamental Canadian democratic values and human rights.

Charlie Penson (Reform — Peace River, Alta.): Let me be clear that we are not opposed to this bill. We believe that each step made in the direction of trade liberalization is a good one. I am only surprised at the low-key, behind closed doors way in which the deal was struck. There should have been more opportunity for input from industry groups.

— *Compiled by Ron Csillag*

From coast to coast

Fry defends commitment to multiculturalism

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The federal government is committed to a multiculturalism policy "as a core component of Canadian identity," said Hedy Fry, federal secretary of state for multiculturalism, in a statement to *The CJN*.

Fry was responding to an article in the Toronto *Globe and Mail* which quoted a recent report as saying that the federal government "has done a rotten job of selling multiculturalism to Canadians."

The Brighton report referred to in the article is only one part of a comprehensive review of all multicultural programs, said Fry. An unauthorized draft copy of that document was obtained by a news organization, which reported only select portions, she said.

Program review is part of a government-wide effort of all federal departments to ensure that programs are effective, efficient and results orientated, she added.

"We need to ensure that our programs keep pace with changes and meet the needs of a diverse society. The review process is in its final stages and we will announce our decision in the near future."

Fry, a Vancouver MP, said that while the Brighton report has provided valuable information, "it does not give us the full picture, nor is it the only reference for review. We have undertaken public surveys, research and analysis, as well as community consultation," she added.

Fry said that while she does not agree with all the recommendations of the report, "it clearly supports the mandate of multicultural programs."

She said funding should be based on the ability to meet program objectives. "This kind of accountability makes common sense and does not preclude ethnocultural organizations from receiving funding.

"We value greatly the successful partnerships we have built with organizations, public institutions and the private sector and want to continue to work with them to build a society built on respect, participation and social justice — the mandate of the multicultural programs," she said.

In her statement to *The CJN*, Fry said she wishes the media and public would read the entire report before making a judgment, and is therefore releasing the full report, on request, "to ensure both the media and public have a clear understanding of its findings."

For a copy of *The Strategic Evaluation of Multicultural Programs*, contact the communications department of the ministry at 819-997-0797. It is also available on the Internet at [http//www.pch.gc.ca] under News Releases.

YAD BEYAD

Loretta Helman recently met with Roni Milo, mayor of Tel Aviv. Helman is the founder of Yad BeYad which teaches English to immigrants in Israel.

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Advertising Feature

BRANKSOME HALL WELCOMES MIDDLE DIVISION

The hub of Branksome Hall's Middle Division is Buccleuch House, a remodelled 100-year old building with a history of its own. Buccleuch has classrooms, locker rooms, a student lounge, a guidance office and a teacher work area where Middle Division faculty work together to plan and organize the Grade 7, 8 and 9 academic courses. Buccleuch, while an integral part of the bigger school, "is an intimate building that the girls can retreat to for comfort and security as they are making that transition to a new school and a more independent environment," says Mrs. Judy MacLellan, Co-ordinator of the Middle Division.

According to Mrs. MacLellan the strength of the Middle Division program is the curriculum continuum it provides from Grades 7 all the way through Graduating Year. "Programs in all departments from Grade 7 up are co-ordinated, which enables us to combine course content with the teaching of skills such as research technology, essay writing and study strategies," she says.

The Middle Division program focusses on the development of the whole child. There are two homeroom teachers for each group of 20-22 students which provides for two smaller advisor groups of 10 girls, ensuring individual attention to each student.

Middle Division academics prepare the students for a four year high school program. A great deal of thought, however, has also gone into planning the "hidden curriculum" which attends to the emotional, social and personal development of the individual. Grade 7 students begin a portfolio of "Skills for Success" to help them document their personal strengths and talents. They will add to these portfolios as they move through the Division.

In addition the Middle School program provides leadership opportunities to Grade 8 and 9 students in the areas of clans, extra-curricular activities, student life and student council. Students do not have to wait until they are seniors to have a voice in the school.

The Middle Division's first year was a great success as the school engaged, challenged and motivated each student. In fact, last year many of these students celebrated outstanding achievements participating in the Junior High Provincial Tournament for Debating, placing second in the Ontario Provincial Mathematics Olympics and winning first place in the vocal class at the Kiwanis Music Festival.

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From coast to coast

CJC-P calls for integrated hate crime response

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The British Columbia Jewish community would like to see a province-wide, integrated hate crime response network that would include a liaison to the Crown, a human rights council and hate-crime fighting organizations, said Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region (CJC-P), at a recent symposium.

Sponsors of the symposium held at the Plaza 500 Hotel here included the B.C. Human Rights Coalition, Canadian Anti-Racism Education and Research Society, CJC-P, Vancouver Association of Chinese Canadians. It was supported by the community liaison branch of the Ministry Responsible for Multiculturalsm and Immigration of British Columbia and was attended by B.C. Attorney General Ujaal Dosanjh, who spoke briefly.

Elterman said the province needs a central repository to collect and analyse hate crime so as to measure and monitor the nature and extent of the problem. Such data would be available to law enforcement and government agencies.

Elterman told the attorney general he should develop guidelines for compiling data and require all law enforcement agencies to report such offences on a regular basis.

"The anti-hate crime team to be formed by the government would file an annual report to the legislature," he said.

"The Jewish community has been the victim of hatred for so many hundreds of years," said Elterman, "that while we still react with anger and fear, hate doesn't surprise us."

He said the community expects Congress to act "and we generally try to deal with each situation with the resources we have."

Like other target groups, "we struggle with the dilemma of giving hate groups a platform by drawing attention to them, or saying 'to hell with it, go after them.' We tend to be less and less concerned about the former consideration."

The Congress response to hate groups can broadly be divided into prevention activities and reaction activities, said Elterman. "A lot of reaction activities are not made public because they involve liaison and working with law enforcement and government."

Zena Simces Katz, vice-chair of CJC-P and community relations chair, called for coordinated response to hatemongers.

"We need to work together," she said. "The fact that a number of diverse groups have come together today illustrates that we are able to work together. In order to work together effectively, we need a structure and process. The province's hate crime team provides an opportunity to bring government and community together, including police, Crown victim services, human rights groups and a wide range of diverse community groups."

Simces Katz called for a provincial policy that would outline the role and responsibilities of each key player in responding to hate crimes. The policy must have teeth in it — there must be mechanisms in place to ensure policy is implemented, she said.

All groups affected by hate need to let go of their own biases and work together to respond to hate crime and develop a provincial policy, she said. "We need to work independently but also collectively on common issues."

BGU RECEPTION

A reception was recently held in Toronto when Ben Gurion University's dean of the faculty of health, Prof. Shraga Segal (centre), visited. With Shraga is Paul Jacobs (left), president, Toronto chapter; and Dr. Bernard Goldman.

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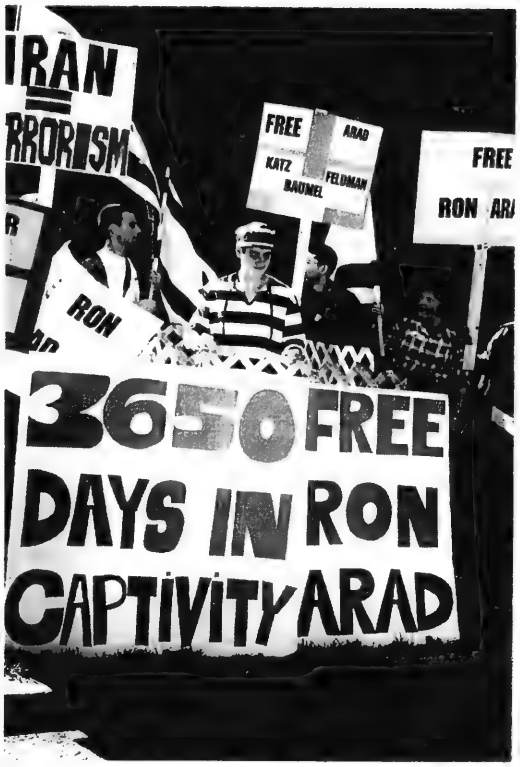
From coast to coast



OTTAWA PROTEST

Betar-Tagar students, above, protest in Ottawa on the recent 10th anniversary of the disappearance of Israeli navigator Ron Arad. About 20 Toronto students marched from Parliament Hill to the Iranian embassy.

Dry Bones
REMEMBER THE BAD OLD DAYS? WHEN WE IRANIANS AND IRAQIS HAD A LONG AND BLOODY WAR?
YUP.
THAT WAS BEFORE WE DISCOVERED THAT THE KURDS WERE READY TO DO THE FIGHTING AND DYING FOR US.
YUP.
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We are pleased to announce that
SMALL GROUP TOURS OF THE SCHOOL
are conducted weekly,
at **55 Yeomans Road, North York**
Tuesdays, 9:30-11 a.m.

There are still openings for tours on November 26th and in December.
Please call the school office for appointment **(416) 635-1876.**

In **1997/98** the school will offer **Grades JK-4.** Because of heavy demand for spots in **JK** and **SK** we recommend early registration for these grades.

THE CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE OF TORONTO

presents

as part of the **16th Annual Holocaust Week,**
November 7-17,
coordinated by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation

REMEMBER זכור

DR. SUSAN E. NOWAK, ssj,
Professor at Nazareth College, Rochester, New York

"THE GARMENT TWICE TORN: WOMEN IN THE HOLOCAUST"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
7:30 PM
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
117 Bloor Street East, Toronto
(416) 929-0811

Dr. Nowak is a recent inductee into the Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Society. She sits on the Task Force of Catholic and Jewish Educators.

OTHER PROGRAMS PRESENTED DURING THIS COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENT BY CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE OF TORONTO:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 — **7:00 PM**
Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church (416) 694-0382
Film *"Who Is Peter Iswolsky?"* Youth program. Discussion follows.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — **9:30 AM**
Bloor Street United Church (416) 924-1325
Film *"Weapons of the Spirit."* Discussion following.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — **10:00 AM**
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Erindale (905) 828-2095
Address *"Faith in the Light of the Holocaust"* by Rabbi Lawrence Englander, of Solel Congregation, Mississauga.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — **10:30 AM**
Richmond Hill United Church (905) 884-1301
Address *"Memory, the Holocaust and Neo-Nazism Today."*
Workshop 12:15 - 2:30pm *"Neo-Nazism Roots and Present Challenges."* Steven Shulman, Canadian Jewish Congress.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — **10:30 AM**
Asbury and West United Church (416) 783-6503
Address *"Faith - Today After the Holocaust"*
Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, Founding Rabbi, Temple Sinai.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — **7:30 PM**
St. James-Bond United Church (416) 783-6503
Film *"Who Is Peter Iswolsky?"* Youth program. Discussion follows.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 — **7:30 PM**
St. John Chrysostom Catholic Church (Newmarket)
Film *"Courage to Care."* Discussion follows. (1-905) 898-4137

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 — **7:30 PM**
St. Gabriel Roman Catholic Church (416) 221-8866
Film *"Hearts of Hate"* followed by discussion with Bernie Farber, Canadian Jewish Congress.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 — **7:30 PM**
St. Leonard Anglican Church (416) 485-7278
Film *"Who Is Peter Iswolsky."* Discussion follows.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 — **7:30 PM**
Sts. Martha & Mary Roman Catholic Church, Mississauga
Film *"Courage to Care"*. Discussion follows. (905) 625-5670

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 — **7:30 PM**
Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church (416) 923-8471
Film *"Crimes of Hate."* Discussion follows.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 — **7:30 PM**
Forest Hill United Church (416) 783-0879
Film *"Courage to Care."* Discussion follows.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 — **8:00 PM**
Leaside United Church (416) 429-4658
Film *"Courage to Care."* Discussion follows.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 — **10:30 AM**
Victoria Village United Church (416) 755-9581
Address *"Responsible for our Talents: Remembering in the Light of the Holocaust"* Beth Porter of Christian-Jewish Dialogue.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 — **11:00 AM**
Agricola Finnish Lutheran Church (416) 489-7600
"Remembering the Holocaust." Youth and adult service.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 — **7:30 PM**
St. Ansgar Lutheran Church (416) 783-3570
"Faith After the Holocaust" Rabbi Mark Dratch, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 — **7:30 PM**
Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church (416) 421-5225
Film *"Who Is Peter Iswolsky?"* Discussion follows.

ADDED PROGRAM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 — **10:30 AM**
West Ellesmere United Church (416) 449-4802
Address *"Faith After the Holocaust"*
Rabbi Dov Marmur, Senior Rabbi, Holy Blossom Temple.

For more information, call (416) 691-4560 or (416) 635-2883 ext. 153/301

From coast to coast

Beth Tikvah Synagogue
3080 Bayview Avenue, Willowdale

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the First World Zionist Congress

One hundred years ago, what was Jewish life like? In a three part series we will look at our literature, music and art of the late 19th - early 20th century.

Session 1 - Tuesday, Nov. 5th at 8:00 p.m.
Music - "From Shtetl to Kibbutz"
Lecturer - Naomi Bell

Session 2 - Tuesday, Nov. 26th at 8:00 p.m.
Literature - **Old Newland** *by* Theodore Herzl
Lecturer - Ruby Newman

Session 3 - Tuesday, Dec. 10th at 8:00 p.m.
Art - "Glimpses of Some Israeli Artists"
Lecturer - Sharon Goelman

Members - free Non Members - $5.00
For further information, please call the synagogue, 221-3433

BBYO TALKS TO PARENTS

BBYO recently held its second annual parent information evening. This program was held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre and was facilitated by the Toronto Council Youth Executive. Together the youth educated their parents on the traditions of BBYO including singing the sisterhood and brotherhood songs. The evening was well attended with over 60 parents who enjoyed coffee and dessert with their teens and left with a new appreciation of the BBYO program.

BOOK LAUNCH

SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE
Adath Israel Congregation

Adath Israel Congregation
and the
Canadian Friends of the
Shalom Hartman Institute

are pleased to invite you to attend
the Book Launch of

"A Small Glimmer of Light"
by Rabbi Steven Saltzman, D.H.L.

- Senior Rabbi, Adath Israel Congregation
- Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem

Rabbi Saltzman will present selections from his book.

Sunday, November 10, 1996
8:00 p.m.

Adath Israel Congregation
37 Southbourne Avenue, North York
1 block north of Wilson Avenue, east off Bathurst Street

Reception following • No charge • Community invited

For information call the synagogue office at (416) 635-5340.

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Shaarei Shomayim Congregation & Netivot HaTorah Day School present
An unforgettable evening of film and Spanish guitar.

GALA FILM SCREENING – A riveting account of modern day descendants of the Jews who were forcibly converted during the Spanish Inquisition, the film features performances by **Placido Domingo, Zubin Mehta and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.**

FEATURING
– Emmy award-winning co-director, **Simcha Jacobovici** (*Deadly Currents & The Plague Monkeys*)
– World renowned guitarist **Aaron Skitri** & **Erna Paris**, author of *The End of Days*

FOR ADVANCE TICKETS CALL
Shaarei Shomayim - (416) 789-3213 • Netivot HaTorah - (905) 771-1234
Advance Tickets – $25 • Tickets at the Door – $35
Patrons – $75 (includes pre-screening reception & tax receipt)

Hamilton businessman to be honored by Bonds-BB

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Local businessman Sheldon Frank has been named honoree of this year's annual combined Hamilton State of Israel Bonds-B'nai Brith, Hamilton breakfast on Nov. 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Temple Anshe Sholom.

Frank was born and educated in Hamilton and at the University of Akron, Ohio. He joined the family business and is now president of A.J. Frank & Son Inc. Frank Pipe Company and a partner in Gibraltar Processing.

He is a former president of Hamilton Jewish National Fund (JNF), a member of the JNF board of directors, and has served as JNF Negev Dinner foundation chair.

Frank and his wife Wendy have two sons, Abby, now a member of the family business, and Joel, a student at Colorado Mountain College.

Guest speaker at the breakfast will be John Loftus, author of *The Secret War Against the Jews*, *The Belarus Secret* and co-author of *Unholy Trinity*, a history of how the Vatican helped Nazi smuggling networks to penetrate western intelligence. Loftus is a former prosecutor with the U.S. Justice Department's Nazi War Crimes Unit, from which he resigned in protest when he discovered that the very Nazi war criminals he had been assigned to prosecute were working for NATO intelligence.

Chair of Hamilton State of Israel Bonds is Allen Rams; Larry Szpirglas will serve as breakfast chair.

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with regular-price food purchase of $15 or more (not including beverages, liquor or specials) before taxes. Cannot be combined with other offers. Limit two half price dishes per table. Dining room only.
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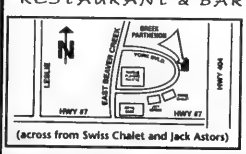

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Dr. Abraham Shore Academy
She'arim Hebrew Day School
extend heartfelt condolences to
the family of
ILSA SHORE ז"ל
wife of the late Dr. Abraham Shore.
She was an active member of our Executive and a devoted supporter of our school.
May her memory be for a blessing.

The Partners and Staff of
NEW STYLE CONSTRUCTION
mourn the passing
of
ALA FINKELSTEIN ז"ל
May her family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

ברוכה הבאה
לבית חנוך שלם
United Synagogue Day School
extends a warm welcome to our
Director of Education
LUCY COHEN
חצלחה רבה
May U.S.D.S. continue to pursue the highest standards of academic excellence under your capable leadership for many years to come.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.**

For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 422-2331.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***CO-ED VOLLEYBALL. METRO TORONTO SINGLES** presents our **3rd Annual Co-ed Volleyball** season, from November-March. Limited space. $65.00. Call 222-7111.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TIMEOUT! presents its second sensational season! Great way to have fun, meet new people and keep fit. Space filling up fast! Don't miss out! Registration deadline Nov. 3/96.
CALL NOW!
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Jewish Compatible Dating Network. All introductions based on compatibility testing. Call for a **no-obligation** consultation & compatibility test. 416-784-3057.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1170** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** weeks. 398-7068.

JRC PRESENTS: *"Herbs & Spirituality"* with Meir Abehsera, a leading expert in the field of Macrobiotics and Health. Thursday, November 7th, 8:00 pm at the JRC, 18 Rockford Rd., Cover in advance $5., $7. at the Door. Refreshments Served. For info. call 416-222-7105, ext. 31.

NEW IMAGE 50+ SINGLES is having a **Mix & Mingle** on Sun. Nov. 3rd, at Earl Bales Community Centre, 7:30pm. Tapes by Murray Jacobs. Refreshments. Paid-up Members $2., Non-members $4. **Membership now due!**

NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT
Contemporary Singles Network & Sensational Singles International
Invites Single Professionals To Our
SINGLES DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA II
Saturday, November 9th
8pm-2am
HOWARD JOHNSON PLAZA HOTEL
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Next Event:
SINGLES DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA III
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שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן

שמעון פרס, האמילטון אונטריו:

בית החולים הקתולי של האמילטון הזמין את שמעון פרס להיות אורח הכבוד בארוחת הערב השנתית לגיוס כספי מחקר. לכאורה מוזר- אם הוא כבר בא הנה, מדוע לא לקהל יהודי? מצד שני- הוא הובא הנה כי המזמינים רואים בו אישיות בינלאומית ממדרגה ראשונה וחתן פרס נובל לשלום. הגעתי לערב ברגשות מעורבים, ובעיקר שאלתי את עצמי איך הוא יצליח לעניין קהל לא יהודי בבעיות המזרח התיכון, איך יצא מענין התבוסה שלו בבחירות, ואיך יתמודד עם השלטון הנוכחי שנכשל כל כך בגדול בנושא השלום. מה אגיד לכם - האיש פשוט מדהים! במשך שעה וחצי דיבר בקולו העמוק והשקט באנגלית בלי שהיה לפניו דף נייר כלשהו! הוא חולץ את הקהל בין צחוק לדמע, כשהוא סוקר בפניהם את סכנות הטרור לעולם כולו. כשנשאל איך הוא מסתדר עם מדיניות השלום של נתניהו, ענה פרס: "כמו שאתם מבינים, לא נתתי לו את קולי בקלפי, וממה שראיתי עד כה לא מצאתי סיבה לשנות את דעתי". על ההשוואה בין קנדה לישראל הוא אמר: "לכם יש שלושת אלפים אגמים ולנו יש רק שניים,ואחד מהם מת (The Dead Sea)"

פרס הקדיש זמן בהרצאה לכשלון ההסטוריונים לנבא את ההסטוריה, תוך שהוא משתמש בדוגמא של נפילת הגוש הסובייטי: " הדבר הראשון שרוסיה ביקשה לקנות מישראל הוא פרות. הם גילו שלמרות שיש לנו ולהם פרות מאותו סוג, הישראליות מניבות פי שתיים יותר חלב מהרוסיות, וזה מראה שהשיטה קובעת יותר מן הפרות". סך הכל היה ערב מרגש. אין ספק שבעיני העולם החופשי פרס נחשב לאחד מגדולי הדור ומקומו בספרי ההסטוריה מובטח על השיגיו בהבאת השלום. לי, כישראלי, היה חשוב שיראו דרכו את ישראל הנבונה, השקולה, ולא רק החמומה, הגזענית וההיסטרית שניבטת לאחרונה מהמסך הקטן ומשולחן הממשלה.

האלכימאי - ספר מומלץ:

בת שבע, חברתי לחיים, קראה ספר חדש התלהבה ממנו, והסכימה לכתוב:

גילוי ומימוש עצמי אין פירושם האדרת הדימוי החברתי של האדם או קבלת חיזוקים מאחרים, אלא דווקא השלת הקליפות שחוסמות את הדרך למימוש האני האמיתי (True Self) . אבות אבותינו הקדמונים בחנו את החיים על פי הגישה שפנימיות האדם מדריכה אותו ונשקפת בחיצוניותו. בימינו נוקקנו לבטוי "אין תוכו כברו" שפירושו הפשוט הוא שחיצוניות האדם אינה משקפת את פנימיותו... להזהירנו מכך שבני-האדם מנותקים מעצמם. "האלכימאי", ספרו של הסופר הברזילאי (1988) פאולו קואלו Paulo Coelho , שתורגם לאחרונה לעברית על ידי רבקה ונדעון ברוך ואטוניו קוסטה, בהוצאה "כתר", מזמין את הקורא/ת להשתתף במסעו של רועה כבשים (הנער סנטיאגו) מאנדלוסיה שמחליט לעזוב את עדרו ומולדתו ולחפש את פשר חלומו. חלום החוזר על עצמו מבטיח לו מציאת אוצר אך נקטע ללא עקבות דרך לפענוחו. מפגשים באותות וכוחות אלוהיים, מנחים את הנער בדרכו, בהיותם טמונים בטבע ובמסתורין של העולם. אלה מגלים לו שרק אם יבין את שפת נשמת העולם ויכוס לתוכה, בהאזינו לקול הפנימי האמיתי, ימצא את דרכו. הקוראת המעוניין/ת ימצא אולי מפתח אישי לפענוח (כמו שמתאפשר למשל בספרו של אקזופרי "הנסיך הקטן", בספרו של קרלוס קסטנדה "האש שבפנים" או בספורי ר' נחמן מברסלב), והבנה של המסע הפרטי והציבורי בעולם. ספר מומלץ שנכתב בשפה פשוטה לאנשים פשוטים היודעים שהחיים הם מלאכת אריגה קדושה, שתפקיד האדם בה הוא לגלותה ולחיות אותה נכונה. ומה לדוגמא גילה הרועה?.. הינה לסיום, קטע: " כבר מזמן שם לב שברגע שהוא מתעורר, רוב העדר מתחיל גם הוא להתנועע. כאילו איזה כוח מסתורי קושר את נפשו אל נפש הכבשים האלה....(ש)חי בחברתן והובל אותן ברחבי הארץ בחיפוש אחר מזון ומים. הן כל כך רגילות אלי, עד שהן יודעות את לוח הזמנים שלי, מלמל. ואחרי שחשב על זה לרגע, עלה על דעתו שאולי זה להיפך: זה הוא שהתרגל ללוח הזמנים שלהן". (שם-עמוד 9).

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Syrian manoeuvres a concern to defence planners

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Defence Ministry is reportedly putting heavy pressure on the government not only to reverse the Finance Ministry's proposal to cut NIS 850 million from the defence budget, but to increase it by hundreds of millions of shekels, to deal with the growing threat of confrontation with Syria.

The army is closely watching the beefed-up Syrian army's winter manoeuvres on the Golan Heights. Given the chemical warfare capabilities and the sophisticated ground-to-ground missiles that have been added to the Syrian arsenal since 1973, war could be far more costly than in the past.

For nearly two months, two regiments of Syrian commandos trained in airborne assault have been positioned on the northern slopes of the Hermon. Behind them is a crack armored division transferred from Beirut.

These are in addition to the three regular Syrian divisions positioned permanently opposite the Golan Heights. And the IDF watches.

"Massing the concentration means [Syrian President Hafez] al-Assad can play games with you," said one senior commander. "We can watch for three weeks and then let our guard down for two hours and then what have we achieved?"

Assad is getting the IDF used to the new situation, knowing it cannot afford to confront the Syrians man for man. This way, he maintains the initiative.

"The Syrians have carried out a chain of events which allow them to cut the time they need to go into action," said Labor MK and former chief of general staff Ehud Barak last Sunday. "We are now at one of the most sensitive and tense times in the past 15 years."

Barak told Channel 1 that the government must take all steps to prevent a deterioration of the situation.

The fear is that if Assad, whose goal is to get the Golan Heights back, feels peace talks are deadlocked, he will opt for a limited military strike which could be used as leverage for this aim.

"If we stay on alert for a number of months against the Syrian army we will cause great damage to the state," said Barak. "If, God forbid, we get to the point of an attempt by the Syrians to snatch sections of the Golan or the Hermon and we repel it immediately, we will cause great damage to Israel's security whether it succeeds or fails."

Barak called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to allow the IDF to carry out any deployment it needs at any cost to keep forces on high alert. "Anything else will simply be irresponsible," he said.

Israel has a considerable technological advantage over Syria. Assad knows his T-72 tanks are no match for the Merkava, but his are 20 times cheaper. He can also keep his troops in position to threaten the Golan for a long time and whittle away at Israel's increasingly expensive deterrence.

The problem is that the Defence Ministry's books, unlike those of other ministries, are not open to the public, and we must accept as fact that what the military claims it needs, it really needs.

The IDF spokesperson declined requests to speak with the general staff's financial adviser.

Attack in Golan predicted

By ELDAD BECK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

BEIRUT – A senior Jordanian diplomat says Syria is preparing for a surprise military attack on Israel in the coming weeks.

According to the diplomat, the Syrians plan to attack before a new U.S. president is sworn in. The Syrians believe that, during the post-election period, the new U.S. administration will not be ready to dispatch forces to the Middle East.

The diplomat revealed that high-level contact between Syrian and Jordanian officers took place recently in order to examine the military situation in the region.

The Syrians have asked the Jordanians to conduct military manoeuvres next to their border with Israel, to force the IDF to move troops from the Golan Heights.

According to the diplomat, the Syrians believe their army will be able to establish a bridgehead on the Golan and that the IDF currently is in a state of weakness. The goal of the Syrian military operation would be to force Israel to accept a total withdrawal from the Golan Heights, he said.

The Syrians believe that in the shadow of a new military conflict in the Middle East, the international community would mobilize to impose an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan.

A French official in Chirac's entourage, which met with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad for 14 hours, said that Chirac got the impression from his talks with Assad that Syria wants peace.

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Installation of newly-elected President

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israelis divided one year after assassination

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

'Every day that passes we hurt more and more'

TEL AVIV – "The man who fired the shots... murdered Yitzhak Rabin. But he wounded all of us," said Israeli writer Amos Oz last week. "And every day that passes we hurt more and more."

With those words, Oz summed up what so many Israelis feel one year after the assassination of their prime minister: they are aching badly. It is not only individuals who have failed to come to terms with the loss. It is an entire country. On the first memorial of Rabin's murder, Israel is marred by a gaping wound that shows few signs of healing.

Nowhere is this more apparent than at the place where the wound was inflicted – Rabin Square. Last Wednesday night, Israelis began gravitating to the spot where the prime minister was killed one year ago following a giant peace rally. Labor party youth, wielding torches, marched quietly, retracing Rabin's final route from the plaza where he was shot in the back to Ichilov Hospital where he died. Then many of them returned to the scene of the crime and stood silently – until they saw a very different group of mourners. Men in knitted kippot and women wearing head-scarves had set up a small booth where they were distributing stickers and selling T-shirts calling for Unity of Israel (*Achdut Yisrael*).

"What are you doing here? Get out of here!" yelled a teenage girl from the Labor delegation.

"We're here to preach unity," responded a religious woman at the booth.

"Go somewhere else and preach," shouted another youngster from the Labor group. "This is our place. He was our leader."

Soon a dozen people were exchanging charges and counter-charges until all that could be heard was a cacophony of angry voices.

It was a scene that was repeated at different venues all over Israel that night and the next. On TV programs, at memorial ceremonies and in people's homes the same questions were asked: Who has the right to mourn Rabin? Who is to blame for his death? And what is his legacy?

The answers showed Israelis as sharply divided as ever along the familiar fault lines of left versus right, secular versus religious.

Voices from the mainstream religious, right wing called for a truce, for harmony, unity, reconciliation. "All we want is for Rabin's sacrifice to bring us together," said Sylvia, the woman distributing the "unity" stickers at Rabin Square.

And all over, the left rejected the plea, labelling it hollow and insincere.

"Today they are carrying a banner of unity and tolerance," scoffed one of the Labor teenagers at the square. "But where were they just over a year ago when the religious and right wing were calling Rabin a traitor and portraying him in an SS uniform? It's just a masquerade – this call for unity."

"Crocodile tears!" charged Aviva, a Tel Aviv woman, as she watched Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu lay a wreath upon Rabin's grave at last week's televised memorial ceremony. "He's the one who most benefited from the murder."

Like many on the left, Aviva was mourning not only the loss of a leader, but the loss of what she sees as his legacy.

"With the murder of Rabin, they killed our dream of peace," she lamented. "It will be generations until we see another leader who can turn that dream into a reality."

The religious right could not share Aviva's sorrow. "I mourn the murder of a Jew by a Jew. I mourn the loss of the man who liberated Jerusalem in 1967," said Ya'acov, an observant Jerusalemite. "But I shed no tears over the blow to Rabin's peace plans. For me, the Oslo accord was a nightmare."

Then there were those who did not mourn at all. In the haredi neighborhood of Bnai Brak, students marked the death of the matriarch Rachel, but not the murder of Rabin. "Why mourn Rabin? There are people murdered all the time. We can't mourn every one of them – only the ones that the Torah tells us to mourn," said a Bnai Brak woman to a television reporter.

And at the state religious school in Kiryat Gat – where a Yigal Amir fan club was uncovered last month – several students were incensed that Rabin's death was being commemorated at all.

"Many religious people regard Rabin's death as a miracle," said Bar-Ilan University sociologist Prof. Nissan Rubin. "In the same way that Jews were always saved from trouble at the last moment, here once again a miracle occurred. Rabin was killed and we were saved."

Against this bleak background, there were a few sparks of hope. At the base of Mount Herzl, religious Jews erected a tent in Rabin's memory to bring Jews together for study and soul-searching.

"It is a beautiful idea," said Leah Rabin, who visited the tent following the memorial ceremony for her husband at Mount Herzl.

A teenage girl from the Bnai Akiva youth movement told of her difficult dialogue with secular students. "In the past year, I've been spit at and called a murderer when I have walked through secular neighborhoods," she said in a television interview. "But things have changed. Last year the hatred was so deep that we didn't even try to talk to one another. Now at least we are talking. It's a small step. But it's something."

But these stories were the exceptions.

We will not forgive and we will not forget, has become the rallying cry of the left.

That was the mood at Rabin Square when Sylvia, a lone religious woman, squeezed her way into a secular crowd gathered around a candlelit memorial to Rabin. There, above the flames, she held up a sign calling for unity and tolerance. People glared at her.

"It irks me that she's here," muttered one woman.

"Who is she flashing that sign at? She's the one who needs to learn tolerance," snapped another.

Sylvia ignored the comments and joined the mourners in quiet song – until they began to chant *Shir HaShalom* – the Song of Peace, the song Rabin sang moments before he was shot, which later became the election anthem of the left-wing Meretz party.

More and more voices joined in, but Sylvia's fell silent. She stood frozen, waiting for the song to be over. And then she quickly walked away, taking her unity banner with her.

CJN CHANUKAH POETRY CONTEST

The CJN announces its second annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under. 2. Thirteen to 18 years old.
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible. We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to: CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18, 1996.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 22, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 5, 1996. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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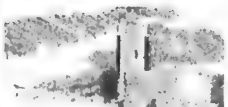

The Week in Israel

Oct. 21

• Sari Nusseibeh, president of Al-Quds University, warned that war will break out between Israel and its neighbors if no agreement is reached on Hebron and the peace process collapses.

• Israel's Minister of Public Security, Avigdor Kahalani, arrived in Washington for a four-day visit.

Oct. 22

• The High Court of Justice ruled that the Ministry of Religious Affairs must re-evaluate its funding criteria to end discrimination against female yeshivah students.

Oct. 23

• President Ezer Weizman called upon Yasser Arafat not to delay the negotiations on an Israeli troop redeployment in Hebron. Talks on security aspects moved into high gear when IDF chief of staff Amnon Shahak and senior PA official Abu Mazen personally joined the negotiations.

• After receiving warnings about the possibility of suicide attacks in Israel, security forces stopped the movement of Palestinian trucks from Gaza into Israel.

Oct. 24

• A graveside ceremony on Mt. Herzl was the focal point of a day of memorial services for Yitzhak Rabin. The ceremony on Mt. Herzl was attended by the family, President Ezer Weizman, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the diplomatic corps, other dignitaries, and Rabin's close aides and friends.

• The six-month deadline for the Palestine National Council (PNC) to establish a legal panel to draft a new Palestinian covenant passed without the creation of the panel.

Oct. 25

• Two Israeli soldiers were killed and four were wounded at a roadside bombing in southern Lebanon. Hezbollah was responsible.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

Approximately 5,000 people were expected in Jerusalem to attend the Conference of the International Christian Embassy.

Relations with Egypt turn downright frosty

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israel's relationship with Egypt has often been described as a "cold peace." But of late, it has turned downright frosty.

Mideast Analysis

Israel's mercurial relations with Egypt, sorely tested by crises ranging from Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon to the Palestinian uprising in 1987, have degenerated sharply in the past year.

Despite a recent fence-mending trip to Egypt by President Ezer Weizman, during which he conveyed assurances that Israel would hew to commitments to the Palestinians, the tension shows no signs of flagging. Unless there are fundamental breakthroughs in Israel's peace negotiations with the Palestinians and with Syria, the cause of some of the problems, the situation is likely to fester.

Israel's ties with Egypt — the first Arab country to officially recognize the Jewish state — are conditioned by the Arab-Israeli dispute and by Egyptian domestic politics.

Although Egypt regards itself as a bridge between Israel and the Arab world, Egypt has never failed to criticize Israel when it has been in conflict with an Arab country or at odds with the Palestinians. Egypt, too, has never forgiven Israel for having failed to implement the Palestinian autonomy provisions of the 1979 peace treaty.

Egypt's attitude is also governed by the fact that substantial segments of its population, spearheaded by its intellectual and Islamist classes, remain hostile to Israel and Zionism.

As a result of these factors, as well as Egypt's regional rivalry with Israel (Egypt resents Israel's military ties with Turkey), Egypt has kept Israel at arm's length all these years. It has resisted cultural links with Israel, curbed Egyptian tourism in Israel, restricted trade and refused to muzzle the largely anti-Israel, state-controlled press.

Egypt's view of Israel transcends Israeli partisan politics. In its final year in power, Israel's Labor party government antagonized Egypt on two counts.

• Israel declined to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Instead, Israel proposed a nuclear-free zone in the Mideast, following a comprehensive peace settlement which included Iran, Iraq and Libya.

• Israel declined to investigate allegations that Israeli soldiers had murdered Egyptian prisoners of war during the 1956 and 1967 wars. Egyptian newspapers subsequently claimed that Israel's ambassador in Cairo, David Sultan, now its envoy to Canada, had taken part in the alleged killings

These incidents, together with Israel's perception that Egypt's foreign minister, Amr Moussa, is unfriendly to Israel, prompted Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, to speak of "an ill wind blowing" from Cairo.

Cognizant of these unfavorable developments, Benjamin Netanyahu, the new Israeli premier, made it his business to improve relations with Egypt. Shortly after the May 29 general election, Netanyahu telephoned Mubarak, and Mubarak invited him to visit Cairo. (Such an invitation was never issued to Yitzhak Shamir, Netanyahu's Likud predecessor).

From the outset, Egypt had clear expectations of Israel. It expected Netanyahu to honor agreements, embrace the land-for-peace formula, withdraw from all the territories and accept a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

At their meeting in Cairo on July 19, Netanyahu convinced Mubarak that he was sincere in his desire for peace. According to Israeli reports, Netanyahu promised Mubarak that he would not build new settlements, that he would deploy from Hebron and that he would move on to final status talks with the Palestinians.

Egypt adopted a wait-and-see attitude to Netanyahu, though its popular press mercilessly lambasted him (one daily began to refer to Netanyahu as "Natan Yahu," which means "This is the rotten one" in Arabic.)

By August, with the peace process at a virtual standstill and with Israel having decided to expand its settlements, Mubarak concluded that Netanyahu had deceived him. In reponse, he angrily hinted that the regional economic conference in Cairo, planned for November, might be cancelled.

Mubarak withdrew this threat. But Egypt has since escalated its rhetoric, despite Foreign Minister David Levy's visit to Cairo.

The deputy foreign minister compared Israeli cabinet ministers to dinosaurs. The defence minister suggested that massive military exercises were designed to impress Israel. The foreign minister, accusing Netanyahu of trying to impose an unbalanced peace on the region, spelled out Egypt's usual demands on Israel.

Mubarak's boycott of the Washington summit, called to address the unprecedented violence in the territories last month, was merely the latest manifestation of the growing acrimony between Egypt and Israel.

Levy has asked Mubarak to call a halt to Egypt's rhetorical salvos. But Mubarak does not appear to be listening.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Hebron settlers disappointed after meeting PM

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – The Jewish settlers of Hebron are not getting the answers they seek.

In meetings with top-level Israeli officials last week, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, representatives from Hebron's Jewish community warned that Israel is about to make a "fatal mistake" by redeploying Israeli troops in Hebron.

The meetings came as Israeli and Palestinian negotiators intensified their discussions to reach a final agreement on the redeployment.

It also came amid reports that Jewish settlers had opened fire on Palestinian homes in Hebron.

Settler leaders, who have been warning of a bloodbath if the Palestinian Authority assumes control of Hebron, emerged dissatisfied from their meeting with Netanyahu.

"We asked questions about security and civil matters, and didn't get any answers," Noam Arnon, the spokesperson for the Hebron Jewish community, told Israel Radio. "I think the country is about to make a fatal mistake."

As The CJN went to press, we received reports that Hebron talks had broken down and U.S. Special Middle East Co-ordinator Dennis Ross had returned to the United States.

"These agreements can hold up as long as the situation is calm. But as soon as there are any arguments or misunderstandings with the Palestinians, they will collapse," he said.

The settlers also met with the coordinator of government activities in the territories, Maj. Gen. Oren Shahor, who negotiated civilian issues in the Hebron talks.

The settlers also emerged from that meeting disappointed, saying that the Hebron agreement would ultimately "strangle" the Jewish community there by not allowing it to grow.

Meanwhile, U.S. Special Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross continued his mediation efforts to complete the Hebron agreement.

"It's clear that we have further narrowed the differences that exist, but we have not overcome those differences," Ross told reporters after meeting Netanyahu in Haifa.

He was scheduled to hold talks later in the Gaza Strip with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who was scheduled to travel this week to Europe.

"Clearly the pace of negotiations is affected when the leaders are not here," Ross said, adding the clear hint that he would leave the region if Arafat left for Europe.

Israeli officials said last week that nearly all issues of dispute had been resolved in the negotiations.

Netanyahu told reporters that negotiations on Hebron were "at an advanced stage" and their conclusion rested solely on "Palestinian goodwill" to complete the process.

But Palestinian officials said a number of key points remained unresolved, including Israeli demands for freedom of movement in Palestinian areas to safeguard Hebron settlers.

The pins and needles atmosphere in Hebron was underscored last week after a shooting incident in which Jewish settlers reportedly got out of their cars and began firing on Palestinian houses along the road.

The settlers said they fired in the air after Palestinians threw rocks and bottles at them. There were no reported injuries.

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Israeli journalist allowed into Syria

By ELDAD BECK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

DAMASCUS – The Syrian authorities officially allowed me – an Israeli journalist, born in Israel and representing the *Jerusalem Post* – to enter the country on a foreign passport to accompany President Jacques Chirac on his trip to Damascus.

Chirac personally intervened to convince the Syrians to permit the visit. Sources stressed that Chirac's gesture was designed to prove that France is a friend of all the countries in the region and is seriously seeking to help advance the peace process.

Jerusalem Post correspondent David Makovsky had previously visited the Syrian capital.

Hours before leaving Paris for Damascus, Chirac invited eight Arab and Israeli journalists, including myself, the *Post*'s correspondent in France, to his office at the Elysee Palace. It was the first time that a French president had gathered journalists together from Israel and the Arab countries. The Paris-based correspondent of the Syrian news agency SANA also participated.

During Chirac's stay in the Syrian capital, I was able to meet freely with members of the Damascus Jewish community and to attend Shabbat prayers at one of the two synagogues that are still open.

The Damascus Jewish community numbers 150 people, who have opted to stay in Syria, although the authorities would allow them to leave. They want to keep their businesses and preserve their houses and the holdings of the community.

Some Jews who emigrated to the United States a few years ago have returned because they were unable to find work. They accuse the American Jewish community and U.S. authorities of not having done enough to help them.

"Here we have a good life, while there they want us to become beggars. If they wish us to leave Syria, they must help us to get houses and jobs," said David Bukai, who returned from the United States a few months ago. However, a majority of the community has left for the United States or Israel, leaving behind no religious infrastructure.

Damascus has no more rabbis or kosher butchers. A rabbi from Istanbul visits every two months to arrange ceremonies and take care of other religious affairs.

Members of the Jewish community say the authorities' attitude toward them has improved. "They protect us and respond to all our demands," Rose Ouzon said.

A senior French official said that for years Chirac had refused to visit Syria, since Damascus did not allow Syrian Jews to leave.

During his 42-hour visit to Damascus, Chirac met three times with President Hafez al-Assad for private discussions regarding the situation in the Middle East, the future of the peace process and bilateral ties.

The senior French official said Chirac intended to bring up the issue of Israeli MiAs, including missing airman Ron Arad. Chirac also intended to try to get information about Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner, who, according to several sources, has been living in Syria. Brunner was responsible for the deportation of tens of thousands Jews from France to Auschwitz.

The official emphasized that Chirac has been been trying for years to get information about the MiAs, without any success.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Farrakhan rally features new song, same old tune

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – Louis Farrakhan may have changed the name of the song, but the violinist and former calypso singer is still playing his favorite tune.

Whether the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) "likes it or not, whether the mayor likes it or not, I have to tell the truth and if you say this is hatred then I say that you are the haters," the leader of the Nation of Islam told more than 30,000 of his followers at a rally here last week.

Billed as the World's Day of Atonement, the day was part evangelical preaching and part black empowerment rally, filled with messages of black pride and white hatred, a desire for peace and exhortations to warlike rebellion.

His followers, eager to hear Farrakhan explain their marginalization, filled the area across the street from the United Nations and against the back of the headquarters of the ADL.

Farrakhan spoke for more than 2½ hours from behind a four-sided structure made of bulletproof plastic. He said he had to be shielded from attack because "not everyone loves me."

The ADL was on a high security alert because the rally came just days after an editorial, "ADL: Enemy to the people," appeared in the Oct. 8 edition of the Nation of Islam newspaper the *Final Call*.

"We are used to demonstrations here and once in a while, the sponsors are not our best friends," said ADL national director Abraham Foxman, who refused to detail the security precautions his organization took beyond working with the police.

"This is a little bit new in the sense that we were targeted," he said. "The Nation of Islam made clear that they really wanted it at our site, though originally I thought they wanted it at the UN and that the ADL was incidental."

Held on the first anniversary of Farrakhan's Million Man March, the rally drew many back for a second time.

John Lewis had come to New York with 32 other people from his hometown in Knoxville, Tenn.

He said he had been a formal follower of Farrakhan's for six months, his interest sparked by last year's event, which he attended as part of a three-bus caravan from his city.

"I like what he has to say," said Lewis, who declined to comment on the minister's anti-Jewish rhetoric.

Khassin Rigner came from Staten Island to the rally because "this is my religion."

Louis Farrakhan

When asked whether he agrees with Farrakhan's statements, he said, "I have nothing against what he says about Jews."

"He's speaking the truth!" yelled one woman, who refused to give her name, after she overheard a journalist asking another attendee about Farrakhan's anti-Jewish attitudes.

"He never killed nobody, he never burned them, never was in the Holocaust! He speaks the truth about Jews," she shouted shortly before Farrakhan began speaking, attracting the bemused interest of many in the packed crowd.

Another attendee, a woman who said her name is J. Sketch, said she appreciates Farrakhan's message of black unity, but is not sure what to make of his anti-Jewish rhetoric.

"I've heard him say that the Jews were tentacles, but I'm not sure he speaks of all Jews. I think he's talking about a certain amount who may be wrong, just like some people are wrong in all groups.

"I take it in and decipher it and make up my own mind," she said. "I'm receptive because it's about black people coming together. That's why I'm here."

Surrounded by a phalanx of Fruit of Islam guards dressed in militaristic black uniforms, Farrakhan spoke of U.S. government and international conspiracies against blacks and Arabs. Over and over he slammed whites, the U.S. government and the United Nations for being oppressive and unjust.

But the only ethnic or religious group he singled out was the Jews. Though barely mentioned in most media accounts of the rally, the minister's anti-Jewish rhetoric was, as it often is, ardent and plentiful.

In the beginning of his speech, which was delivered like a fire and brimstone sermon and filled with references to biblical characters and narrative, Farrakhan said, "The apple tree [of wisdom] is drying up among the Jewish people."

He compared the Jewish people to "the locust, which eats away the foliage."

He later spoke of Jewish control of business and government and said, "The black people and the red [people] are the fulfillment of what is written in the Torah, the Gospel and the Koran.

"We were sold [as slaves] to Europeans, Arabs and Jews," he said.

"If the Jewish people has something to do with our enslavement then the Jewish people must have something to do with our expiation," he said in a soaring, angry voice.

"If you accept this judgment," he said, apparently addressing the Jewish community, "and turn swords into plowshares, then we can avert all war!"

"I got a hard job," boomed Farrakhan at the rally. "I have to tell the leaders of America where they're wrong, the leaders of the world where they're wrong."

"That don't make me loved, but I am loved by the people who are catching hell. I love you brothers and sisters," he said.

And the crowd roared back: "I love you, too, Minister Farrakhan."

מזל טוב

Mazel Tov

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Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Meirav & Irwin Meisels joyfully announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Lauren Ortal, on May 22. Proud grandparents are Devora & Meir Rottem and Ruth & Isak Meisels.

Mazel tov to Jason Karp who celebrated his bar mitzvah on July 15 in Israel along with parents Martin & Sandy and brother Sean.

Happy 90th birthday to Mae Stein, who recently celebrated with her sisters Sadie and Dora, sister-in-law Nellie, brother Teddy and her many nieces and nephews and their families.

Adam Hart received his BA and continues his post-graduate education. Mom, Larry, Miriam & David, Mike, Hayley & Lindsay are proud of you. Bubbie & Zayde Forberg are feeling naches.

Mazel tov to Dr. Judy Hagshi, daughter of Pnina & Shane of Toronto on her engagement to Glenn J. Nashen, son of Phyllis & George of Montreal. A June wedding is planned.

Mazel tov to Barbara & Stacey Albom on their marriage Aug. 11. Congratulations to parents Gita & Gerald Keller, Marilyn & Morris Albom and grandparents Riva & Aaron Finkelstein and Ruth Keller.

Mazel tov to Albert Joseph on his 75th birthday on Oct. 15 from his dear wife Helen and loving family.

To the most special parents, Arnold & Gloria Rumm. Mazel tov on your 50th wedding anniversary. All our love, Michael, Ellen, Linda and Tracy.

Joan & Lou Litovitz will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on Nov. 28. Lots of love from Amy & Brian, Wayne, Linda & Herman, Elisa, Amanda, Lyndsay & Harmony.

Esther & Milton Miller celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20. Mazel tov from all your children.

TAB news

Travel Arts & Business

U.S. investors seek to purchase El Al

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A group of U.S. investors is prepared to purchase El Al, without the airline operating on Shabbat, Israel's Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy told the *Jerusalem Post* recently.

Levy, who would not identify the prospective investors, said he has held meetings over the last two months with the Israeli representatives of these religious Jewish businessmen.

Despite this development, Levy also said he favors a public flotation of El Al rather than a single sale of the controlling shares in the company. Levy expressed this view following a visit last week to the successfully privatized British Airways.

"In my opinion, the privatization should be by public flotation, because at the end of the day we're talking about a company with national significance," said Levy. "I see the privatization as having several stages, which should take approximately two years, but the program must start today."

Levy has made it clear on several occasions he will oppose any attempt to let a privatized El Al operate on Shabbat. "Even after being privatized, El Al has to protect the national character by not flying on Shabbat," he said in August, during a visit to El Al's Ben-Gurion office.

Having taken a closer look at the issue, Levy said he remains convinced the Shabbat issue is not the key economic factor. "I personally believe most of the losses are not accrued by not flying on Shabbat," said Levy. "They appear, in the main, to be the result of a steep decline in tourist numbers, something that is not only affecting El Al but all aspects of tourism in the country."

Report Labels 1996 Year Of Slow Growth

JERUSALEM — Early indications suggest a slowdown in the economy this year, particularly in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and exports, the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) reported recently.

The forecasts are based on statistics collated between January and September.

The increase in GDP this year is likely to be only four percent, compared to seven percent in both 1994 and 1995. GDP represents the total of goods and services produced.

Initial conclusions are that there will be a relatively high increase of six percent in domestic consumption. This follows rises of eight percent in 1994 and seven percent last year.

However, there is a slowdown in the export of goods and services. Exports are likely to end the year showing an increase of four percent, compared to 11 percent to 15 percent in each of the last four years.

The import of goods and services will increase by some seven percent to eight percent, which is comparatively high in relation to the predicted GDP, according to the bureau.

This information, provided by the CBS, will be presented to MKs in the Knesset debate on the budget on Oct. 29.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has asked the Bank of Israel to consider a considerable reduction in interest rates if and when the government successfully pushes its budget cuts through the Knesset.

Trade Deficit Up

JERUSALEM — Israel's trade deficit, excluding diamonds, totalled $11.3 billion in the first nine months of the year, up some $1 billion, on the January to September figure in 1995, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported.

No PMs At Summit

JERUSALEM — The third annual Middle East/North Africa economic summit in Cairo next month will not be held at prime ministerial level, the summit's general coordinator, Shoukry Fuad, told the *Jerusalem Post* last week.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amir Moussa distributed invitations on a ministerial level a fortnight ago, and so far no attempt has been made to include government chiefs or heads of state, said Fuad.

The Israeli ministers that have confirmed their attendance are David Levy (Foreign), Dan Meridor (Finance), Natan Sharansky (Industry and Trade), and Limor Livnat (Communications), according to the Foreign Ministry.

Finance Committee Asks Gov't To Back Brodet Plan

JERUSALEM — Members of the Knesset finance committee expressed strong support for the Brodet Report on reforming the capital markets, and called on the government to accept its recommendations.

Israeli Finance Minister Dan Meridor decided not to attend the committee until after the government reconsiders the issue in the next two weeks. Still, Treasury director-general David Brodet outlined the contents of his report, which recommends a package of measures encouraging long-term investments.

"In the developed world, they fund large infrastructure projects with money from long-term savings such as pension funds," said Brodet. "Here this is missing, and that is negatively affecting Israel."

The aim of the proposals, he said, was "to make long-term savings the main player in Israel's economy, as in other countries. Currently we have no organized way of attracting these savings through the government."

Bank Sells Surplus Holdings In Clal Israel

JERUSALEM — Bank Hapoalim has sold its surplus holdings in Clal Israel to IDB Development for NIS137 million, the companies told the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE) last week.

The holding company acquired 1.8 million ordinary shares of Clal, representing six percent of the company's stock capital. The shares were purchased at a rate of NIS76 for every NIS1 share, about two percent higher than the market value of the shares on the TASE.

IDB Development now directly controls 42.7 percent of Clal's stock, making it the largest shareholder in the company. Clal is one of Israel's biggest public investment companies.

Kitan To Fire 110 Workers

JERUSALEM — Workers at the Kitan textile factory in Beit She'an are preparing for a long and bitter fight for their jobs, following an announcement of management's plans to close most of the plant.

Most of the facility will be shut down this month, leaving about 110 of the 180 workers without work. The Beit She'an plant will continue to operate its Levis Laundry and finished products warehouse.

The company has blamed government policies, especially the economic program, which has kept the shekel high against the dollar, resulting in much lower profits for the company's exports.

Elite To Sell Foreign Factories

JERUSALEM — Elite Industries intends to enter negotiations with a European food company, in an attempt to sell its coffee factories in Spain, Belgium and France, the company said in a Tel Aviv Stock Exchange announcement.

The European company has offered to purchase all three of Elite's no-brand name coffee factories in these countries. Elite refused to provide additional details of the discussions.

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AUTHENTIC BAROQUE

Virtuoso lute and guitar player Aaron Skitri will perform at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Toronto on Nov. 3. (See page 41.)

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

The Making Of Ragtime The Musical

It was the music of something beginning...and it was the music that **E. L. Doctorow** listened to as he began, in 1972, to write the story that would become the best-selling novel *Ragtime*.

High-stepping and syncopated, the music of the ragtime era, as composed by **Scott Joplin** and others, "was a perfect metaphor for the age, when all of America was finding a new sexy rhythm," Doctorow tells us.

"A modern sensibility was forming that scandalized the old. There were new ideas, bold ways of thinking and behaving, ever increasing technological changes, and above all, in a country marked by the great wealth of a few, and the terrible poverty of many, new and strident demands for social justice. In fact there were Negroes, there were immigrants, and they could not be ignored."

This is Doctorow, writing in the liner notes of the new CD release, *Songs From Ragtime, The Musical.*

The CD is a lush and generous prelude to the Livent Inc. theatrical production that opens at North York's Ford Centre Dec. 8 (previews begin Nov. 19) for a run of at least 16 weeks. The musical is scheduled to open on Broadway in December 1997.

Set in and around turn-of-the-century New York, *Ragtime* is a panoramic tale of three families whose lives intertwine with a parade of celebrities: auto magnate **Henry Ford**, illusionist **Harry Houdini**, capitalist **J.P. Morgan**, radical anarchist **Emma Goldman** and sex symbol **Evelyn Nesbit**.

Doctorow, dismayed that the 1981 film adaptation dropped many of these characters, was reluctant to allow a live musical version until Livent chair **Garth Drabinsky** pledged to put all of Ragtime's characters on stage.

After playwright **Terence McNally** (*Kiss of the Spider Woman*) delivered a 60-page treatment of the novel in mid-1994, Livent invited 10 pairs of composers and lyricists to write four songs, based on McNally's treatment.

The winners were lyricist **Lynn Ahrens** and composer **Stephen Flaherty**. Three of the songs they wrote for the try-out were so strong that they survived into the production.

McNally, Ahrens and Flaherty finished a first draft in August 1995. A week later some 34 actors, under the tutelage of director **Frank Galati**, began to workshop the production at York University.

"The script was an amoeba, changing shape constantly," recalls **Marty Bell**, Livent's creative coordinator. By this time, some key casting decisions had already been made: **Audra McDonald** as Sarah, **Brian Stokes Mitchell** as Coalhouse Walker, Jr. and **Camille Saviola** as Emma Goldman.

As more cast and creative personnel joined the work-in-progress, several private and semi- public performances were given, including a reading last December at which the novelist was present.

"Edgar [Doctorow] had warned us early on that he was going to be as tough on this work as he was on his own," Bell reports. "But at a dinner for the company at a Chinese restaurant...he was quite visibly moved. He had notes for us, sure. But his overall response was that he was honored by McNally's faithfulness to his conception and thrilled by the appropriate yet original musical sound that Ahrens and Flaherty had provided."

Last July, 82 actors and musicians crammed into a downtown studio to record a CD of selected highlights from the score. If it were an old-fashioned vinyl LP, my copy of *Songs from Ragtime* would be quite scratchy from playing by now. To my ears, it's a masterpiece of breathtaking syncopation, emotional depth and poignant Sondheimian irony. Even in advance of its theatrical opening, I have a hunch that *Ragtime The Musical* is going to be an explosive hit.

The story of *Ragtime* bears particular relevance for North American Jews, since it begins where *Fiddler On The Roof* leaves off, with Tevye's children and other *shtetl* residents boarding ships for America. *Ragtime* tells what happens to such immigrants, as well as the Negroes, in the great American melting pot.

For tickets, visit the Ford Centre box office or call the Livent line, 416-872-2222.

Upcoming Events

By Joseph Serge

Sherman at Bloor JCC

On Nov.3 as part of the Books & Bagels series at the Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto, playwright Jason Sherman will read from his plays *The League of Nathans*, *The Retreat* and *Reading Hebron*.

Admission $6. 416-924-6211.

Peter Krausz Exhibit

Running through to Nov. 16 at the Leo Kamen Gallery, 80 Spadina Ave., Toronto, Peter Krausz's art exhibition *Landscape and Memory* attempts to deal with the historical persecution of Jews.

For Krausz, images of nature are inscribed by history and imbued with traces of human passage. Krausz works within the pictorial traditions of a landscape vocabulary, incorporating known iconographic symbols as a means of reviewing conventional associations.

The most striking exhibit is *Ciel de plomb*, where 175 rectangular lead panels are attached to the wall, stretching the lenght of the gallery. The thin painted plates, each bearing the image of a small brilliant landscape, are interspersed among others inscribed by a date and placename. For Krausz, the nature of the installation belies the textual facts related to the historical persecution of Jewish people.

Tuesday to Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 416-504-9515.

Pride and Prejudice

Shaarei Tefillah Sisterhood is sponsoring the stage production of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* by the Amicus Players at the Fairview Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall Drive.

Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $25, tax receipts will be issued. Call Chava at 905-881-7897 or Sharon at 416-787-1631.

Russian Dance & Music

The Russian Dance and Music Company returns to the Leah Posluns Theatre, Toronto, Oct. 30-31 and Nov.2-3. for its latest production, The Gala Variety Show.

The show features energetic and colorful Russian dancers, Viennese music (from Strauss to Lehar), Gypsy selections, a circus high rope act and a tribute to jazz and ragtime.

For showtimes and tickets call 416-222-3758.

Aaron Skitri To Perform

Virtuoso lute player and guitarist Aaron Skitri, hailed as "one of the world leading authorities in his field," by *The Ottawa Citizen* will be performing at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue in Toronto Nov.3 at 8 p.m.

Skitri only uses authentic instruments to play Baroque music as it was written 300 years ago. He will also play some Spanish guitar selections.

Also appearing that evening is Rabbi Matityahu Glazerson, director of the Lev Eliyahu Razon Institute in Jerusalem, an author of 18 books and composer.With the aid of computers, he has uncovered secret Biblical codes and mystical revelations made in the Torah 3,000 years ago. He uses Gematrica to explain how authentic Judaism relates to all humanity.

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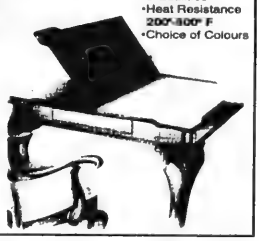

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TV documentary reveals the man behind the violin

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Yehudi Menuhin is one of the greatest violin virtuosos of the 20th century, and it is always a pleasure to hear him making music.

But who is the man behind the polished wooden instrument he wields so brilliantly? You can find out by watching *Yehudi Menuhin*, a two-part documentary which airs on Nov. 12 and again on Nov. 19 at 10 p.m. on TVOntario.

An amalgam of on-air interviews, archival footage, old newspaper headlines and excerpts of his major concerts, *Yehudi Menuhin* is an altogether delightful film.

One of the reasons is Menuhin's personal magnetism. He is clearly a man who enjoys the fine art of good conversation, and viewers will likely agree.

Menuhin, who turned 80 this year, ranges far and wide as he recalls his childhood as a prodigy and his development into a star of the classical musical world.

And he is never less than candid. In a startling admission, he confesses that he might have been "an unbalanced character" had he not been able to fulfil himself as a musician.

Pungent anecdotes brighten up this film, and one of the best concerns his mother, a beautiful, impetuous, demanding woman to whom he was very close.

Shortly before she gave birth to Yehudi, she looked for a nice apartment for her family. As she was about to sign the lease, the landlord said, "You'll be pleased to know we don't take Jews."

Offended by the remark, Menuhin's mother promptly changed her mind about the flat, and there and then decided to name her son Yehudi. As he reminisces about this episode, Menuhin smiles broadly.

As the film unfolds, we learn that his parents met in Jaffa, that his father was a superintendant of Hebrew schools in San Francisco, that his mother tongue was Hebrew and that he was discovered at the age of 10 by the Romanian star violinist Georges Enesco.

Menuhin was certainly a rare talent. Headlines from the 1920s hail him as a "boy genius" and a "new Mozart."

During and after World War II, Menuhin learned how to communicate directly with an audience. Playing for wounded Allied soldiers convalescing in hospitals and for displaced Jews, he learned how to reach and touch people.

Menuhin had a special affinity with his sister, Hephzibah, a gifted pianist, and there are clips of the pair performing a spirited concert.

Some of the brightest moments of *Yehudi Menuhin* occur when he shows off his prowess with the violin. He plays Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and Bartok and the sounds he produces are ethereal.

Menuhin is not loath to praise fellow musicians. Remembering a memorable performance by the Canadian pianist Glenn Gould, he speaks of his divine and mystical presence.

All in all, *Yehudi Menuhin* is a fine film, distinguished by its accommodating subject and its dedication to great music.

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The front gate of the Synagogue of Beracha V'Shalom V'Gemilath Chassidim in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. This quaint synagogue was built by Sephardic Jews in 1833. The interior with its shuttered windows and fans adjacent to the bimah reflects its tropical setting. The synagogue is within walking distance of the cruise ship pier, where most visitors disembark. [Jerry Richmond photo]

TAB news

The red-tile roofs of Lisbon, above, are typically Portuguese. Visible atop one of the city's seven hills is St. George's Castle, a royal residence until the 16th century. [Frances Kraft photo]

Big city traffic merges with old-world appeal of Lisbon

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

LISBON, PORTUGAL — "The car is coming — inhale!" instructed our Portuguese escort.

Immediately and in perfect synchrony, we flattened our backs against the whitewashed medieval buildings flanking the steep cobblestone road in Marvao, a quiet border town some 250 kilometres from Lisbon. Seconds later, the lone vehicle had passed and we continued to make our way to the castle ruins at the top of the hill.

Our small group walked through similar picturesque areas in about half a dozen towns within a three-hour drive of Portugal's capital. A number of the medieval sections are noteworthy for their onetime Jewish presence.

The medieval synagogue/museum in Tomar, a 90-minute drive from Lisbon, is worth visiting, as much to meet its guardian, Luis Vasco, as to see the vaulted ceilings and adjacent excavated mikvah.

Vasco, a 59-year-old Marrano who has embraced "open" Judaism with gusto, greeted us with a warm "Shalom. Shalom U'vracha." He speaks both English and Hebrew, having taught himself the latter from cassette tapes.

The synagogue boasts only a few Portuguese artifacts, but has become a home for Judaica items sent to Vasco from around the world. In summer, he removes the Torahs from the ark, because too many of the tourists wear shorts or are otherwise inappropriately attired, he said.

The old-world appeal of Portugal's small towns is evident even in Lisbon, with its one million inhabitants (two million including nearby bedroom communities) and concomitant big-city traffic.

Built on seven hills, the city is reminiscent of San Francisco, with a similar temperate climate, stairs carved into some of the steeper streets and houses built right into the hillside. There's even a bridge on Lisbon's Tagus River that's practically a clone of the Golden Gate.

Another world landmark (the Eiffel Tower) influenced the design of an ornate early 20th-century elevator leading from a downtown Lisbon street to an overhead walkway through which pedestrians can reach the crest of a nearby hill.

International influence aside, Portugal has plenty of indigenous charm. Rich with a sense of history, the country abounds with medieval castles, churches and monuments to historic figures.

Some 40 museums

Unique among the many tourist sights — Lisbon alone has some 40 museums — is the capital city's Museu Nacional dos Coches (National Coach Museum), one of only a handful of its kind in the world. Included in its fairy-tale-pretty collection, which dates as far back as late 16th-century, are gilded coaches painted in exquisite detail by leading artists of the day.

In Portugal, it's easy to be lulled into a feeling of having gone back in time, although nightlife and entertainment are anything but sleepy. At clubs frequented by the younger generation, the action begins well after midnight and continues until dawn.

Fado, the traditional emotive singing about love and loss, is still popular with locals of all ages. Sometimes, however, there's a modern twist: a new fado song about a popular Portuguese bullfighter was received with enthusiasm at Lisbon's João da Praça fado club.

For travellers who like their accommodations to reflect the history — and beauty — of the area, some of Portugal's old monasteries and castles have been converted to *pousadas* (inns), as part of a government-sponsored project that began several decades ago.

We spent a night in Estremoz at the 30-room Pousada Rainha Santa Isabel, home in a previous incarnation to 13th-century King Dinis and Queen Isabel. A late-day swim in the shadow of the original castle tower proved irresistible, and the views overlooking the town prompted yet another round of picture-taking.

Frances Kraft was in Portugal recently as a guest of the Portuguese National Tourist Office and TAP Air Portugal.

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Beth Tikvah's boys of summer win synagogue baseball title

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In what is becoming a familiar fall ritual, Beth Tikvah has once again claimed bragging rights as champions of the Inter-Synagogue Baseball League.

The boys from Beth Tikvah defeated Shaar Shalom 15-10 in a hard fought battle on a chilly evening under the lights at Grandview Park.

The game was "a true fall classic" and the win was dedicated to the memory of former teammate Jeff Secter, who was killed in the Dominican Republic in 1994, said Beth Tikvah captain and shortstop Howard Goldkind.

The tight championship game was broken open by a two-out rally with clutch hitting from Beth Tikvah's Rob Waxman, Neal and Ian Solomon and Mitch Aidelman.

Adi Feigelson and Dave Kroach also delivered key hits while Beth Tikvah's defence shut down Shaar Shalom's bats.

At 15-10, the game was a defensive struggle given that 30-run tilts are not unusual, Goldkind said. The 16-team league, consisting of Conservative and Reform congregations, plays a three-pitch game in which the pitcher throws to his own teammates. That puts a premium on great defence and Beth Tikvah had it when it counted, looking like a bunch of golden-glovers in snuffing out Shaar Shalom rallies, Goldkind said.

The combination of young legs and "veteran savvy" on the roster keyed Beth Tikvah to the win, he added.

The team posted an 8-3 regular season record and then went on to defeat Temple Sinai, Beth David and, in a double header, Holy Blossom and Beth Emeth, in playoff action.

The game versus Holy Blossom — a 19-17 squeaker — was the toughest of the post-season. Beth Tikvah had to score four runs in the bottom of the ninth to pull it out, Goldkind said.

Beth Tikvah, which has won the league title five times since play was inaugurated in 1987, didn't roll over anybody in the playoffs. Each game was tight, showing that the league has achieved a degree of parity, he said.

Goldkind attributed that to the influx of new blood, many of them the sons of longtime players who compete in other leagues. That's made for a better brand of baseball while ensuring the continuity of the league, he said.

They're number one. Beth Tikvah's winning lineup includes, top row, from right to left: Len Sadinsky, Howard Goldkind, Mark Harendorf, Dave Kroach, Steve Dolman, Rob Waxman and Ian Solomon. Bottom row, from right: Neal Solomon, Jerry Pearson, Adi Feigelsohn and Isaac Silverstein. Absent: Alex Goldkind and Steve Albert.

Glasman's association with soccer club ends

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The association of entrepreneur Francois Glasman with the Shooting Stars indoor soccer club is over.

Following a series of corporate manoeuvres, Glasman lost his position as the club's 50 percent equity owner and president.

The turn of events has devastated Glasman, who says he's "been taken out of my dream."

Glasman, whose French-accented voice has graced many radio and television commercials, was the driving force behind efforts to bring arena soccer to Toronto. As promoter of youth soccer leagues, he's worked to build the sport at the grassroots level and create interest in the fast-paced, action-filled brand favored by the National Professional Soccer League.

The Shooting Stars played their first-ever home game on Sunday.

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Ex-smoker runs half-marathon

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two years ago, Harvey Karp was a two-pack-a-day smoker who was hooked, big time, to the malodorous weed.

One day, he decided to give up the cancer sticks and begin to get his body back in shape. Slipping on his runners, he headed out for a jog but six minutes later he was back at home feeling sick to his stomach.

Last week, with plenty of preparation behind him and battling the cool wet weather, Karp crossed the finish line after running 21 kilometres at the Canadian International Marathon.

"I ran it in one hour and 47 minutes, which is really good for me," the 43-year-old accountant said.

After running the first five-kilometre leg of the relay for his firm of Richter, Usher and Vineberg, Karp settled into the steady slog of finishing the 21 km race. He was joined by his son, David, towards the end of the race and though his hip was hurting and his knee was close to giving out, Karp pushed himself over the finish line.

"It felt great. It was a great feeling to run with my son," he said.

The 2-year-old marathon, organized by Jay Glassman, is a fundraiser for the Ontario Cancer Institute and the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Karp credits a program he took two years ago with helping him achieve something that would have been only a pipe dream before.

When he decided to quit smoking, he realized he couldn't do it by himself so he enrolled in a smoke cessation course at Branson Hospital. Part of the technique he was taught was to visualize a goal he'd always wanted to achieve. For Karp, it was crossing the finishing line after running a 26-mile marathon.

He'd always been athletic, playing baseball, oldtimer's hockey and football on a social level, as well as squash. But that first run, all six minutes of it, was a wakeup call to his deteriorating state of health. Afterwards, with a newfound determination, he began to increase the frequency and distance of his jogging.

"The next day I went seven minutes and I didn't feel good," he recalled. With his visualized goal ahead of him, he pushed himself and eventually worked himself into creditable shape. By last May he was pounding the pavement for two hour stretches at a time time. A half hour run was "easy."

Prior to the marathon, he was running five to seven times a week, every week, and following the training techniques set out by expert long-distance runners.

Last week, however, with lots of miles under his belt since then, Karp was able to realize his dream. "When I crossed the line, it was like I had visualized it," he said.

"Maybe next year I'll run the full marathon."

Harvey Karp (right) and his son, David, celebrate after Harvey successfully completed the half-marathon at the Canadian International Marathon recently.

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New machine helps treat carpal tunnel syndrome

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A machine recently approved for use in this country by Health Canada — the CTD Mark-1 — has proved useful for treating carpal tunnel syndrome, according to Thornhill chiropractor Dr. Brian Kleinberg.

Carpal tunnel syndrome is a major concern in both the United States and Canada. Statistics Canada reports that in 1994, the disorder cost business over $1 billion, and represented over 100,000 cases of injury.

Repetitive hand and wrist motions tighten the ligament that supports the wrist bones on the palm side of the hand and wrist, causing the median nerve to become pinched or trapped between the flexor tendons and carpal bones.

This causes tingling and numbness, usually worse at night, clumsiness, fatigue, grip weakness and pain. There may also be pain in the forearm, elbow, shoulder, neck and upper back.

It affects mainly those in the workplace, especially those with repetitive tasks, such as computer and assembly line jobs.

Sid Landen is treated for carpal tunnel syndrome on the CTD-Mark-1 machine. [Leila Speisman photo]

Treatment up to now, Kleinberg told *The CJN*, has, and often still does, include medications like Naproxen, aspirin, corticostteroid injections, heat, laser therapy, ultrasound, physiotherapy, splints, exercises, and, in very serious cases, surgery.

The CTD Mark-1 machine has been used in the United States for four years, and is now distributed in Canada by CarpalTec Systems Inc. of Port Colborne. It is a pneumatic decompression device, which works on the biomechanics of the carpal bones.

During the treatment, which is painless, the elbow is immobilized to prevent any arm movement. A velcro band attached to a pneumatic actuator exerts pressure on the forearm and wrist, which, usually in about six treatments, Kleinberg says, relaxes the ligaments and decompresses the carpal tunnel and the median nerve.

Patients also use splints at night, to prevent further injury by inadvertent twisting of the wrist, and receive exercise instruction from a kinesiologist.

Kleinberg also goes into the workplace to recommend changes in the work environment to prevent the injury from recurring. Suggestions may include special chairs, adjusting the height of machines, or having the employee stand on a padded mat, to lessen the pressure on the muscles.

Many sufferers do not go for help until the syndrome is very far along, Kleinberg said. It's one thing, since the symptoms seem to improve during the day, they often don't take it seriously until the pain gets bad. As well, since the economic climate is precarious, some workers are concerned about losing their jobs if they complain.

Chiropractic services, which include the CTD Mark-1 therapy, are only partially covered by OHIP, although, Kleinberg said, many insurance companies cover the difference. Workers' Compensation covers the fee entirely.

For more information, contact Kleinberg at the Dufferin-Steeles Chiropractic Health Centre, 905-738-6303.

Gilda's Club gets funding

TORONTO — Gilda's Club Greater Toronto recently announced a funding commitment it has obtained from Toronto's *Original Jewish Pages*.

Effective immediately, Gilda's Club Greater Toronto will receive five percent of all directory advertising revenues from the Jewish Pages.

"This is a wonderful example of the support and commitment that Gilda's Club needs today in order to establish a permanent home in Greater Toronto by the fall of 1998," said Lorna Rosenstein, general manager of Lotus Development Canada and president of Gilda's Club Greater Toronto.

"We want to express our gratitude to all advertisers in the Jewish Pages."

The *Jewish Pages* is a consumer directory filled with community and reference information. It is published twice a year and delivered by Canada Post to 50,000 families in Metro Toronto.

Scheduled to open in September 1998, Gilda's Club Greater Toronto will be a place where people with cancer and their families and friends can go for social and emotional support as a supplement to regular medical care. The free non-profit, non-residential facility was named for the late comedian Gilda Radner, who lost her battle with ovarian cancer in 1989.

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BATHURST/CENTRE, 2,000 sq.f. 5 years new, 3 bdr, 3 baths. Immed. $279,900.
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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath. s. of Steeles, Beautiful luxury 3 bdrm. modern house, many, many extras, avail. Dec. 1st. $1800.+/mo.416-665-4043.

Bathurst Manor, quiet Street, 3 bdrms., newly renov., w/out bsmnt. to ravine lot, deck, fireplace, close to shuls, for Jan. 1st, $1,500/mo. + util. Call 416-398-0485.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

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The SKYMARK Specialist

CLASSIC: Unique open concept 2 br. + balc. 2,325 sq. ft.

ELEGANCE: One of a kind. 1,889 sq. ft. - 2 br. + fam. Don't wait.

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Real Estate Advice costs nothing until a sale is made. Then it costs no more for an Expert than a novice

Santee Realty Inc.
(416) 441-2003 (24 hrs.)

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Luxury 1 bdrm. at Bath./Lawr., Dec. 1st, 5 appls., pkg., cable, air, Shabbat elev., $990./mo. 905-780-0685, leave msg.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bayview Village, 2 bdrm., woman requires clean, quiet n/smoker, female student/business girl. Apt. fully furn., near all amen. 225-5722 or 920-6315 (lve. msg.).

Looking for female to share a condo., 2 bdrm., 2 bath, immac. cond., close to shopping & amen., pkg., pool & sauna. Call 905-731-9010.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

York student, 20 yrs.old, seeks roommate to share/rent 2 bdrm. apt., Yonge/Egl. area, a/c, carpet, fully equip., low rise, rec. renov., $450./mo. Will also consider joining existing arr. in Yonge/Egl.area.650-3542, Zack

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Shepp.,1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. for rent, main flr. 635-5031.

Palm Springs, 1 bdrm., newly furn., season, very reas., 714-969-8761.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Sheppard, furn. 1 bdrm., avail. for 6 mos. sub-lease, Dec. 1.$600./mo. 416-812-6766

Bath/Steeles, beautifully furn. newly reno'd. large studio bsmt. apt., sep. entr., lndry fac., close to all amen.,n/smoker, pkg. Prefer female.Avail. mid-Nov. $700. inclusive. 250-8171, lve. msg.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

Bath./Finch, 3 bdrm. home, well furnished, Dec. 1st - April 15th, $1100./mo. 633-8179.

Thornhill luxury condo., 2 bdrm., 2 bath, furn., 6 appl's., pkg., secur., rec. facil. avail. immed.$1150/mo.905-881-7626

Don Mills/Finch, luxury condo., secur. bldg., avail. Nov. 15th - April 13th. 499-1955.

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

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Belle Ewart Waterfront
$229,000 Executive yr. round beauty w/fantastic view. All the bells and whistles! Walk to synagogue.
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Homelife Kempenfelt Kelly
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125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

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GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB - LAKE WORTH
Designer decor. Immed. Poss. Just bring your toothbrush. Fully furn. 2 BDRM. + den, garage, golf, tennis, health spa, swimming pool
Call: (561) 967-0557.

Sunrise, Florida, 2 bdrms., 2 bath condo, Sunrise Lakes, corner unit, ground flr., fully furn., appl's., screened porch, eat in kitchen, walk to shops, nr. pool/clubhouse. $30K U.S. Call Helen Graybeal 954-742-4000.

Aventura, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, cac, overlooks pool & golf course. Minutes from beach & Aventura Mall. Call 416-733-9767.

Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath condo., good dishes & excellent furniture, right on the ocean, $69,500. U.S. or negotiable. 305-861-9626.

Miami Beach, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., on 5000 Collins Ave., 2nd flr. 416-787-0626.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Apt. located at **The Meadows,**Sarasota, Fla., 1st flr., fully equip. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, with view of lake & golfcourse, priv. pkg., pool, avail. Dec. 1. Call 941-379-6712 or 410-358-3115.

Aquarius condo., Hllywd. Fla., lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn., on ocean, 14th flr., spec. ocean view, avail. Jan. 6/97, $500.00/wk. U.S., min. 10 wks. 416-969-0336.

Arlen House, beautiful 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath,compl. furn.,great water view, facing South. Lease for 3-4 mos.,reasonable. Call 416-780-1551.

Commercial & University, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, equip. 636-3845, after 5 pm.

Delray Beach, Leisureville, beautiful condo, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, season. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

Hallandale (Three Islands), luxury 2 bdrm. condo. with ocean view,close to shops, to share with 1 other lady, n/smokers, pkg. Avail. mid-Dec. - mid-April. 416-663-8737.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ALEXANDER TOWERS:
Toronto's Winter Home
Beautiful oceanfront luxury highrise. Studio, 1 bed, and 2 bed units available for monthly + rentals. Full furnished with amenities.
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Seasonal Rentals and Sales.

QUADOMAIN BUILDING, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, 2 bdrm. convertible on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

BAL HARBOUR, FLORIDA
1 Br., 1½ Baths furn., mod. condo, oceanside, min. 4 mos. @ U.S. $1,500 or $6,000 a yr. Occupancy Jan. 15/97. Call **LILLIAN COOPER (416) 488-2675/787-7830.**

Hallandale, beautiful 2 bdrms., 2 bath, magnificent view, all amen. 416-783-3213.

Hallandale, Tower of Ocean-view, 1 1/2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, fully furn., all amen., avail. Nov. 15th for season.$1200/mo US., negot.636-8548/905-738-9518.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

Hollywood, immac. beautifully furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, on ocean, lge. balc., indoor pkg., pool, $3,000/mo. U.S., Jan.15-Mar. 15. Call 613-726-0658.

Inverrary,from Dec./Jan. on, 2/2,nr shops/shul 905-738-0383

Longboat Key, Exclusive beachfront & tennis resort, 2 bdrms., 2 baths condo., new furniture, fishing, swimming pool, starting Dec. Seasonal/monthly. Phone/Fax (216) 248-2747.

Boca Raton, Century Village, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 bath, deluxe, 3rd flr., with elevator, on lake, furn., many extras. Call 932-3303.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

NORTH MIAMI BEACH
Winston Towers - fabulous 1 bdrm. condo with panoramic view of ocean & bay. Asking $87,500 U.S. Have several others available under $100K U.S.
Call
TOLL FREE 1-800-545-7410
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REMAX ULTRA REALTY GROUP

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Pompano - Palm Aire. Bright, immaculate, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, minimum rental 4 months, $1,800.00 US per month. (954) 755-9234.

HIGHLAND BCH CONDO
2/2, 24 hr. security, SE exposure, ocnfront, clubhouse. Just reduced. $219,000. Seas. or Ann. rental available. Call **MIRIAM MATZ, COLDWELL BANKER, 1-561-391-9097, eves. 1-561-243-0029.**

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Aire/Pompano, house, 2/2 lux. furn., $2300/mo. U.S., min. 3 mos., 222-3146, evg.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Hollybrook condo., 1 or 2 bdrms., 416-633-6592.

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Recent widow wishes to share accommodations December 15th to March 15th. (514) 484-1614.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
Seasonal rentals. We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos. Nicely furnished in super location. From $850 - $3500 per month.
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(619) 327-8429

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE BLDG. CAFETERIA FRANCHISE. G. Baron Rltr. 665-3044.

Serious businessman with investment capital seeks active partner with investment capital for franchise. (514) 488-1433.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Roots

Since 1973, Roots Canada has been creating a reputation for quality and service across this country. We are looking for special individuals to help us carry forward that reputation as

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(new Highway 7/Woodbine Outlet and Markville Mall location). **Assistant Managers, Sales Associates, Cashiers,** and **Stock Controllers.** The successful candidates will have enthusiasm, energy and a commitment to getting the job done. We'd like to meet you if you're interested in being part of a winning company; mail your résumé to:

Recruiting Office, Roots Canada, 1162 Caledonia, Toronto, Ontario M6A 2W5.

No phone calls, please. We thank you in advance for your interest.

217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

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UNIQUE RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

1118 - 1126 FINCH AVE. WEST

GREAT LOCATION - 1090 - 6060 SQ. FT.
JUST WEST OF THE ALLEN EXPRESSWAY. HI-TECH, MODERN PLAZA - RETAIL OR RESTAURANT.

72 STEELES AVENUE WEST

APPROX. 8600 SQ. FT.
THIS IS A THRIVING VIBRANT AREA.
ACROSS FROM CENTREPOINT MALL.

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EXCELLENT LOCATION.
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DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM ROY THOMSON HALL.

100 LOMBARD STREET

(103 RICHMOND STREET EAST)
APPROX. 4500 SQ. FT.
IDEAL FOR PRINTER, COMPUTER OR ELECTRONICS STORE.

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APPROX. 4200 SQ. FT.
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BROKERS INVITED
CONTACT KIM MARTIN (416) 593-1777

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ALASKA JOBS!
Earn up to **$30,000.** in three months fishing salmon. Also construction, canneries, oil fields. Guaranteed.
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Ext. 0328K43

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Bookkeeper, conscientious, English & Russian speaking, seeks full or part time work. 222-0293.

Two 19 yr. old Auperes from Israel to work for religious families. Available immediately. Please call Bracha in Israel, 011-972-6-782-996.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Reliable, Jewish man seeking work as companion or house sitter. Call Leo 905-731-5773.

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

All Purpose Cleaning, avail. for Holidays, dinners, Pa[illegible] open houses, guests, waiters, & renovation. Call **Toronto Home Care,** 416-620-9240, Mariola.

Cleaning lady avail., exper., live-out, no weekends.614-8944

Exper. European cleaning lady seeks job, live-out, 224-0645.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian speaking cleaning people. Free estimates. Please call 416-446-0059 and leave a message.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

Polish woman seeks housekeeping job. Kathy 252-0730.

Seeking a job to take care of elderly, or babysitting. 6 yrs. exper., refs. 745-7210.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

EC ACCESS EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (FILIPINO OWNED) LOW PLACEMENT FEE EMPLOYERS/EMPLOYEES HSKPR/NANNY/CAREGIVER PLS CALL 905-475-2518

Exp. cleaning couple indiv. avail. with refs., man has exp. as a superintendent. 782-7592.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter wanted, in Thornhill (Bath./Clark), full time, Russian or Georgian speaking pref., Call 905-889-9954, after 7 pm (fluency in English not required).

Woman looking for a companion, pref. female, to stay with her 3 mos. in Florida. Also cooking/cleaning. No salary, free room/board. 635-7940.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Certified HCA seeks work with elderly, **many years experience.** Call 724-8440.

Exper. HCA seeks work with the elderly in their home, evgs., no live-ins, refs. avail. 265-2130.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Elderly parents in Israel? Want to be more involved in their care? For more information, call **INTERNATIONAL CARE MANAGEMENT** (416) 236-6857 or 1-888-377-3222.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***SOULMATES** Do you sometimes feel Toronto's too small? Do you see the same people everywhere you go? Now you can meet fabulous, interesting Jewish people from all over Canada, the U.S & Europe by joining **SOULMATES!** What's wrong with a Dr. from NY? Evelyn, 905-709-3868.

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER has 750 amazing people you can meet! All between 18-48, all in the Toronto area.Ruth Friedman, 905-731-5204.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts., etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Connections. We have the right *connection* for you! Photos. 905-889-3900.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1170** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Mature 39 yr. old woman with own car wishes to help seniors or anyone needing help with errands, appt's., etc. 256-4815. $10. per hr. or to be arranged.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really works!!

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Is your name Barbara? We met, some 3 yrs. ago, at Sonia's party, held at Bayview/John St. apt., (you dance well); then again, at the Mayfair Tennis Club-small casual dance. Presumptuous of me, you appeared interested, remiss on my part for not obtaining your phone # - there was a reason! I believe you teach, are about 5'5"ish, & brunette. Any of the above jog the memory? If not, please reply anyway to CJN Box 6840.

Korman - Szmul Moszeh (possibly) or descendents. Originally from or have some connection to area of Kozienice, Poland. Contact Esther, 905-731-7673, evgs.

LOOKING FOR LISA. From England, (maybe mid 40's), residing Toronto 10-11 yrs., remarried in Toronto, serious illness 2-3 yrs. ago, **URGENT.** Please call 416-280-6356.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Can. Israeli pretty lady,45, 5'5", interested in science & health subjects, is looking for a handsome, intelligent, caring man, 47-55. CJN Box 6835.

I am a 47 yr. old male, fit, multilingual, 158 lbs., 5'10". I have integrity & honesty, and wish to meet a female for serious relationship. CJN Box 6826.

Young lady, 28, tall, slim, attr., good natured, Univ. educated, not into the bar scene, would like to meet a SJM, 28-35, with similar traits. Please reply with photo to CJN Box 6839.

Prof. businessman, seeks an attr., slim, down to earth spontaneous woman (38-50) who enjoys the normal things in life & love. CJN Box 6841.

Widow, 67 yrs. young, seeks caring mentsh, early 70's. Please incl. ph # & reply to CJN Box 6842.

Woman, retired, college grad., would like to meet a man who ,s able to travel, Israel or Fla. CJN Box 6836.

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

335 UNVEILINGS

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

330 OBITUARIES

Eric Burns on October 10, 1996, late of 3224 Greenbough Crescent
Max Burnstein on October 12, 1996, late of 70 Macklin St. N.
Esther Cooper on October 12, 1996, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
Morris Ryzman on October 12, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Nathan Naster on October 11, 1996, late of 7 Townsgate Road
Joe Goldmintz on October 12, 1996, late of 14 St. Matthews
Samuel Bojman on October 12, 1996, late of 232 Strathallan Wood
Ben Siwak on October 14, 1996, late of 82 Garthdale Court
Rachel Weisdorf on October 11, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Road
Barbara Klein on October 12, 1996, late of 2949 Sleepy Hollow Drive
Ala Finkelstein on October 15, 1996, late of 26 Moodie Drive
Jennie Belman on October 15, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Road
Harry Wajgensberg on October 16, 1996, late of 3174 Bathurst Street
Jeannette Hentz on October 15, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Road
Lilly Zweigman on October 15, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Mordchai Goldczewski on October 17, 1996, late of 130 Neptune Drive #604
Wolf Gordon on October 17, 1996, late of 30 Mandel Crescent
Gaston Mizrahi on October 17, 1996, late of 59 Castlebury Crescent

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Britstone, Mayer (Myer) on October 7, 1996, late of 3000 Bathurst St.
Schinderman, Grigori on October 8, 1996, late of 3905 Bathurst St.
Seres, Frank on October 8, 1996, late of 565 Avenue Rd.
Nozyc, Froma on October 9, 1996, late of 60 Russfax Dr.
Goldstein, Ronald Stephen on October 10, 1996
Anthony, Charles on October 10, 1996, late of 35 Heathdale Road
Kohn, Diana on October 16, 1996
Perkell, Jack on October 16, 1996, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
Fisch, Ernest on October 15, 1996, late of 755 York Mills Rd.
Schaffer, Judith on October 17, 1996, late of 18 Evanston Dr.
Kaplan, Rachel on October 17, 1996, late of 23 Krieger Cres.
Chinsky, Joseph on October 17, 1996, late of 211 Johnston Ave.
Grisor, Wayne Brian on October 17, 1996
Goldstein, Doris on October 18, 1996
Mishchenko, Maria on October 19, 1996
Zacharias, Bruno on October 17, 1996, late of 360 Ridelle Ave.
Stern, Ann on October 19, 1996, late of 33 Barclay Rd.
Levi, Dora on October 18, 1996
Berger, Oscar on October 21, 1996, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
Birfer, Alexander on October 21, 1996, late of 5900 Yonge St.
Citron, Adele on October 23, 1996, late of 57 Overbrook Place

Steeles Memorial Chapel

PM evades question on Arad

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, during a recent visit to the navy base in Haifa, was asked if the government had received any new information regarding missing airman Ron Arad as a result of efforts of German mediator Bernd Schmidbauer.

Netanyahu said: "I will say that our view of the Ron Arad situation has not changed. We have always considered him to be alive and in captivity and we expect his captors to heed the most basic humanitarian principle of returning him home to his family and his people."

Prior to his visit to Haifa, Netanyahu paid a condolence call on the widow of Col. Nabih Mari, at her home in Hurfeish in the Galilee. Mari was killed in Rafiah during the eruption of violence following the opening of an exit to the Western Wall tunnels.

"Mr. Prime Minister, I want to ask you a question and I want you to answer it," Sharha Mari told Netanyahu as they sat in her home. "Several days ago, a number of students from the Mt. Meron Field School came here on a condolence visit and asked me if I was angry with the Palestinians or somebody else.

"I answered them that I was angry with the government and the prime minister because you opened the tunnel without discussing it with my husband or his colleagues in the army, or the army itself.

"And you have seen what the opening of the tunnel did – 15 soldiers were killed and I lost my husband and my only daughter lost her father. What was it worth. Why did you do it?"

Netanyahu evaded the question, while stressing that Israel is trying to achieve peace with the Palestinians.

Tracing Yemeni children

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Blood samples will be taken from 1,000 parents and other close relatives of Yemenite children who allegedly disappeared during the early years of the state, Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi decided recently.

The DNA fingerprints of the families will be compared with those from small bits of bones in 10 graves that have been identified as those of Yemenite children.

Health Ministry director general Gabi Barabash will supervise the project, which will be carried out by Dr. Yehuda Hiss, director of the Institute for Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir and a professor at Chaim Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer.

Activists claim the children were taken from their parents and adopted by veteran Israelis. The parents, they say, were told the babies had died in hosptials.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Edith Leventhal ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, November 3,
11:00 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
(Bathurst, North of Finch)
Section #12
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS FLACKS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, November 3,
3:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
(Dufferin St., North of Major Mackenzie)
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARY ANISMAN ז"ל
beloved wife of Louis, mother of Philip, Elaine and Arlene, grandmother of Victoria and Catherine
will take place
Sunday, November 3rd, 1996 at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Husatiner Klaus Section

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Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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The Inside Back

Fiscal firestorm shakes U.S. branch of JNF

By CYNTHIA MANN
Special to the CJN

NEW YORK – A fiscal firestorm has shaken the roots of the Jewish National Fund of America (JNF).

JNF has employed sloppy accounting procedures that have misrepresented how much of its money is sent to Israel, according to the results of an investigation.

A panel appointed by JNF to probe the organization's financial practices has found it innocent of allegations of fraud, malfeasance and misappropriation of funds.

But the panel found that the charity, which raised roughly $30 million (US) last year, engages in accounting "inefficiencies" that make it hard to determine exactly how the money is spent.

Avner Regev, executive vice-president of JNF Canada told *The CJN* that JNF Canada has "nothing at all to do with American JNF. We are a completely separate entity. JNF Canada has its own annual audit."

The findings have rocked the organization, long viewed as one of the jewels of Jewish philanthropy. It has shaken the confidence of some of its supporters and was expected to lead to at least one high-level resignation.

One of the most potentially damaging findings is that so little money gets to Israel when JNF's historic mission is popularly understood as planting trees and developing the land.

While some promotional JNF material suggests that nearly 70 percent of its budget goes to Israel, only 21 percent of the agency's total expenditures actually find their way to the Jewish state.

Nearly twice as much money stays in the United States for what JNF calls Zionist education and "Israel-based programs."

For their part, JNF officials have responded to the report with pledges to overhaul the organization's accounting and fiscal operation, to reduce administrative and fundraising costs and to revise JNF's method of reporting allocations to Israel.

JNF executive vice-president Samuel Cohen refused repeated requests for an interview about the investigation, which was initiated in the spring after donors raised questions about JNF spending.

But in a letter sent to the media, he and JNF president Milton Shapiro wrote that "the worst allegations of misconduct are simply untrue."

The stakes were high in the investigation, with reverberations extending far beyond the fate of one organization.

The JNF mission to make the deserts of Israel bloom is sacrosanct.

For decades, children have placed coins in JNF's signature blue boxes with visions of planted saplings destined to mature into sturdy trees.

The vision, inseparable from JNF itself, was always an emblem of the fledgling state defying nature by putting down roots in a region that was not a naturally hospitable one.

JNF Canada untouched by scandal

JNF's universal appeal is reflected in its constituent organizations, which support and contribute to its work. Those groups include B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Na'amat USA, Amit and Religious Zionists of America.

The probe has shaken the confidence of some supporters, who say they feel betrayed by JNF.

The investigation was conducted amid an atmosphere of drama, innuendo and bitterness, judging from an extensive series of correspondence obtained by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and a reference in the committee's own findings.

"The committee has determined that there is no evidence of fraud, misconduct, malfeasance by JNF personnel, nor is there evidence of misappropriation of JNF funds," wrote the panel, which was chaired by Marianne Bretton-Granatoor, in-house counsel for Merrill Lynch.

However, the report continues, "a number of management, accounting and fundraising inefficiencies" are "in large part, responsible for the atmosphere of suspicion which has provided a catalyst for many of the recent accusations leveled at JNF."

The investigation included an independent audit by the accounting firm Deloitte & Touche, which was requested by the four-member panel appointed in April by Shapiro.

The probe was triggered in the spring after Stephen Breslauer and Ben Guefen, two activists from Houston, began raising questions about what they perceived as discrepancies in JNF's accounting. They did so after having been invited in mid-1995 to take the top lay positions in their regional organization.

In letters to JNF lay and professional leadership across the nation and in interviews, Breslauer repeatedly said that he had no interest in hurting JNF's enterprise. He said he only wanted clarification about JNF spending practices after being named the head of a foundation whose primary beneficiary was JNF.

His concern was also piqued after a disturbing personal discovery.

After the Breslauers' son died, the couple designated in January 1995 a $10,000 gift for a woodland in the JNF AIDS forest near Beersheva. When they went to Israel the next spring, they found that no trees had been planted for their son.

"The funds were absorbed totally in JNF operations and in purchasing a plaque," he wrote in a letter to Bretton-Granatoor in June. "Is it not a misrepresentation to describe that donations are made to reforest Israel (whether one tree or 1,000) when little if any of those funds is used for that purpose?"

Meanwhile, what Breslauer viewed as his inability to get thorough answers helped fuel a series of investigative pieces on JNF by freelance journalist Yosef Abramowitz. The articles were recently published in a few Jewish newspapers.

The auditors, for their part, concluded that there were no missing millions. Some of the discrepancies they found, often reported only in the fine print of footnotes to their report, were due to inconsistent financial reporting practices, they said.

Nonetheless, some of those discrepancies resulted in clouding the true spending practices of the charity.

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CABBAGE ROLL CASSEROLE

1/2 medium cabbage, shredded
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1 1/2 lbs. minced beef
2 onions, minced
2-8 oz cans tomato sauce
1/2 tsp. savory or oregano
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 cup cooked rice

Place 1/2 shredded cabbage in a well greased baking dish. Heat oil in a large frying pan. Stir in the beef. Cook until it loses its redness. Add onion, half a can of tomato sauce, savory, garlic, salt, pepper and rice. Stir to blend thoroughly.

Pour remaining 1/2 can tomato sauce over the cabbage mixture. Cover with rice mixture. Place remaining cabbage on top, then pour second can of sauce over all. Bake 1 hour at 350°F. Serves 6.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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Dorot Foundation

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Dan Magder of Toronto and Ayelet Cohen of Hampstead, Que., are two of the 18 young adults who have been awarded fellowships in Israel for 1996-97 by the Dorot Foundation.

The Dorot Fellowship in Israel was created seven years ago to help develop a knowledgeable Diaspora Jewish lay leadership. Fellows stay in Israel for 12 months. After participating in an intensive Hebrew language program, they spend the rest of the year in part-time academic study and part-time internship in a field of interest of their own choosing.

The fellowships are open to candidate in their 20s and 30s who have graduated from college or university, especially those who have demonstrated commitment to public service in the general or Jewish community, an interest in learning about their Jewish heritage and personal qualities of leadership.

For more information about the fellowship, one can contact Rebecca Starr, Dorot Foundation, 439 Benefit St., Providence, R.I., 02903; telephone: 401-351-8866; fax: 401-351-4975. Or one can e-mail: Rebecca@Dorot.org.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I was very nervous before the referendum. I live in Montreal and thought that I would feel better when the No side won. But now with talk about another referendum I just don't know what to do.

My children moved to Toronto and Calgary several years ago and now my grandson is being transferred to Calgary. I own my home but I can't afford to sell it. I will have to stay here. If I get sick, will I have to go to a hospital where no one will speak my language?

J.F.

Dear J.F.,

Don't panic. Anglophone services are available where the numbers of people in a community warrant it. At this time there is no reason to believe that this will change. None of us know for sure what the future holds so try to enjoy whatever you can, now. If you have family and friends in Montreal you may prefer to stay.

On the other hand if you would be comfortable living elsewhere then you may be willing to accept a lesser amount for your property. Please, discuss this carefully with your family and take some time to make your decision.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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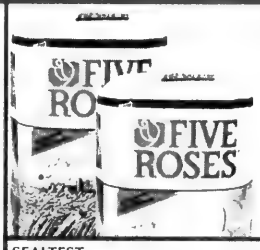

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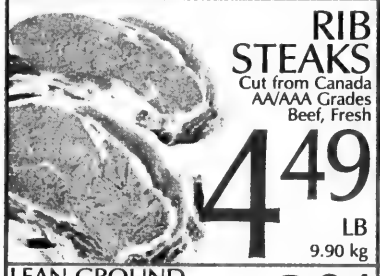

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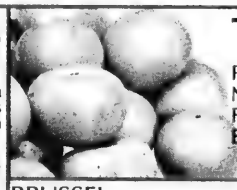

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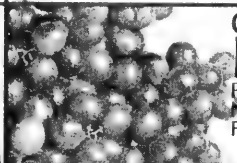

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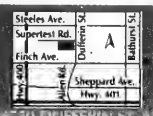

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Prime Minister

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The peace process will only succeed if it takes hold at the grassroots level. The efforts of Givat Haviva are an important contribution to this urgent goal.

Wishing you continued success in your endeavors.

Sincerely yours,

Y. Rabin

Yitzhak Rabin

Mr. David Koren, Director
Givat Haviva
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For more information please contact:
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A supplement to the Canadian Jewish News · Fall 1996

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Israel's new ambassador to Canada appeals for patience. *Page 3*

New rules will make it harder for immigrants to enter Canada, JIAS director says. *Page 6*

Udi Savion, Toronto's aliyah *shaliach* returns to Israel. *Page 14*

Israeli fair offers one-stop information shopping on Israeli youth, volunteer and educational programs. *Page 19*

Coast to Coast

Victoria Public Library criticized for allowing Doug Christie to speak. *Page 25*

TAB news

Preponderance of young women adore David Broza's show. *Page 37*

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Shabbat: Chaye Sarah
Candlelighting 4:40
Cheshvan 26, 5757
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Hebron's Jews will stay: PM

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — "There will be no uprooting of the Jewish community in Hebron – not now, not tomorrow, and not ever - in any shape or form," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed last week.

Featured as the guest speaker at the National Religious Party's (NRP) central committee meeting in Tel Aviv, Netanyahu cited "maintaining and strengthening the Jewish community of Hebron and safeguarding the tombs of our patriarchs" as his government's twin goals in the current talks on redeployment. If these goals are not secured, he promised, there would be no agreement.

Netanyahu's appearance was anticipated with some trepidation, on the assumption that he would face a severe onslaught from those who consider his plans for redeployment a betrayal. However, his words were often received with tumultuous applause. The only vocal challenge came from Noam Arnon, spokesperson for the Jewish community in Hebron, who said that "this party cannot acquiesce to the relinquishing of the City of the Patriarchs to foreign rule."

"This is not only your personal problem, but also mine and the problem of your children and my children, too," Netanyahu replied.

This did not prevent the central committee from empowering the NRP's Knesset faction to seek changes in the redeployment agreement as it is currently shaping up.

Netanyahu said he hopes the agreement would minimize friction between Jews and Arabs in Hebron and "would not compromise the safety of Hebron's Jews or our right to act to ensure security. Our aim is not just to make certain that the Jewish community is not strangled, but that it can live, in all senses of the word; that it can grow and develop."

When the permanent settlement is negotiated, he continued, the government will want to achieve "the broadest possible national consensus." He intimated that he does not mean a national unity government but "proposals which will unite the majority of the nation and which will serve as an essential tool in the attainment of the sort of agreement with which we can literally live and which will make sure that settlement in Eretz Yisrael not only continues, but develops, prospers and grows."

Netanyahu also lamented the "lack of values in our educational system. We are seeing nihilistic influences at work – there is no homeland, no nation, no flag, and arising from this, there is no army and no sense of duty to participate in its actions."

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer told the meeting that the two NRP ministers would examine the Hebron agreement before deciding whether or not to support it.

During an address earlier last week to the Israel Export Institution Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attributes responsibility for the delay in concluding an agreement over Hebron to the stalling tactics of Yasser Arafat. *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Ottawa names suspected Nazis

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A former member of the Royal Hungarian Police and a Nazi collaborator who participated in atrocities against civilians in Belarus are the two latest men facing loss of citizenship as alleged Nazi war criminals.

Documents filed in Federal Court last week by the Justice Department alleged that Vladimir Katriuk of Montreal was a member of the Ukrainian Schutzmannschaft Battalion 118 (later Battalion 63) from 1942-44 and collaborated with German authorities in Ukraine and Belarus, as well as taking part in atrocities against Belorussian civilians.

Ladislav Csizsik-Csatary of Montreal, who recently moved to Toronto, is alleged to have been a member of the Royal Hungarian Police in Kassa, Hungary, now Kosice, Slovak Republic, and was involved in the internment and deportation to concentration camps of thousands of Jews.

Federal authorities are attempting to strip the two of their Canadian citizenship on the grounds they withheld information about their wartime activities when they were admitted to Canada and when they obtained citizenship.

The cases have been referred to the Federal Court for adjudication.

Toronto lawyer William Halkiw, who represents Csizsik-Csatary, said his client denies the allegations of war crimes.

Katriuk, who a is a beekeeper, also denied the allegations, saying he was a Ukrainian nationalist persecuted by the Soviets

"I've been set up by the KGB," he told CBC TV's *The National*. "I'm an innocent man...They have no proof against me...I doubt it."

Katriuk, 75, came to Montreal in 1951 with his French wife and evetually bought a three-storey apartment building in Rosemont. He sold the building several years ago and spends most of his time at a country home in Ormstown, the *Montreal Gazette* reported.

Csizsik-Csatary, 81, came to Canada in 1949 and lived in Montreal until moving to Toronto in the spring.

Csizsik-Csatary moved to Toronto to be near his wife, who is ill, and to be close to his family, Halkiw stated in a letter that was filed in Federal Court along with government documents.

Jewish groups welcomed the announcement of the two new cases. They have been lobbying for years for legal action against alleged Nazi war criminals.

"We commend the government for continuing to bring forward suspected Nazi war criminals in this country but the pace is still far too slow," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee. "There is no longer any sand in the hourglass. Every effort must be made to bring these alleged mass murderers to justice. It was stated very clearly by the Justice Department nearly two years ago that they had a list of 12 people against whom they intended to launch proceedings. Why have they not named the other four?"

Continued on page 5

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Israel will hold security meetings with Russia — please see page 33

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

Support for Hebron

JERUSALEM – A crowd Israel Radio estimated at 10,000 people braved the rain and demonstrated in downtown Jerusalem in support of the Jewish settlement in Hebron, then marched to the nearby U.S. Consulate, where they called on the United States not to pressure Israel into redeploying in the city.

Speakers at the rally took pains to stress that the protest was not against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, but rather in support of retaining control in Hebron.

Dayan Attacked

JERUSALEM – A Jerusalem man has been charged with deliberately throwing a cup of hot tea in the face of Labor Knesset member Yael Dayan in Hebron.

The incident occurred when Dayan, who suffered burns on her face and chest, arrived at the Tomb of the Patriarchs with other members of the Knesset committee on the status of women.

The man, Yisrael Lederman, maintains that he was pushed from behind and did not deliberately throw the hot tea. He also accused the police of suppressing evidence that supports his claim.

Settler Held In Death

JERUSALEM – Israeli police have laid murder charges against a security guard for the West Bank Jewish settlement of Efrat after he allegedly caused the death of a 10-year-old Palestinian boy.

In an incident near Bethlehem, security guard Nahum Kurman stopped his vehicle after stones were thrown at his car, chased the boy and kicked him in the head, Palestinian witnesses said.

Kurman denied that he ever touched the boy. The boy was admitted unconscious to Hadassah Hospital in the Ein Kerem section of Jerusalem, where he died.

An autopsy revealed that the boy died from a brain hemorrhage caused by a sharp blow, Israel Radio reported.

WORLD

Hungarian Rally

BUDAPEST – Demonstrators shouted anti-Semitic remarks during an ultra-rightist rally held here last week to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian uprising against Soviet rule.

The demonstration, during which some 25,000 people gathered outside the Parliament building, was far larger than the official government ceremony held to mark the doomed uprising.

Dozens of people shouted "bloody Jew" when a reporter asked some neo-Nazis in the crowd about their plans.

EU's New Envoy

LUXEMBOURG – The European Union has named Spain's ambassador to Israel, Miguel Angel Moratinos, to serve as a special EU envoy to the Middle East.

The 15 EU foreign ministers gave Moratinos a mandate at Monday's meeting here to establish contacts with Israeli and Palestinian negotiators and to suggest possible EU initiatives for advancing the peace process, according to diplomatic sources.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday November 5, 1971

MINISTER RELAYS SOVIET'S MESSAGE

In a letter to Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mitchell Sharp, sought to explain that Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin's reference to "riff-raff" during his visit to Ottawa was not directed [as previously reported] to those who demonstrated on behalf of the Jewish community.

Sharp claimed that the comment was directed against a Burke Society member who attacked him on Parliament Hill. "This interpretation was subsequently confirmed by reporters and officials in discussions with Kosygin's interpreter."

******

MEIR CLAIMS U.S. SPURS ARABS TO WAR

Premier Golda Meir accused the U.S. of encouraging the Arabs toward war rather than a settlement by withholding arms from Israel and yielding to Egyptian terms for an interim Suez agreement.

Meir made her accusations in a political statement to the Knesset at the opening of its fall session. She warned that no amount of pressure would force Israel to make political concessions that might endanger her security.

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Peace requires patience, says ambassador

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Israel's new ambassador to Canada has appealed for understanding and patience with the Israeli government's peace policies.

"We need the understanding of our friends in Canada," David Sultan told an Israel Bonds event at the Four Seasons Hotel recently. "Bear with us. Have patience."

The peace process, he noted in his first speech to a Jewish organization in Canada, is of "crucial importance" to Israel.

But Israel wants to proceed carefully so as not to endanger its security, now or in the future, he added.

"Even after peace, you need a lot of patience," he suggested, referring to Israel's sometimes stormy relations with Egypt, the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel.

Sultan, Israel's former ambassador to Egypt, said Israel's quest for security was not "an obsession."

Sultan, who presented his credentials to Canada's governor general last month, disclosed that he recently briefed Lloyd Axworthy, the Canadian foreign minister, on Israel's talks with the Palestinian Authority.

Voicing optimism that the difficult negotiations would produce an agreement, Sultan said there is "no alternative to (Arab-Israeli) coexistence."

Turning to Israel's relationship with Canada, Sultan said one of his main objectives will be to expand the volume of trade, now that a free trade agreement has been signed.

Sultan said Israel and Canada are presently working on a cultural agreement that, he believes, will deepen bilateral ties.

In an upbeat assessment of Israel's economic performance, Sultan said that the unemployment rate has been curbed, that foreign investment has risen to $1.4 billion (US) this year, and that Israel's credit rating has improved.

Nevertheless, Israel still needs Israel Bonds capital, he said.

Dan Meridor, Israel's finance minister, was unable to appear at the function as scheduled because he was due to present the annual budget to the Knesset. Instead, he delivered his remarks in a video.

Meridor declared that Israel has recorded its seventh consecutive and unprecedented year of growth.

Israel's economy is growing at an annual rate of about six percent, and its gross domestic product (GDP) will reach $90 billion (US) this year, he reported.

The economy is booming as a result of the influx of Soviet Jews, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the opening up of new markets, the peace process and internal reforms.

Peace is integral to Israel's economic well-being, he explained, because it contributes to stability and in turn encourages investors.

Meridor said that Israel is helping the Palestinian Authority financially because both sides benefit.

"On the economic side, we have no interest in Palestinian unemployment and poverty," he observed.

Calling upon Diaspora Jewry to take part in the building of Israel, he urged Jews to visit, make aliyah, send their children to Israel, invest and purchase Israel Bonds.

IN THE SCHTETL

This painting by Ludwig Knaus entitled "In the Schtetl" and estimated in value between $47,000-$74,000, is one of the artworks seized by the Nazis from Jews during World War II that went on the auction block last week by the British auction house Christie's. [Reuters/RNS]

Clarification

The CJN's story last week on divisions within Israeli society in the aftermath of the Rabin assassination misrepresented the views of prominent Israeli sociologist Prof. Nissan Rubin. Prof. Rubin has been deeply critical of religious radicalism and the remarks attributed to him in *The CJN* were a comment on certain segments of Israeli society. **They were not an expression of his own views.** We profoundly regret the error.

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A forceful plea for a caring government

Last week was quite eventful. Between the news emanating, as always, from around the Jewish world, and events closer to home, there was much to write about. The following are some observations that I recorded.

* * *

I had the profound pleasure of listening to Mario Cuomo, the former governor of New York State, address a gathering of business people and executives. He was in Toronto for a breakfast stop, part of a "tour" of Canadian cities, organized by The Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

The subject of his 90-minute presentation was, ostensibly, the American Election Campaign and its Aftermath. I say ostensibly, because he directed only a brief part of his remarks to the topic of the election. The majority of his time was spent in pleading forcefully, eloquently and passionately for a view of civic life and of public policy which includes "caring" government involvement.

His remarks were, to say the least, heartfelt and compelling. The coincidence of his visit to Toronto, a mere 48 hours after the weekend of organized Labor 's days of protests ensured that his comments would have a sharp poignancy and relevance.

Following are some of my notes and observations:

Cuomo said the election campaign had been "pathetic," devoid of any serious discussion of the range of possible solutions to the many serious problems plaguing the United States.

He observed that Bob Dole lacked a "rationale" for his campaign. He defined "rationale" as a defining vision, an overarching philosophical message for the voters. Dole's "rationale" had been lost to Newt Gingrich when the latter led the Republican House and Senate in their right-wing "revolution" two years ago.

The governor presented his assessment of the campaign efficiently and effectively. But it was when he moved on to the topic most precious to his public servant's heart, namely, the role of government, that his words took flight and passion accompanied intellect.

Waving his right hand and speaking in slow, deliberate tones, the governor proclaimed: "It should never be respectable for government to be without compassion, without concern, without care, for the less fortunate in society."

"We must not give up on the idea of the collectivity, on the idea of family, the idea that we are inter-connected and inter-dependent.

"It is nonsense to say that government is bad; that government has failed."

He considers the slogan "no more big government" to be the demagogue's boom box. It is a politically expedient slogan, nothing more. Moreover, in real life, it is simply not true.

For example, when natural disaster strikes, where do the local governments and the citizens look to for assistance? Or when man-made disaster strikes, as it did during the depression, for example, where did people turn for assistance?

"Pinning anger on the poor will not work forever.

"For us (Canadians too) to be as strong and as rich as possible, we have to make *everyone* (the poor included) as productive as possible."

Real common sense is to be found in mutual responsibility. It is folly to label it as liberalism; it is pragmatic, self-interest with a human dimension, serving the long-term benefit of the community and all those who call the community their home.

It was a privilege to hear him speak.

* * *

In contrast to Cuomo's behavior, in my mind, there was the behavior last week, of French President Jacques Chirac on his tour of the Middle East.

Chirac was in the region to make the case that Europe generally, and he specifically, should now be acting as a mediator in the negotiations between Israel and its neighbors.

But his assertion was both pretension and hypocrisy.

His trip was a constant embarrassment to the people of Israel while a constant pandering to the Arabs. He refused to address the Knesset; but he made certain to address the Palestinian Legislative Assembly in Ramallah. He could not bring himself to find anything positive to say about Israel's leadership, but found the most calming and reassuring things to say about Syrian leadership. He hectored Israel, but "stroked" its neighbors. His public, well-televised display of pique and anger at the Israeli security officer in the Old City was calculated to bring him the highest credit within the Palestinian world. But it was nothing more than transparently unctuous behavior to rival Dicken's Uriah Heep.

* * *

Sometimes our mistakes warrant additional mention to the clarification or correction we print in the paper. Last week *The CJN* committed such a mistake.

Leora Eren Frucht, our outstanding award-winning correspondent in Israel, wrote an article about the distressing fractures appearing within Israeli society in the wake of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin.

In the article, she quoted an observation of the schism by one of the country's leading sociologists, Prof. Nissan Rubin of Bar-Ilan, to the effect that some people regarded Rabin's murder as a miracle. She inadvertently left the impression, however, that the quote reflected Rubin's personal opinion. He was in fact commenting on a view held by others. The opinion was not his private belief.

On the contrary, Rubin is one of the country's most courageous critics of religious extremism and one of the country's leading advocates of social harmony and unity. He was among the first to call for *chesbon nefesh*, soul-searching, within the religious community.

As we have stated elsewhere in the paper, we profoundly apologize to Prof. Rubin and to Bar-Ilan University for any embarrassment which we caused by the mistake.

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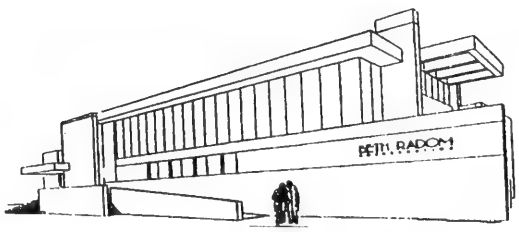

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Israeli consul prepares to leave

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Haim Waxman has shmoozed with the politicians and battled the media to set the record straight on Israel. He's gone out to the Canadian hinterland to visit the smaller Jewish communities and he's tried to lay the foundation for improved relations with religious and ethnic communities.

But it's his work in promoting the artistic, creative and talent-laden Israel that he finds particularly rewarding as he winds up his term as Israeli consul for Toronto and Western Canada.

After four years in Canada, Waxman is cleaning his desk, packing his papers, labelling his personal items and getting ready to return to Jerusalem with his wife Amalia and two young daughters.

His stint in Toronto has seen plenty of highs and lows, from the signing of the peace plan with the Palestinians to the conflict that erupted only a month or two ago. But in an interview in his downtown office, he is happiest when he focuses on a project that is near and dear to his heart.

"For the past four years, we've seen the cultural world as one of the most important goals that we have," the 33-year-old envoy said.

"We saw it as enabling us to reach a segment of society whose only knowledge of Israel comes from the media and that is almost all political — wars and violence. We were able to show them, through culture, the other, beautiful, creative side of Israel."

Promoting Israeli culture has always been on the consulate's agenda, but the goodwill engendered by the peace agreement and culture's apolitical nature, made the Canadian public more receptive to it, he said.

This is a process that is happening around the world, Waxman continued. "It reflects the world view of Israel to become more international, more open and to be engaged in a more varied dialogue."

As consul responsible for public relations (he also is in charge of passports and visas and administration), he's helped promote an Israeli choir's performance in a Toronto church; he took part in the organization of a week-long exhibition of the films of Gila Amagor at the Cinematheque Ontario; and he was instrumental in arranging for the performances of two young classical musicians who toured Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto and London.

Waxman said improving the perception of Israel among some churches that have been critical of Israel was also on his agenda as was improving relations with various ethnic groups, including local Arab and Palestinian communities. He's also proud of efforts to bring Canadian mayors from Vancouver, Markham, Ont., and Toronto to mayors' conferences in Jerusalem.

One constant in that varied agenda was the cooperation and support of the Canadian Jewish community, which is known in Israeli diplomatic circles for its strong Zionist attitude and its moral support of Israel. Despite that foreknowledge, Waxman admits that meeting Canadian Jews opened his eyes somewhat.

"The contact with the Jewish community was very important for mer personally," he said. "As someone who grew up in Israel, I don't think young Israelis really understand the Jewish Diaspora and what draws us together.

"Young Israelis rebel and say 'We don't know what ties us together.' It's important to see how much we are connected and how much we are part of the same family.

"Working here, you understand you have allies and realize we're not alone in our fight for the existence of Israel and for the survival of the Jewish world."

Waxman said that Jewish connectedness is the strongest impression he has from his time in Toronto.

An alumni of the Hebrew University's program in Russian and general studies, Waxman joined the diplomatic corps soon after graduating.

"I was attracted by the opportunity to represent Israel and work for Israel, which I think is a great privilege," he said. "Second was the opportunity to see other societies and to live in those societies."

A few weeks before he'll leave and he's already talking nostalgically about the he Annex area of Toronto, near the consulate. He enjoyed strolling in the area with Amalia, walking into bookstores and picking up the weekend Israeli papers.

Waxman expects to rejoin the Eastern Europe desk at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem and afterwards receive another foreign posting. He'll be replaced by Irit Goren, who has served for the last two years in Brasilia and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Haim Waxman

Together with the posting of Jehudi Kinar as consul general, it will mark a complete changeover in personnel at the consulate.

Ottawa pursuing war crimes cases

[Cont'd. on page 1]

Six other cases involving alleged Nazi war criminals are at various stages of the legal process. Erichs Tobiass, Helmut Oberlander and Johann Dueck are facing loss of citizenship, though their case is still in a preliminary stage of legal argument, as is the case of Josef Nemsila, who is not a Canadian citizen. Cases involving Antanas Kenstavicius of Hope, B.C. and Wasily Bogutin have not yet begun.

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Immigration targets concern JIAS officials

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ottawa's announcement last week that it will hold the line on the number of immigrants allowed into Canada next year may make it even harder to enter this country, contends Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS).

What worries JIAS national director Perry Romberg in particular is Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard's statement that the reason immigration levels won't rise in 1997 is the fear of a "social backlash."

"Right now in Canada, I must tell you that the population is divided," Robillard said. "I think that to have more immigrants in this country, we need the support of the population of Canada."

The minister referred to an Angus Reid poll last summer showing that 44 percent of Canadians thought Ottawa has been accepting too many immigrants. The same percentage said current immigration levels were about right.

In the same survey, 51 percent of respondents said immigration increases unemployment.

Asked if Ottawa fears a political backlash if it raised the number of immigrants next year, Robillard said, "It's not political backlash, it's social backlash."

Thus, the Liberals will hold the line at between 195,000 and 220,000 newcomers for 1997 — the same as originally projected for 1996. Robillard said the target numbers comply with the Liberal red book of election promises, which pledged to aim for annual immigration levels of one percent of the population — about 300,000 people.

She said next year's projection falls below that number "because we have to take into account the reaction of the people of Canada."

That concerns Romberg, who fears the government is caving in to public canards about immigrants.

"It's a nervous backlash ... a reaction to hysteria when there's high unemployment," Romberg told *The CJN*. He cited one study that showed 90 percent of immigrants get on their feet quickly and are not a drain on public finances.

JIAS is "concerned" about Ottawa's targets for next year. "It's a significant decrease [from previous targets] and it definitely worries us."

Romberg said new rules could make it even harder for immigrants to enter Canada next year.

In addition to setting overall levels, Robillard announced that the number of economic-class immigrants will rise to between 102,000 and 113,000 from 84,000, while the target number of family-class immigrants will fall from 78,000 to between 58,000 and 66,000.

That could mean additional hardship for JIAS clients, almost all of whom are from the former Soviet Union, Romberg said. Even now, applications to Canada for a family of four cost $3,000, while prospective immigrants must show they have at least $7,500 per adult and $2,000 per child in a Canadian bank account in their name.

"Not everyone has that money," Romberg said. "Apartments in Moscow may be sold for that much, but not in smaller cities."

Also a source of worry for JIAS is fewer family sponsorships for next year.

Economic-class immigrants will account for 60 percent of all cases next year, Robillard said. Family-class will account for about 35 percent, with the other five percent coming as would-be refugees.

At JIAS, 70 percent of cases are in the independent (including economic) class, and the rest family class.

In the past fiscal year, the agency handled 2,500 newcomers to Canada, most from the former Soviet Union. About 1,400 settled in Toronto.

In a statement, B'nai Brith Canada said it is "alarming" that Ottawa is formulating its immigration policy based on polls, "when the government knows that the public's perception of the economic effects of immigration is wrong.

"Instead of bending to a misinformed public, the Canadian government should be highlighting the economic and social benefits derived from new immigrants."

If Ottawa continues this policy, "it could again lead to a day when Canada shamefully slams its door shut on desperate refugees as it did prior to World War II," BBC said.

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Multiculturalism Minister Hedy Fry and honorary chair Lincoln Alexander announce the creation of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. [Ron Csillag photo]

Minister launches race relations agency

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's multiculturalism minister last week announced that the federal Liberals are keeping another red book promise by launching the long-awaited Canadian Race Relations Foundation.

At the same time, Hedy Fry revealed new criteria for funding for ethnocultural groups — the first comprehensive changes to programs since multiculturalism was introduced in 1971.

The foundation, to be headquartered in Toronto, will serve as a research centre and clearing house for information on racism and discrimination, Fry told a press conference.

It was unveiled by former prime minister Brian Mulroney in 1988, as part of his government's package of redresses to Japanese Canadians, who were compensated for confiscation of property and incarceration by Canada during World War II.

The foundation will receive a one-time $24-million endowment from Ottawa, half of which will be donated by the government on behalf of Japanese Canadians as part of the redress agreement.

Parliament passed the law approving the foundation in 1991, but it was shelved in the wake of subsequent budget cuts. The Liberals promised in their red book of election pledges to set it up.

The body, which has been welcomed by Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada, will operate at arm's length from the government. It will have an executive director and 15 board members from across Canada. Lincoln Alexander, a former federal cabinet minister and Ontario lieutenant governor, will serve as honorary chair.

The sole Jewish board member is Myer Horowitz, an Edmonton educator.

The foundation's mandate, Fry said, includes:

- to undertake research, collect data and develop a national information base to further understanding of racism and racial discrimination;
- to act as a clearing house for information and establish links with libraries and educational institutes;
- to help governments and the private sector draw race relations policies and practices;
- and to increase public awareness of the importance of eliminating racism.

The foundation's ambitious objective, Fry said, "is to find the root causes of racism and weed them out."

The minister also promised that a recent report highly critical of multiculturalism and how it's been sold to Canadians will not affect funding levels. The report recommended ending direct funding of ethnic groups because Canadians view it as catering to special interest groups.

Fry said the report was a small part of a general overview of her department's programs.

What will shift, she stressed, are criteria for funding. From now on, ethnocultural groups will have to demonstrate they espouse one or more of three principles in order to receive public funds: civic participation, social justice and the furthering of identity.

Fry called it "a more focused, efficient and results-oriented" policy, one that not only will mean no cuts in funds, but could even boost funding for some groups.

Alexander called the foundation's establishment "an historic occasion.

"Race relations in Canada are as solid as anywhere in the world but [racism] is still ripping holes in the fabric of society. We cannot sit back and do nothing."

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

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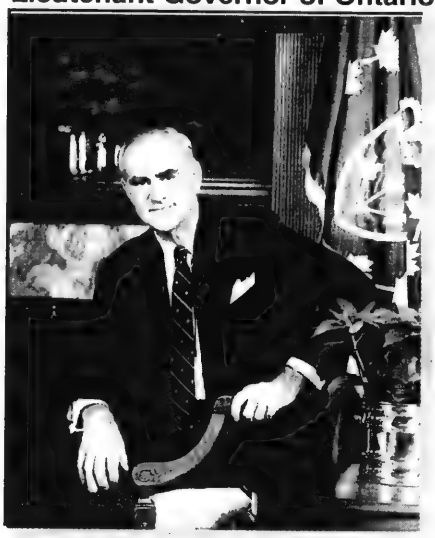
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario



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Reception: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

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CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS
PROF. IRVING ABELLA, O.C.
ALAN I. POSLUNS
THE HON. BOB RAE, Q.,C.

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JACKMAN GARDENS will contain picnic sites, hiking trails, scenic routes and lookout points, an urban promenade, playgrounds and other amenities - developed to enhance the quality of life for the people of Jerusalem and visitors to the city. JACKMAN GARDENS will be located in the southwestern part of the city, a rapidly-growing urban area. A major project of which Torontonians can be justly proud and which will demonstrate our affection and respect for Ontario's distinguished Lieutenant Governor - businessman, philanthropist, community leader!

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Policy and myth

Last week the government announced it will allow approximately 200,000 newcomers — between 195,000 and 220,000 — to settle in Canada in 1997. This represents the same number of immigrants permitted into the country in the year now coming to a close. But it is still fully 33 percent less than the target advocated by the Liberals during the election which brought them back to power.

In addition, the government also announced it will be decreasing the number of immigrants allowed as part of family reunification, in favor of immigrants who are investors and skilled laborers.

The government's announcement is disappointing. There are at least three reasons for the disappointment. First, the quota itself is too low. It seems to us that the Canadian economy is sufficiently elastic to absorb a greater number. This would benefit the newcomers seeking to build a better life and, of course, Canada, the multicultural garden which becomes enriched and strengthened by the many new roots that are sunk deep into its vast, nourishing, free and democratic soil.

Second, the continued de-emphasis of family reunification weakens one of the pillars which props up the successful integration of new Canadians into our society. To be sure, investors and skilled laborers are able to contribute directly to local business and economic development. But the family, extended and nuclear, is most often the true backbone supporting the newcomer as he acclimatises to a new land, new people and a new way of life.

Third, and most disappointing of all, was the reason underlying the government's decision. The government is, simply, afraid to accept more immigrants.

Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard justified the modest quota on the grounds that a larger one might risk a "social backlash" against the immigrants.

The minister acknowledged as "myth" the view linking increased immigration to increased unemployment. And rightly so. For she knows, as do economists and demographers, that immigration adds to rather than subtracts from employment. Immigration provides labor; it invigorates consumer demand; it spurs spending; it expands local markets; in short, it generates economic growth.

An example of this with which we are all familiar is that of Israel. Israel's economy has boomed in the past half decade, in large part due to the waves of immigrants that have reached her shores since 1989 .

And yet, she puts forward public policy that is based upon this myth. "I have to recognize the myth is there. To have more support of immigration in Canada, we need the support of the population," said Robillard. The minister is wrong.

In spite of the empirical proof, in spite of her own personal reservations, she has in effect, written public policy based on other peoples' incorrect and even objectionable assumptions. The implications of her action are distressing.

Are we destined in the modern age, to forfeit policy-making to the loudest, least informed, least charitable and least thoughtful articulators of loutish opinion? To be sure, opinion polls are an important factor when developing policy. No government can be too far out ahead of the majority view and still hope to last as the government. It would be naive and absurd to argue the contrary. But opinion polls should not be the determinant factor in formulating public policy. In the cybernetic, electronic, television age, public opinion is too inconstant and too unreliable. Like the colors of autumn, it is always changing.

Public policy must ultimately respond to the best, not the worst, qualities in our national character.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Every uphill has its downhill."
(Yiddish Proverb)

ISRAELI OPTIMISTS SAY THAT FRANCE IS ABOUT TO SELL US OUT BECAUSE OF FRENCH FEAR OF ARAB TERRORISM AND FRENCH DEPENDENCE ON ARAB OIL.
THAT'S WHAT THE OPTIMISTS ARE SAYING?!
YUP.
THE PESSIMISTS SAY THAT FRANCE IS ABOUT TO SELL US OUT BECAUSE OF...
TRADITIONAL FRENCH ANTI-SEMITISM.

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Nov.7, 1892 Nathan Phillips was born. Phillips served as mayor of Toronto from 1955 to 1963. The city hall square now bears his name. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Florida bound? Check your insurance

It has become apparent that the protection offered by most insurers to Canadians spending time in the United States is for *emergencies* only. This is greatly different from *health* insurance. Moreover, some of the insurers have established lists of approved doctors and hospitals. In many cases, the insurer insists on being given notice before the insured visits the medical facility.

As there is no established or standard definition of "emergency," it is helpful to read the contract offered by the insurer before signing the application. How long does an emergency exist? The common practice nowadays is to return the patient to his province of residence, whereupon the insurance company has no further responsibility. What if there is a scarcity of hospital beds or lack of suitable facilities in Canada? Is outpatient treatment in the United States covered?

Perhaps the most important part of the insurance contract appears under the heading of Exclusions, Exceptions or Limitations.

There may be serious problems arising from the customer's medical history. They are known as "pre-existing condtions" and the consequences vary greatly with different insurance companies. The customer should be aware that the insurer can obtain this information (when authorized in the customer's application) from the provincial health department or commission.

Another feature gaining popularity is the existence of "deductibles," where the customer agrees to bear a specific dollar amount out of each claim or for the contract period.

When claims are made for treatment, the arrangements are usually handled by intermediate or "assistance" companies who, on behalf of the insurer, consider the details of each incident and determine the action to be taken.

As the travelling public grows older and the length of stay in the United States increases, the cost of insurance rises proportionally. Many insurers will not accept applications from people over 80 years of age, or others who have had serious medical complications in the past.

Max Rapaport
Toronto

Congress made right move on Galganov

For the past few months, one of the most prominent advocates of anglophone rights in Quebec has been Howard Galganov. He recently led a campaign to boycott businesses posting French-only signs in predominantly anglophone areas of Montreal, and he has travelled to New York and Washington to denounce the aims of Quebec's sovereigntists.

In turn, Michel Gauthier, leader of the Bloc Quebecois, asked the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to dissociate itself from Galganov. The CJC rightly responded that Galganov had never stated that he speaks on behalf of the Jewish community; it deplored the fact that Galganov's political activities were being linked to his being Jewish.

Some 15 years ago, a colleague and I were treated in a similar fashion by the newspaper *Le Devoir*, but we at least had written an article in an Israeli newspaper, relating the problematic future faced by Montreal Jews in the wake of the 1976 Parti Quebecois victory. Since Galganov has never stated that he speaks for or works on behalf of the Jewish community, one can only conclude that this episode illustrates some of the nastier strains of ethnocentrism, that may lurk beneath the surface of the nationalist movement in Quebec.

Henry Srebrnik
Department of Political Studies
University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Looking for father's birthplace

I am trying to locate the birthplace of my father in Bessarabia, now Moldova.

The name of the village was Cholla Chouka or perhaps Czolla Czovka. It was in the region of Beltz, near Odessa.

Mendel Greenblatt
60 Greenwood Dr.
Moncton, N.B.
E1E 3B5

Correction on Crown Heights

Re: The Kirshner File (Oct. 24).

In his article "A Play With a Message," Sheldon Kirshner writes that "a 7-year-old black boy was fatally run over by a station wagon bearing Rabbi Menachem Schneerson." Actually the Rebbe was in another car and not in the car which hit Gavin Cato.

Y. Kestenberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The Sinai Campaign forty years ago

The lessons apply even today

By HAROLD M. WALLER

Last week marked the 40th anniversary of the Sinai Campaign in which Israel defeated the Egyptian army and gained control of the Sinai Peninsula, up to the edge of the Suez Canal. In a war that lasted a week, Israel demonstrated that only eight years after achieving independence, it was capable of fielding the most competent army in the Middle East and vanquishing the military forces of the largest and leading Arab state.

The swiftness of the victory helped to solidify the reputation of the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on the international scene. But the Sinai Campaign also demonstrated the validity of one of the recurrent themes in Israel's diplomatic history: even decisive military superiority cannot necessarily be translated into political gains. Israel's struggle for security and peace has both a military and a political dimension, and both are integral. As we reflect on Israel's current political and strategic challenges, it is useful to take note of the lessons of its history, including those from the Sinai Campaign.

The context in which Israel felt compelled to make a pre-emptive strike against Egypt was far different from that in which Israel operates today. Israel, living within the 1949 armistice lines, faced a hostile Arab world on all fronts. The general position of the Arab countries led by Egypt was that the creation of Israel in 1948 had been a catastrophe for the Arabs, an error that has to be reversed. Calls for the destruction of the Jewish State were common. There was no peace process and no direct contact between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

In specific terms, Egypt, under its charismatic leader Gamal Abdel Nasser, had claimed a leadership role in the Arab world. Nasser viewed himself as a unifying force who would fulfil his country's destiny to lead an Arab nation whose interests transcended the national boundaries that had been drawn by the Western powers after the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire. In addition to the struggle against imperialism, for which Nasser found allies among the non-aligned nations in the Third World, antipathy toward Israel was used by Nasser to unite the Arabs.

Thus, to some extent, Israel's fate was tied up in the internal relationships of the Arab world. Israel, which was very much isolated in its own region, sought out allies farther afield. A number of developments involving Egypt helped to create a situation in which Britain, France and Israel found that their interests were converging in the direction of an alliance aimed at Egypt.

Even though the three countries decided to cooperate, their reasons were very different. Israel focused very much on its own security. The combination of long-term strategic threats and immediate and frequent terrorist attacks launched from the Egyptian-occupied Gaza Strip by *fedayeen* provided then Israeli prime minister David Ben-Gurion with ample motivation to search for a way of dealing Egypt a severe blow. Nasser, who had come to power only in 1952 ousting a decrepit monarchy, strove to transform Egypt into a credible military threat, issued provocative calls for Israel's destruction and took concrete steps that affected vital Israeli national interests, particularly closing the Strait of Tiran (and thus Israel's only southern port, Eilat), first to Israeli shipping (1953), and then to all shipping bound for Israel (1955). Furthermore, his government actively encouraged the *fedayeen* attacks into Israel from the Gaza Strip that had caused hundreds of casualties.

Some of the people who influenced the outcome of the Sinai Campaign were Ariel Sharon and Moshe Dayan, (above), and Gamal Abdel Nasser and President Araf of Iraq (opposite right). [Photo from *The Arab-Israeli Wars*, Chaim Herzog, Vintage Books, 1984]

Perhaps most importantly, the possibility that he might unite the notoriously fractious Arab world under his leadership was viewed ominously from Jerusalem, especially in light of the massive arms deal he concluded with Czechoslovakia in 1955 that was enabling the Egyptian military to modernize, close some of the qualitative gap between it and the IDF, and sharply increase the quantitative imbalance.

Israel certainly did not relish the prospect of fighting a general war on all fronts. Consequently by late 1955, Ben-Gurion, who had resumed the post of prime minister after two years in retirement, concluded that Israel had to at least consider a pre-emptive strike against Egypt.

Britain and France were also concerned about the rise of Nasser. As the former colonial powers in the region, they had continued to play an active role and had extensive economic interests in a period before the United States had become deeply involved in Middle Eastern affairs. The decisive moment for them came in July 1956, when Nasser announced to a cheering crowd in Alexandria that he was nationalizing the Suez Canal, wresting ownership from the British and raising concerns about the dependability of a vital commercial lifeline through which oil from the Persian Gulf was transported to Europe and about the ability of the major European powers to continue to exercise military and political influence east of Suez.

As a result of all these developments, the stage was set for Britain, France and Israel to launch what they thought was a carefully coordinated military operation that had two distinct dimensions: Israel, with British and French support, would defeat Egypt in Sinai, while Britain and France would use the Israeli-Egyptian fighting as a pretext for taking the Suez Canal back from Egypt.

Suffice it to say that while the Israeli side of the operation proved brilliantly successful in a military sense, the Suez aspect failed when the British and then the French backed down under severe international pressure.

Israel moved into the Sinai on Oct. 29, 1956, a few days before the U.S. presidential election and while the Soviet Union was brutally suppressing the Hungarian Revolution. In a series of operations that are still studied for their innovative planning and superb execution, the IDF cleaned out the Gaza Strip, drove through the Sinai Peninsula to the eastern bank of the Suez Canal and then turned south through the Mitla Pass and from Eilat to complete the expulsion of the Egyptian forces from Sinai, capture Sharm El-Sheikh and reopen the Strait of Tiran to Israeli and international shipping.

The Israeli forces moved with lightning speed, reaching the canal and finishing the campaign within 100 hours. The seeming ease of the Israeli victory, matched 11 years later in the Six Day War, created expectations about the Israel military that have not been duplicated since 1967 and are probably unrealistic. But the sight of Egyptian troops trudging thirstily and dejectedly through the desert amidst their abandoned tanks persisted as an image of Israeli military superiority.

The aftermath of the war, which ended when an exhausted British prime minister, Anthony Eden, decided to accept the cease-fire demand of the United Nations on Nov. 6, is instructive in terms of the possibilities and limits of Israeli policy. From the Israeli perspective, the role of the United States proved crucial. President Dwight D. Eisenhower reacted angrily to the Israeli and then the British-French invasions of Egypt, which occurred during the final week of his successful re-election campaign, threatening to end "friendly cooperation" with Israel. Essentially, his position and that of U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was that Israel should withdraw to the 1949 armistice line, reflecting demands of the United Nations General Assembly.

Much of the period between the end of the war in early November and the eventual Israeli pullout in early March 1957 was devoted to diplomatic efforts by the United States and the UN to compel Israel to withdraw, even using sanctions if necessary, and Israeli efforts at first to hold on to some strategic territory and then, when that was perceived as beyond reach, at least to achieve some concrete security gains.

Ultimately Ben-Gurion felt that with UN forces in Gaza and at Sharm El-Sheikh complementing those already in Sinai for a few months, he had enhanced Israeli security tangibly. Hence on March 7, he reported to the Knesset that Israel had agreed to withdraw its troops and that UN forces would move into those key areas as buffers. To say the least, the four-month period from November to March put a strain on U.S.-Israeli relations.

Even though the United States had not yet become Israel's chief backer, a role that it assumed only after 1967, the bilateral relationship was already a complex one that was very important to Israel, especially because the United States was home to some six million Jews, the largest Diaspora community and one which was providing considerable economic help to the young state during the crucial early stage of its development. Eisenhower's threat to revoke the tax-deductible status of much of those funds was a potent weapon in his efforts to compel Israel to comply with his demands.

Israel did withdraw and the UN forces were brought in. But their efficacy did not withstand the 1967 crisis that led to the Six Day War, a development that convinced many Israelis that they could not leave their vital security interests in the hands of others. The failure of the international community, and especially the United States, to take action to reopen the Strait of Tiran when Nasser again closed it in May 1967, reinforced this view, which is certainly a factor in the attitudes of some Israelis toward the current peace process.

The most important lesson that can be derived from the Sinai Campaign and its aftermath is one that has been driven home frequently ever since: no matter how dominant Israel can be on the battlefield, it does not have the political clout to impose the conditions of peace. Therefore, in order to convert military victories into political gains, it must secure external support for its position.

The other conclusion that can be reached is that ultimately, military force, no matter how brilliantly employed, cannot alone resolve Israel's political problems with its Arab neighbors. Only political solutions can do that.

Harold M. Waller is professor of political science at McGill University.

Opinions

Shocking views in bible study

We are referred to as the People of the Book. But the "Book" is not an ordinary piece of literature. It is our Bible.

By Viva Press

I am not trying to state something new here, rather I am focusing on an already well known concept. The Hebrew Bible was not written with the expectation that its stories were providing a groundwork for another set of texts, the New Testament, to be written centuries later.

However, the Hebrew Bible is seen in just this way.

Typology is the study of the Old Testament as it is mediated through the New Testament. Everything that happens in the Old Testament is understood to be a foreshadowing of what is to come in the New Testament.

In Halifax, I am studying combined honors in English and Journalism. In one of my English classes, The Making of the English Bible, we are studying the Old and New Testaments as literary texts.

Not only am I faced with the complication that the Hebrew Bible serves primarily as the prelude to the New Testament, but I am also trying to focus on the Bible solely as literature.

In order to focus on the Bible as a literature, one has to try to disregard its religious content. This is very difficult, because the religious content is so central to the Bible, and is, in fact, the very stuff of the Bible.

And, as one may suspect, we always come back to the religious meanings of the stories we are studying.

I have been shocked at some of the things non-Jews think about the Jewish people and our ideologies.

When my class was reading the story of the Akedah, the sacrifice of Isaac at the hands of Abraham, and later, the account of the hardening of Pharaoh's heart in Egypt, it was pointed out that our God, the God of the Hebrew Bible, is mean-spirited and lacking in compassion. At first I was incensed by the student who said these negative things about the God I was taught to admire and love. However, the rest of the class quickly pitched in with passages from the Old Testament to substantiate her remarks.

"Unbelievable," was the first thing that came to my mind. Then, after the class was done giving proofs of this *mean-spirited* Old Testament Deity, I told them that our God is, in fact, not such a bad guy. God is our protector, the One who defined righteousness and justice.

One of the other things that took me by surprise was a further reference to the story of the sacrifice of Isaac. It was pointed out that "obviously" the Jewish people could not feel as close to God as Christians feel to Jesus, since God is feared by all. For it says in the Bible that Abraham, among others, *feared* God.

Whoa. Don't worry. I had my say in this matter — the vagaries of translation. Our "fear" of God, I emphasized, is not being afraid, but a form of respect, of awe. True, not everyone in my class agreed with the statement tnat we, the Jews, are afraid of God, rather than in awe. But they didn't speak up for that opposing point of view. So, I did.

Studying the Bible as literature in an English course at university is very different from my 12 years of studying it at Hebrew day schools. A text with which I had developed a comfortable familiarity is being presented in an unfamiliar way. And this is disquieting for me. I have to adjust to a whole new way of interpretation.

On the other hand, the exploration of the structure of language and the imagery opens up new concepts for me. I find this diversity challenging.

Too few attempts to bridge the gap

One year after the tragic assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, I sat in a synagogue in north-west London and listened to a sermon by the chief rabbi of the United Kingdom, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. His message was the same one I had read in the *Jerusalem Post* that very morning, and one that has resonated around the Jewish world on the anniversary of an event that turned international attention to the deep schisms that exist in Israeli and Jewish society.

By Ilan Gewurz

The call for tolerance among Jews and the development of a sense of national unity based on some form of shared identity, not necessarily a shared vision of the future, has been heard repeatedly.

A full year has passed since the assassination; a year since Jews around the world responded by calling for a process of serious soul searching in order to recreate some form of Jewish unity; a year since the need to address our political, religious and social differences through open dialogue was recognized as crucial for rebuilding a basis of common Jewish identity; a year since "unity without uniformity" became the catch phrase aimed at addressing the division that seemed to be undermining the very essence of the Jewish State and world Jewry.

Yet, here we are, a year later, and there has been little, if any, attempt to bridge the gaps which plague the Jewish people. In fact, the pressures stemming from issues such as the date for withdrawal from Hebron, the intensified Arab claim over Jerusalem and the response to the violence that occurred in September, have intensified the differences between groups. But the problem does not rest in the diversity of views, but in the uncompromising zealotry with which those views are manifested.

The failure to respond to the fractured Israeli community stems from a lack of understanding as to how such division can effectively be addressed. Thus repeating the call for Jewish pluralism without presenting a plan of what needs to be done will be no more effective now than it was a year ago.

Must understand society's schisms

In order to begin addressing the schisms that have emerged in society, we must first understand them. Disagreement over the definition of the State of Israel, the role of religion in the state, the preferred response to Arab-Israeli relations, go back to the very beginning of the modern Zionist movement.

In the past, however, the struggle to establish the State of Israel (though there may not have been a common vision of where exactly the state was headed) and later the fact that Israel was under "siege" by neighbors committed to her destruction, enabled Jews to put up a united front despite their great differences.

Today, the State of Israel is no longer merely responding to external threat, but has taken proactive steps to define its own future. The lack of an immediate external threat, combined with the need to take decisive action regarding the vision and future existence of the state, has provided an opportunity for Israelis to attempt to define themselves, and they are coming up with very different definitions.

On its own that is not necessarily negative. Diversity is an inherent value within pluralism and unity need not require uniformity. However, when these polarized views face a challenge that will fundamentally affect the future of both their existences, then their differences are no longer theoretical concepts that can be swept under the carpet of "national identity."

According to many scholars of nationalism, the very definition of a nation rests on the fact that even though most of its members will never know, meet or even hear of most of their fellow members, in the minds of each lies the image of their commonality. There is much that can be done to build or strengthen that sense of commonality. However, the task is all that much more difficult when the nation is faced with challenges that accentuate the divisions.

Many leaders, including Rabbi Sacks, have correctly pointed out that while we may not agree on an end, we must at least agree on the means by which to resolve the issues. What needs to be strengthened is the commitment to the democratic process. However, the task of teaching democracy is much more difficult when the zealotry of the parties involved leaves them viewing their counterparts as illegitimately making national decisions. It is no wonder there has been little success over the course of the last year. We don't even know where to begin, but clearly we need more than a mere call for national unity.

The Shahak Affair

Recently Tom Harpur has written letters in the *Toronto Star*, informing the readers that Jewish law forbids saving the life of a non-Jew on Shabbat.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

His authority was a Dr. Israel Shahak who, in December 1965, had written an article in the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* to that effect.

Subsequently, in the Orthodox journal *Tradition* (Summer, 1966), the then spiritual leader of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York, Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits, devoted a lengthy, well documented article to the issue. (He later on served as chief rabbi of Great Britain.)

Here are some excerpts from the rabbi's article:

"To quote ... this inflammatory charge, he [Shahak] subsequently 'revealed' that he witnessed an incident in which an Orthodox Jew had refused to allow his telephone to be used to call for help for a non-Jew who had collapsed nearby. Shocked, he asked the rabbinate for a ruling and they had, so he claimed, confirmed that the Sabbath could indeed be violated only to save a Jewish life.

"These 'revelations' aroused a storm of public indignation in Israel and throughout the Jewish world. Editorials, suitably embellishing the story, fumed against the 'medievalism' and the 'utter absurdity and inhumanity' of the rabbis.

"In all the excitement, it was almost overlooked that Dr. Shahak, when challenged to substantiate his personal 'testimony,' was eventually forced to admit that the Orthodox Jew he had 'witnessed' refusing use of his telephone simply did not exist. The whole incident had been fabricated in true *Protocols [of the Elders of Zion]* style.

"Equally overlooked was the circumstance that the rabbinate, far from having confirmed Dr. Shahak's allegation, had in fact ruled that the Sabbath must be violated to save non-Jewish no less than Jewish lives."

In discussing the issue, Rabbi Jakobovits quotes a lengthy responsum by the Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Isaac J. Unterman, who, using the method and technique of halachic discussion comes to the abovementioned clear conclusion. Says Rabbi Jakobovits:

"We have here, then, a classic example of rabbinical endeavors to adjust the Halachah, within the framework of its own rules, to the exigencies of the times or indeed to the demands of ethical probity. The stringent rules of the Talmud and the Shulchan Aruch, however logically sound in themselves, did not deter the rabbis from introducing modifications by using their halachic ingenuity, reinforced by their lofty concept of Torah ethics, to explain, if not justify the practice of Jewish physicians in violating the Sabbath for non-Jewish as well as Jewish patients."

So why did Shahak, who is no authority in the matter, go against well-established literature? asks Rabbi Jakobovits. He answers: "The only explanation one can find for this outburst of unreason is that evidently anti-religious Jewish fanaticism is no less irrational than anti-Semitism itself."

The Kirshner File

How can Jews live in Germany?

The question, painful in its broader implications, comes up repeatedly: How can Jews possibly live in Germany after the infamy of the Third Reich and the Holocaust?

By Sheldon Kirshner

And as the 58th anniversary of Kristallnacht on Nov. 9 approaches, this query takes on a special poignancy.

But to Michal Bodemann, the 52-year-old Austrian-born editor of *Jews, Germans and Memory: Reconstructions of Jewish Life in Germany* (University of Michigan Press, $54.50 US), the question, while valid, is besides the point in practical terms.

The Jewish community in Germany has doubled in size in the past decade, from 30,000 to 58,000 registered Jews, and continues to grow, observes Bodemann, a professor of sociology at the University of Toronto.

Indeed, he adds in an interview, there are a number of towns and cities whose Jewish population is actually larger than it was prior to 1933, the seminal year in which the Nazis seized power.

And the old notion that Jews in Germany are "sitting on their suitcases," anxiously waiting to leave, is virtually passe among the younger generation, he says.

"They have it good in Germany. It is a comfortable environment. They're at home in Germany."

As a result, unlike their parents or grandparents, more and more Jews in their 20s consider themselves "German Jews" instead of "Jews in Germany," a distinction Bodemann regards as crucially important with respect to their identity.

According to Bodemann, young Russian Jewish immigrants who've settled in Germany in the past few years are of the same mindset. Conditioned to view the Soviet gulag system, rather than Auschwitz, as the epitome of evil, and increasingly at ease in their new homes, their adaptation to Germany has gone relatively well.

Bodemann, who commutes between Canada and Germany quite regularly, conceived the idea for *Jews, Germans, Memory* after organizing a 1989 conference at the University of Toronto entitled How Can Jews Live in Germany Today?

The book, one of the few in English which treats the topic so thoroughly, consists of 13 essays, two by Bodemann himself.

There are no plans at present for a German edition. But Bodemann's articles have been published, in German, under the title of *Theatre of Memory: The Jewish Community and its German Invention.* The volume was judged one of the 10 best non-fictional works in Germany this year.

One of the finest essays in *Jews, Germans, Memory* is by Micha Brumlik, a professor of education at the University of Heidelberg, who assesses the past, present and future of the Jewish community.

Brumlik points out that, until recently, the core of the post-war community was made up primarily of Polish emigres and their offspring, augmented by influxes from Romania, Hungary, the former Czechoslovakia and Israel.

In turn, these groups have been joined by pension-aged German Jews who've returned to take advantage of Germany's material security.

And since the late 1980s, the community has been bolstered by an inflow of Jews from what was once the Soviet Union. In Brumlik's judgment, Soviet immigrants will soon constitute more than half of all registered Jews in the country. (Bodemann claims that there are 42,000 non-registered Jews in Germany today.)

The biggest communities are in the western sector: Berlin, Frankfurt, Munich, Hamburg, Cologne and Dusseldorf. In Brumlik's estimation, smaller communities are nearing their end.

Brumlik raises an interesting issue. With the exception of some mayors, there is no evidence that prominent German politicians sought the return of Jews who emigrated under duress. "This failure," he writes, "illustrates the fact that, intentionally or not, (West Germany) accepted in principle the (Nazi) policy of expelling Jews."

What's more, the first post-war German governments did not voluntarily pay war reparations Concessions had to be wrung from them by Jewish organizations.

Michael Brenner, an associate professor of modern Jewish history at Brandeis University, writes in his essay that German and East European survivors in post-war Germany were divided by one major conundrum: to stay or to go?

Jewish displaced persons organizations regarded their sojurn on German soil as temporary, while German-Jewish associations expressed a willingness to contribute to the building of a new Germany with democratic structures.

By 1950, the vast majority of East European Jewish refugees had left, leaving behind around 15,000 DPs who remained for a variety of reasons: sickness, weakness, economic success or marriage to German spouses.

In his essay, Frank Stern, a Tel Aviv University historian, delves into the nature of contemporary German-Jewish relations.

Jews in Germany are "living witnesses" to a dark past and, therefore, are sometimes reproached as "disturbers" of the peace. (Brumlik, similarly, takes note of a "new anti-Semitism" which sees in Jews "a living memorial for the greatest disgrace of German history.")

Stern also analyses the phenomenon of philo-Semitism, the high tide of which occurred in the first two decades following the war.

Philo-Semitic stereotypes, he explains, were accompanied by a "totally exaggerated public image of Israel." On a pragmatic level, philo-Semitism was "an instrument for the moral and political integration of West Germany into the West, a salient factor of foreign policy."

Bodemann, in his second essay, contends that the combination of German unification in 1990 and the concomitant increase of neo-Nazi violence have altered the role of Jews in German society.

In allying themselves with Germans who condemn violence against foreigners, Jews have placed Kristallnacht "in the past perfect" and have fudged their status as "principal victims."

The position of Jews in East Germany, which was absorbed by West Germany, remains an intriguing subject.

In explaining why Jews settled in East Germany, John Borneman — a professor of anthropology at Cornell University — comments that most of the returnees were highly motivated Jewish anti-fascists who identified themselves more strongly as Communists and members of the German left than as Jews.

And in many cases, timely considerations — job offers, McCarthyism in the United States, Stalinism in the Soviet Union and deep ties to German language and culture — were determining factors.

In her essay, Robin Ostow — a resident fellow at the University of Toronto's Centre for Russian and East European Studies — singles out two "incisive moments" of Jewish history in East Germany, a nation which never had more than several hundred registered Jews.

Like nearly all the other essays in *Jews, Germans, Memory,* it is cogent, well researched, serious in tone and a valued contribution to German and Jewish historiography.

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Too easy to believe stereotypes

By JOSH LAMBERT

Most of the prejudicial attitudes prevalent in society do not begin with calculating racists, but are the

Guest Voices

overflow of the accepted racial discrimination of earlier decades. These attitudes manifest themselves in ethnic stereotyping and mistrust. It is all too easy to believe the stereotypes and rumors we hear about cultures of which we are ignorant. But this seemingly innocent behavior leads inevitably to intolerance and to full-blown racism.

Opponents of multiculturalism fail to understand that there are compelling and important reasons for civility between the social groups in our multicultural community and for genuine friendship. Because of the changing world, cultural and ethnic isolationism is no longer possible or desirable. Like it or not, all races are now in one community — local, national or global. One need look no further than a downtown streetcar or a busy bank lineup to see the proof.

We Jews should especially realize how dangerous is even the slightest ill-will between cultural groups. After all, how long did it take for the stereotype of Jews as rich and miserly moneylenders in Europe to beget the infamous and forever troubling *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*?

We know how easily society can lapse into hatred and racial discrimination, just as it did in Russia in the early 20th century as a result of the *Protocols*. This message is especially important in our times, when we are in constant, if sometimes superficial, contact with a great number of racial, ethnic and cultural groups.

Society must recognize that political discrimination against any culture or ethnic group is an offense and a danger to every single person, as it infringes on each individual's most precious and esteemed right: individuality. It is the duty of each cultural and ethnic group to teach this message to its members and to the rest of society. As Jews, we must champion the rights of every other cultural and ethnic group, or else, to paraphrase the famous Holocaust poem, when the racists come for us, there will be no one left to object.

We have a particular obligation to fight racial and ethnic discrimination not only by denouncing racists, but also by fostering goodwill and understanding among the different cultural and ethnic groups. We know, possibly more than any group, the results of ignorance and racial intolerance. We understand intimately the paranoia that racial, cultural and ethnic groups understandably feel. Because of this, we are obligated to go out of our way to create a society in which each person, regardless of origin, can live and worship safely and freely.

Perhaps the most important reason that ethnic groups should maintain good relations with other groups can be best expressed within the metaphor on which Canada's multicultural policy is based. The beauty of a mosaic is not in the individual tiles, nor in their colors, but in the strategic and esthetic placement of the tiles next to contrasting tiles to form a picture.

When the different colored tiles are mixed artistically, we begin to see a formidable piece of art that seems to constantly change and renew itself. No matter how strong the group is, or how bright the individual tile, it improves itself and thus the whole society by mixing with others, exchanging ideas and interacting freely. The many groups infuse the general culture with the creativity of hundreds of homelands and histories. They exchange skills and improve the proficiency of our industries. They show their true individual beauties as a part of a unified whole.

To us as individuals, the task of weaving the ethnic and cultural groups of our society into a coherent fabric seems daunting. The easier alternative is to succumb to the perceived safety of our own group and to shun the other groups, to ignore our duty and to let intolerance creep slowly and stealthily into our consciousness. However, we, as citizens and as Jews, must realize the dangers of this apathy. We must pursue good relations consciously and willingly. The possibility of a united society free of hate and mistrust is awesome. In this spirit, we can be optimistic about our future: a future of cultural and ethnic exchange, a future of free communication and expression, and a future of safety and justice for all.

Josh Lambert is in Grade 12 at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. This article is excerpted from the winning essay in a contest sponsored by the friends of the late Judge Walter Tarnopolsky.

The contest was open to all Jewish students in Toronto of high school age. Entrants were asked to write on why it is important for ethnic communities generally, and the Jewish community in particular, to maintain good relations with other ethnic and cultural groups.

Shattered Dreams

To think of it now
It's like a century away
But my heart is still wounded
As if it happened yesterday.

A childhood I lived
Innocent and clean
When a brutal force marched in
And shattered my dream.

The skys turned grey
The days turned black
As I watched in horror
My people face death.

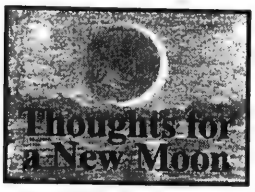
Ravaged by wars
Oppressed by tyrants
The heavens kept watching
The world kept silent.

But the show must go on
The music plays again
And the child of the holocaust
Is now an old man.

What's left for me now
Is to hope and to pray
That peace and justice
Shall always prevail.

by Leon Krym
Survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto

Jewish Life



Judith the strategist

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Chanukah is rapidly approaching and families are preparing their menorahs for the eight days of candlelighting. The miracle of Chanukah is in fact two-fold.

The Temple was desecrated by the Assyrians and when the Hasmoneans rededicated the building, they could find oil to light the Temple lamp for only one day. Preparing new oil was an eight-day venture, and therefore the lamp would remain unlit for seven days. Since the Temple lamp was to be lit at all times, this presented a religious dilemma.

Miraculously, the oil which should only have lasted one day stayed lit for eight full days until new oil was available. Most of us remember learning of this miracle at one time or another.

However, the second miracle of Chanukah is equally important. It is the military victory. The Israelites were badly outnumbered and their weaponry was far inferior to that of their enemies. And yet, the mighty were handed over into the hands of the few and the Israelites emerged victorious.

Both miracles are crucial, since without the victory in battle, we could not have regained access to the Temple. We know that Judah the Maccabee led the rededication of the Temple, but interestingly, the Talmud attributes the military aspect of the holiday to a woman — Judith.

Judith, an Israelite woman, fashions a strategy that allows her entry into the enemy camp. She gains access to the commanding officer through her femininity, suggesting a private audience. Once alone with him, she seizes upon this rare opportunity.

Judith is able to kill the officer, leaving his troops without strong leadership and it is this advantage that allows the Israelite army to conquer their enemy and gain independence.

One could say the Israelites had two leaders at that time: Judah the Maccabee was the public leader who united the troops; Judith was the leader behind the scenes whose contribution was equally necessary.

A true leader, Judith uses all aspects of her identity to her advantage. She understands that the enemy will not perceive her as a threat, since she is a woman, and she feeds this belief. However, once she gains the advantage, she does not back away from aggressively completing her mission.

Not only are there two leaders, but Judah and Judith are identical names — one reflects the male and one reflects the female. Interestingly, the military aspect of the holiday is attributed to a woman, while the job of "cleaning" the Temple is attributed to a man. Perhaps the holiday is more complex than is first imagined.

The Talmud openly attributes the military advantage to Judith, and through her, obliges women to light the Chanukah candles. In fact, it is traditional in many households that the woman refrain from work while the Chanukah candles are burning. Although today our traditions maintain the echo of Judith, she herself has unfortunately faded from the forefront of our celebrations.

Perhaps while reciting the miracles of Chanukah as we stand around our menorahs, we should find a moment to thank this extraordinary leader.

Internet genealogy

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

As we continue reading through the book of Bereshit, we are given quite a clear record of the births and deaths of the personalities of the Bible. Thousands of years later, there is little doubt who begat whom.

Our extended family trees, however, are rarely that clear.

That's why it's ironic that one of the best tools to investigate our history is one of the most modern – the Internet. With a bit of research and luck, you may be able to shed new light on your family history. In this week's column, I will look at some of the main Jewish and general sites on the Internet dealing with genealogy.

The grandfather of all sites is JewishGen: Your Guide to Jewish Genealogical Research **[http://www.jewishgen.org/]**. Before wading through this impressive and massive site, go to the JewishGen FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) **[http://www.jewishgen.org/faqinfo.html]**. This large document is an excellent introduction with sections on Jewish Genealogical Societies, Seminars on Jewish Genealogy, National and Regional Archives, Ship Passenger Lists, Yizkor Books, Holocaust Research and more.

Also check out the JewishGen Family Finder, "a computer-indexed compilation of surnames and towns currently being researched by over 2,600 Jewish genealogists worldwide...with over 32,000 entries." **[http://www.jewishgen.org/jgff.html]** And if you don't find your family name or ancestral town on the list, add it. **[http://www.jewishgen.org/jgffsys.html]**

Another excellent site is run by Avotaynu Inc. **[http://www.avotaynu.com]**, "the largest publisher of information and products of interest to persons researching their Jewish family history."

Other large sites are operated by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Rochester, N.Y., **[http://rochester.hq.net/jgsr/]** and the Dallas Virtual Jewish Community Centre Genealogy Home Page **[http://www.ncc.com/dvjcc/dvjcc.genealogy.html]**. The Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies **[http://www.jewishgen.org/ajgs/]** is the umbrella organization for 60 local Jewish genealogical societies around the world from Azerbaijan to the United States.

Looking for your family's roots can be more than a mere curiosity. It can be crucial when trying to identify a genetic disorder. In fact the Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launcher **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/history.html#genes]** not only has links to some of the more common Jewish genealogical sites, it also lists links to genetic diseases which are more common among Jews such as Tay Sachs disease, Gaucher disease, Familial Mediterranean fever and others.

Your hunt for information shouldn't be limited to Jewish sites. The Genealogy Home Page **[http://www.genhomepage.com/]** has links to worldwide libraries, genealogy societies, information about genealogy software and more, as does the genealogy page prepared by Yahoo! Internet Life Magazine at **[http://www.zdnet.com/yil/content/growth/history/gene1.html]**.

Also, take a look at FEEFHS, the Federation of East European Family History Societies **[http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/feefhs/]**. Using the FEEFHS search engine, I discovered that Ignacy Mietkiewicz of Waterbury, Conn., was one of "an estimated 20,000 Polish immigrants to America who answered the call to fight for freedom and the opportunity to regain Poland's independence during World War I." (I've never heard about an Ignacy Mietkiewicz so I guess I have some research to do.)

If you've looked through these sites and you still haven't found out anything about your own ancestry, there's still hope. In my next column we will look at Jewish genealogy courses you can take online, Jewish genealogy newsgroups (Usenet) and electronic mailing lists.

Don't despair. SOMEBODY must have heard about your bubbee's zayde.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Toronto's aliyah shaliach returns to Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the three years Udi Savion spent as Toronto's aliyah *shaliach*, his office helped some 650 people move to Israel.

But in an interview at the Israel Aliyah Centre before his recent return to his Binyamina home, Savion, 46, suggested that perhaps a more important achievement during his term here was his outreach to Toronto's Jewish community.

A farewell reception for Savion and his wife Tami, who co-produced the play *Our Jerusalem* earlier this year, brought together representatives of a variety of Jewish organizations including B'nai Brith Canada, the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (UJA Federation) and the Jewish National Fund.

Savion, a retired navy commander who will work as a project manager in the construction field on his return, is especially pleased about his relationship with UJA Federation: he is the first aliyah *shaliach* to have had an office at the Lipa Green Building.

The federation provided him with the space one day a week "so he could have a broader community profile," said Allan Reitzes, UJA Federation executive director. "Udi was an ambassador for Israel. He's a good guy. He really cares."

The Toronto Jewish community has been supportive of aliyah, Reitzes added, referring in part to past collaboration between the federation and Savion's predecessors.

Savion saw his outreach work as a tool for preventing assimilation — "like planting seeds for the future."

For those who had decided to move to Israel, among them a substantial number of young sabras, Savion served as facilitator. (Miri Gur, his assistant for the past 14 months, is the new aliyah *shlichah*.)

The role of aliyah *shaliach* includes ensuring that prospective *olim* have realistic expectations, as well as helping with myriad logistical details, Savion explained.

Udi and Tami Savion were presented with UJA/Federation t-shirts at their farewell reception. [Frances Kraft photo]

During his stay here, he saw an increase in the number of young singles making aliyah. Most of them "are looking for two things: job opportunities and social life. In Israel, unemployment is very low — six percent, and the social life is very warm. Tel Aviv offers night life and day life, 24 hours a day."

Sure there are problems in Israel, Savion acknowledged, but he believes the advantages outweigh them.

To his surprise, though, he has come to believe that Toronto can teach Israel a thing or two in the field of Jewish education. "There is a saying that if you're Israeli, there is no threat to your future as a Jew. I'm secular, and I thought like that before."

Three of Savion's four children, who attended day school here (Bialik Hebrew Day School and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto), as well as Savion himself, learned much about their Jewish heritage in Toronto, he said.

An increased emphasis on Jewish education, Jewish values and Jewish roots in Israel, he believes, would help minimize the gap between secular and religious Israelis.

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High school students take part in mitzvah campaign

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The high school students who participated in the recent mitzvah campaign came from diverse Jewish backgrounds, but they all shared a common interest in *gemilat chesed* (acts of loving-kindness).

The mitzvah campaign, a pilot project sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and UJA-Federation, drew some 80 students from Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) and the B'nei Akiva Schools — Ulpanat Orot and Or Chaim.

They volunteered in *chesed* projects organized by community service agencies that included Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Senior Care. Activities ranged from friendly visiting with seniors to setting up a library at the new Mizrachi office.

The goal of the mitzvah campaign was to provide service to the community and motivate high school students to become more active in volunteer work, said Joyce Levine, the BJE's coordinator of school services.

"From my point of view, the mitzvah campaign was a success. The students felt they made a valuable contribution and those receiving the services were pleased as well," Levine said.

Rabbi Moshe Yeres, a *rosh yeshivah* at B'nei Akiva, said that Grade 9 and OAC students from Or Chaim were required to participate in the mitzvah campaign.

"We were using this program as a kick-off ... to create a [*chesed*] program for them [the students]."

He said he would have liked to involve all 70 Or Chaim students in the mitzvah campaign, but logistically it was only possible to send the youngest and oldest.

He stressed that the boys need to be sensitized to the importance of *chesed*. "The world was built on these pillars: Torah, *avodah* and *gemilut chasadim*. The third pillar gets skipped over [at school]."

Program supports three ideals

Or Chaim is instituting a *chesed* program because it is necessary "to support all three ideals equally," he said.

Rabbi Yeres noted that Ulpanat Orot has a *chesed* program run through Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

Geraldine Bitton is an OAC student who sits on the *chesed* committee at that school. She and about 10 other students helped at a crafts program to integrate young Russian children with students from the elementary day schools. The program was run by the BJE in conjunction with the Community Integration Program at the BJC.

Approximately half the students involved in the mitzvah campaign were from CHAT, which this year instituted a *chesed* program for all Grade 9 students.

"It's appropriate educational training," said Gary Levine, CHAT's director of student activities. "The Grade 9 program is a first step in initiating a school-wide program."

While their participation was not mandatory, Grade 9 students could apply their volunteer time from the mitzvah campaign to the hours of community service they are required to do. However, at least half of the mitzvah campaign paricipants from CHAT were upper-grade students who are not required to do community service.

Alex Kojfman, 17, a Grade 12 student said he came as a representative of the CHAT student council of which he's the president, and because he believes volunteering is a worthwhile activity.

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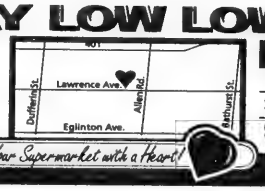

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UJA Federation Washington Fly-In

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A capacity crowd participated in this year's Washington Fly-In, a popular annual event, chaired by Lorri Kushnir and Harold Lederman. Twelve university students recruited by Jewish Campus Services also joined the group.

The 16 hour trip included stops at the new $100 million Canadian Embassy, the Israeli Embassy, the Holocaust Museum, the Pentagon, Capitol Hill and the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

The roster of speakers featured:

- Canada's Ambassador to the United States Raymond Chretien
- Michael Berenbaum, Director of the United States Holocaust Research Institute
- Shoshana Bryen, Special Projects Director, Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs
- Syndicated columnist Steven Roberts
- Danny Sebright, head of the Pentagon's Israel desk
- Robert Satloff, Executive Director, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy
- Shlomo Gur, Deputy Head of Mission at the Israeli Embassy

Photographer Mark Grenville captured the flavour of the Fly-In through these shots.

(above) Fly-In Co-chairs Harold Lederman and Lorri Kushnir kept the day's program going with precision.

(left) Washington Mission member Sam Rotenberg displays his military manners at the Pentagon gift shop.

Gur Family members played a prominent role in the Fly-In. Shlomo Gur (below), the Deputy Head of Mission at the Israeli Embassy was introduced by UJA Federation's Baruch Gur, his brother.

(above) Tired but happy, Barbara Bank (left) and Bev Abramson board the bus for the next stop.

(below) 18 hours later Darryl Singer and Stacey Wintre show after-effects of a whirlwind day.

Fight to the finish on Helms Burton bill

Canada's Ambassador to the United States, Raymond Chretien, is uncompromising about American legislation banning Canadian companies from doing business in Cuba.

Canadian Ambassador Raymond Chretien.

"The Americans have made a huge mistake," claimed Chretien, during a dialogue with UJA Federation Fly-In participants.

Chretien called the Helms Burton Act "the most visible of irritants" between Canada and the United States and he promised to fight Helms Burton "every step of the way."

The Ambassador attributed President Clinton's support for the bill to domestic politics during an election campaign, pointing out that Clinton opposed the measure before Cuba downed an American plane earlier this year. "Now," continued Chretien, "he's stuck with it."

The U.S. election, he said, has obligated Clinton to continue backing Helms Burton, which has set off a storm of protest in Canada and across Europe. "In New Jersey and Florida, it's very difficult to talk about Cuba in rational terms," he noted.

Despite the anti-Cuba legislation, Chretien's assessment of Canada-U.S. relations was generally positive. Business, between the two countries, he observed, has increased by 17% since passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement and "irritants represent less than 1% of our trade."

Middle East briefings highlight Fly-In

Experts cite caution signs

If the Middle East peace process avoids spinning into reverse, Robert Satloff will be satisfied.

Satloff, Executive Director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, one of the most distinguished think tanks in the United States, believes the biggest challenge for President Clinton is to "maintain achievements already made."

He told UJA Federation Fly-In participants that many Israelis have lost their faith in the Oslo Accords after Palestinian police fired on Israeli soldiers during recent violence. "The divide between Israelis and Palestinians is wider today than it's been since the signing on the White House lawn," he said.

Shoshana Bryen believes the Palestinians have not honoured the Oslo Accords.

According to Satloff, Arafat learned a lesson from the Palestinian police exchange with Israel. "He saw into the abyss that the process could collapse completely. Everything he had could be lost."

Although Satloff acknowledged the assessment by some senior Israeli military personnel of a possible war with Syria, he rated the danger of war as only 15-20%.

The U.S., however, is worried about Syrian chemical weapons development, which is, according to a Pentagon official, "growing, robust and vital." Syria, said Shoshana Bryen, from the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, purchased some of its chemical weapons inventory from French President Jacques Chirac, whom she described as an "arms merchant" before entering the political arena.

UJA Federation Campaign '97

NEW CONTRIBUTOR COUNT QUICKLY RISING

Nearly 800 first time contributors have now come forward, adding over a quarter of a million dollars to UJA Federation's campaign total. More than $27 million dollars has been raised so far.

Last week at the official launch of the new gifts drive, Campaign Chairman David Goldstein said UJA Federation's objective is to attract 3,000 new contributors this year and an additional 2,000 by the end of the Three Year Vision.

"Everyday we're getting closer to our goal," said Goldstein who applauded recent outreach efforts to new contributors, which include programs, telethons and parlour meetings.

Launch Chairman Abe Glowinsky, clad in hospital operating room scrubs, used medical analogies to describe the inauguration of the new gifts initiative. "Tonight," said Glowinsky, "is about celebrating new beginnings, new relationships and new possibilities, just as we celebrate the arrival of a newborn."

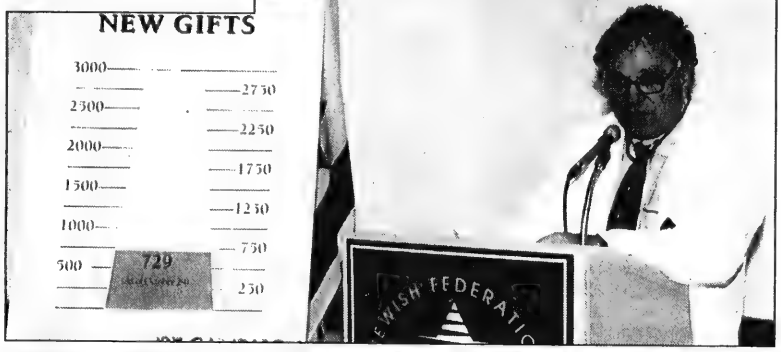
The evening's guest speaker, Israel expert Shira Herzog, spoke about increasing divisiveness within Israeli society at a time when Israel is the region's strongest power. "Israel's common bond can no longer be solely determined by an external threat," she observed.

A new series of new gifts telethons ran from Sunday, November 3 to Wednesday, November 7.

Shira Herzog (above)

New Gifts Launch Chair Abe Glowinsky (right) was convincing as a doctor delivering new pledges.

UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein (below) proudly unveils the new gifts thermometer.



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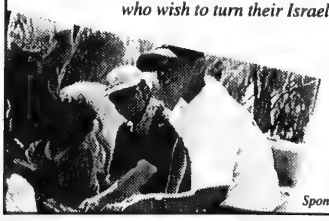

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Community Partners

Attached to community from the fringes

Even though Albert (Ubby) Krakauer's Unionville address situates him beyond the Jewish community core, he remains connected to his Jewish identity through UJA Federation.

Krakauer, a senior executive vice-president at Shoppers Drug Mart, actually grew up in the city's downtown core where he spent many afternoons and Sundays at the Bloor YMHA.

But it wasn't until after graduating as a pharmacist and moving to Etobicoke in 1959 that he began to look for ways of expressing his Jewishness.

"When I had my first child," recalls Krakauer, "it got me thinking about the importance of Jewish identity. Living in Etobicoke meant I had to search for ways of connecting with other Jews."

That's when Krakauer and his family joined the Western Suburban Jewish Community. "It allowed us to keep in touch with 50 or so other Jewish families who lived in the area."

In 1980, Krakauer moved to Unionville and continued to support UJA Federation's campaign. A few years ago, Bernie Ceifets, Chair of UJA Federation's Pharmacy division, invited his colleague to play a larger role within the organization.

Albert (Ubby) Krakauer

"Bernie asked me if I could help canvass and I said 'yes.' Knowing a lot of people within my field, makes it easy."

Krakauer says there's no mystery to why he receives many positive responses. "I simply relay the facts about how UJA Federation helps people in need."

"As a Jew who considers himself fortunate, I feel that I have an obligation to help those who need it. It's a mitzva."

Krakauer also gave his two eldest children, now in the work force, a head start by making a pledge to UJA Federation on their behalf. "I wanted to set them on the right track."

CORRECTION

In the October 31 issue of *Community Matters* we wrote that Shira Biderman came to Toronto from Montreal. **Shira Biderman was born and raised in Toronto.**

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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פון אַלעק סילווער

דעם 9-טן נאָוועמבער עפנט זיך אין טאָראָנטאָ דער „יידישער בוך-יאַריד", וואָס פייערט היי-יאָר דעם 20-טן יובילי. דאָס אַליין איז שוין אַ גרויסע דערגרייכונג. לויטן סך-הכל פון די פריערדיקע יאָרן, זיינען די דאָזיקע יאָרידן געווען גוט באַזוכט און דערפאָלג-רייך. האָפנטלעך וועט דער היי-יאָריקער יאַריד אויך ברענגען די זעלבע גוטע רעזולטאַטן.

אָבער — און דאָ קומט אַריין דער אָבער — ווי זעט אויס דער מצב פון דער יידישער שפּראַך אויף אַזעלכע יאָרידן? . . . פון מיינע איינדרוקן דעם לעצטן יאָר, קען מען נישט זיין שטאַרק ענטו-זיאַסטיש. איך פאַרשטיי, אַז דאָס וואָרט „יידישער" מיינט דאָ: ביכער מיט אַ יידישן אינהאַלט, אויף יידישע טעמעס, ביכער וועגן יידישע פראַגעס אויף אַלע געביטן. ס'זיינען טאַקע געווען אויס-געשטעלט הונדערטער און הונדערטער ביכער. מען האָט געקענט געפינען ביכער אויפן פילאָזאָפישן און דאָקומענטאַלן געביט; ביכער וועגן רעליגיע, יום-טובים און טראַדיציעס; ביכער פאַר אַלט, יונג און קליינע קינדער; ביכער פאַר די, וואָס האָבן ליב צו קאָכן „יידיש" און פאַר די, וואָס האָבן ליב צו עסן „יידיש"; הומאָר-ביכער און טרויעריק-אַרכיווע ביכער וועגן דער שואה. מיט איין וואָרט — ביכער פאַר יעדן איינעם און פאַר יעדער געלעגנהייט.

דער גרעסטער טייל איז געווען אין דער ענגלישער שפּראַך, מיט אַ צוגאָב פון פראַנצויזיש, עברית, רוסיש א.אַנד. וויפל ביכער זיינען געווען אין יידיש? גאָר, גאָר ווייניק! און דאָ דערמאָנען זיך די ווערטער פון **סעם ליפּצין**, וואָס ער האָט געשריבן מיט איבער אַ פערטל יאָרהונדערט צוריק אין זיין ליד „אַ שניר'ל קרעלן":

„צעעפן דיין בוך־שראַנק און גיב נאָר אַ זוך,
קאָנסטו געפינען צווישן די ביכער אויך אַ יידישן בוך?
אַ יידיש בוך וואָס עפנט זיך פון רעכטן זייט טאָוול,
ליגט ער ניט ערגעץ אין אַ ווינקל ווי אַ פאַר'יתומטער אָבל?"

אַזוי האָבן טאַקע אויסגעזען די עטלעכע צענדליק אַלטע בי-כער אין דער יידישער שפּראַך, וואָס ביישטייערער האָבן מסתמא געוואָלט פון זיי פטור ווערן און זיי זיינען פאַרקויפט געוואָרן פאַר שפּאָט ביליק. למען האמת דאַרף מען צוגעבן, אַז ס'זיינען אויך געווען אויסגעשטעלט עטלעכע נייע ביכער אין יידיש, וואָס זיינען דערשינען אין די לעצטע עטלעכע יאָרן. אָבער נישט צופיל מענטשן האָבן זיך אָנגעזען ביי די יידיש-טישן.

איך האָב ביי דעם יאַריד געקויפט דריי ביכלעך. (כ'זאָג עס נישט, חלילה וחס, פאַר באַרימעריי.) כ'האָב געקויפט אַ ניי פּאָעזיע-ביכל אין יידיש, און צוויי גאָר אַלטע יידישע ביכלעך. און דאָ האָב איך אוודאי געטאָן די זעלבע מצווה, וואָס מיין טאַטע ע"ה אָדער זיידע ע"ה האָבן געטאָן, ווען זיי האָבן אַהיים גענומען, שבת נאָכן דאָווענען, אַן אורח פון שול, כדי יענער זאָל זיך געפינען צווישן יידן און נישט זיין איינזאָם. אַהיימברענגענדיק די צוויי ביכלעך מיט אויסגעריבענע טאָוולען, פאַרגעלטע בלעטער און פאַרקנייטשטע עקן, האָב איך זיי אַריינגעשטעלט צווישן נייע ביכער מיט ווייסע בלעטער און שיינענדיקע קאָלירטע טאָוולען. כ'האָב דאָן דערפילט, אַז די „געדרוקטע זקנים" האָבן עפּעס באַקומען אַן אַנדערן אויס-זען, זיי האָבן אָפּגעאָטעמט און באַשיינט געוואָרן. און אפשר האָבן זיי אויסגעשעפּטשעט אַ שטילן: „אַ שיינעם דאַנק!".

מיט דעם אין זינען, דערלויבט מיר עפּעס אייך פאַרצושלאָגן: אומבאַדינגט באַזוכט דעם היי-יאָריקן „ביכער-יאַריד", סיי די אויס-שטעלונג און סיי די אונטערנעמונגען, וואָס זיינען אַראָנזשירט גע-וואָרן בשייכות מיט דעם. אַלץ איז זייער, זייער אינטערעסאַנט. איך וועט זיך באַקענען מיט פאַרשיידענע וויכטיקע פּובליקאַציעס און איך וועט הערן געלערנטע און אינטערעסאַנטע רעדנערס און פרע-לעגענטן. און ווען איך וועט צוקומען צו דער אויסשטעלונג פון יידישע ביכער — קויפט זיי פאַר זיך און אַלס מתנות. אויב איך האָט פריינד, וואָס לייענען נאָך יידיש ווי איך, געדענקט זיי. אויב איך זענט פאַרבעטן חנוכה אויף לאַטקעס, און פּורים אויף המן-טאַשן, אָדער גלאַט אַזוי פאַר אַן אויפנאַמע, וועט איך דאָך מסתמא וועלן ברענגען אין הויז אַריין אַ מתנה. פאַרגעסט פון וויין, ליקער, שאַקאָ-לאַד, ניסלעך, געבעקס אָדער אַ טעפּעלע מיט אַ טעצל. אייערע פריינד האָבן שוין דאָס אוודאי איבערגענוג. ברענגט זיי אַ **יידיש בוך** — אַלט צי ניי. עס קאָסט נישט קיין סך. עס האָט נישט קיין פעטס אָדער „קאָלעסטעראָל", ס'פאַרנעמט נישט צופיל פלאַץ, עס באַשיינט דעם צימער און מען קען עס נוצן ווידער און ווידער אַמאָל. איך וועט זיך מיט דעם פאַרדינען אייביקע דאַנקבאַרקייט פון אייערע פריינד און, אוודאי און אוודאי, פון מאַמע-לשון יידיש.

Greater Toronto Area

Israel experience on display

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Promenade Mall in Thornhill was the place to be last Sunday for people seeking an Israeli experience for themselves or their children.

The Israeli Fair at the mall, offered one-stop shopping for information on a host of Israeli youth, volunteer and educational programs. Now in its third year, the fair is sponsored by the Israeli experience committee of UJA Federation.

Committee coordinator Karen Worb said this year's fair attracted some 500 people, a record attendance for the event, which was previously held at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

The music of local singer Kim Doron, who sang familiar Israeli tunes, set a festive mood that drew shoppers of all ages to the exhibit, Worb said.

Many of the exhibitors felt that having the fair in a public place like the Promenade increased the exposure of their organizations. About 20 programs geared to providing some aspect of the Israel experience were represented.

Participating organizations included Hebrew, Bar-Ilan, Ben-Gurion and Tel Aviv universities; and youth groups such as Hashomer Hatzair, Canadian Young Judaea, Hobonim Dror and Betar Tagar.

Elizabeth Sokolsky, national executive director of the Canadian Israel Experience Centre, based at the Lipa Green Building, said that exhibiting at the mall was an opportunity to reach many unaffiliated people who visited the fair because it was so accessible.

Ryan Hass, shaliach for Young Judaea, with daughter Dalia, 2, at the Israel Fair. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Ryan Hass, the new *shaliach* for Canadian Young Judaea — he arrived in Canada just last month — was surprised to see the Israel fair in a mall.

"I'm originally from England. To have a Jewish event in a public place with Israeli flags and Hebrew music is fantastic. I never experienced such a thing in England," he said.

Michael Litvack, academic affairs coordinator for Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, said he was pleased by the number of teenagers who visited his booth.

"We saw a lot of high school students, which was ideal." He noted that 150 Canadian students utilized a variety of Hebrew and English undergraduate and graduate programs last year.

The youth movement Betar Tagar showcased its new Internet Web site, which is slated to become part of the World Wide Web this month. *Shaliach* Pini Raviv holding up a box of applications for people interested in programs offered by his organization said he was pleased with the community response.

So was Yehuda Marie, *shaliach* for Hashomer Hatzair, another youth organization. He said many people visited the booth, which was a nice change for him. He usually has to go out to different Jewish venues to promote Hashomer Hatzair, but at the fair people came to him, he added.

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פּראָפעסאָר פֿון ייִדיש
מעקגיל יוניווערסיטעט

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אין ייִדיש אָן ענגליש

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מעמאָריאַל פּאָנד
לייבל באַסמאַן
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Author documents Transnistria tragedy

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a generally unassuming woman, Felicia Carmelly is not easily given to overstatement. But as a psychologist, she knows that what has happened to her has been nothing less than cathartic.

Like many Holocaust survivors, Carmelly, 65, bottled up her terrible memories for decades, refusing to speak about her experiences, even to her family. Then, in 1994, she opened up a tiny crack, writing an article in *The CJN* on Transnistria, an obscure and largely forgotten place where her youth was robbed, and where over 400,000 Romanian and Ukrainian Jews were murdered, or beaten, worked or starved to death.

The reaction to *The CJN* article was so great that Carmelly set up, and has since led, the Transnistria Survivors' Association. She also, as she puts it, "took Transnistria out of the freezer with a veangance." For the next two years, she toiled at putting the whole tragedy on paper.

The result is a monumental achievement, especially for a non-historian. Carmelly's *Shattered! 50 Years of Silence — Voices from Romania and Transnistria* (Abbeyfield Publishing, $34.95) is a stunning and wrenching work, brimming with straight history, eyewitness testimonies from fellow survivors and long-lost documents. In all, it has broken ground in that it's probably the first comprehensive English-language history of Romania's war-time killing field.

"I don't know how I did it," sighs Carmelly. "It took so much out of me. It all hit me like a ton of bricks. But it was good for me to write because I got a lot out of my system."

The 536-page book was unveiled at the recent third annual *haskarah* (memorial service) for the Jews of Transnistria, attended by about 50 local survivors.

Dubbed the forgotten cemetery of Romanian Jewry, Transnistria was an artificially created 25,000-square kilometre region between the Dniester and Bug rivers in present-day Ukraine. In 1941, Romania's fascist dictator, Ion Antonescu, began expelling Jews across the Dniester River into Nazi-held Ukraine (thus the name Transnistria, which means "across the Dniester.") The Germans agreed the area could be used as a reservation for Jews.

Between 1941 and 1944, Transnistria became a dumping ground for Jews mainly from the eastern Romanian provinces of Bessarabia and Bukovina, and a virtual prison for the 150,000 Ukrainian and Russian Jews already there. In all, an estimated 330,000 Jews from across Romania were shipped to the region, with its 132 concentration, penal and transit camps, and countless forced labor sites and ghettos.

There is surprisingly little about Transnistria in the better-known Holocaust histories, and it has not become a household word. But one historian has called it "Romania's Auschwitz." In addition to ever-present hunger, disease and dread, Jews faced three malevolent forces: the SS, and local militias of Romanian and Ukrainian fascists.

Some 50,000 Jews were deported from the region to Siberia by the invading Red Army in 1944, and presumed to have died. In all, just 50,000 survived.

Among them were a young Carmelly (then Felicia Steigman), who'd been born in 1931 into a well-to-do family in Bukovina. When she was 10, she and her parents were shipped by train, along with hundreds of others, for three days and nights to a place called Ataki, in Bessarabia. From there, the Jews were forcibly marched to Shargorod in Transnistria, where Carmelly's family lived for 3½ years in a dirt-floor hut with no running water, beds, heating or toilets.

The men, including her father, were put to hard labor, while the women worked the fields. Carmelly and her mother knitted clothes as barter for food and wood. Her father, she recalls, "broke" as a result of forced work in the mass graves, including having to chop up small mountains of frozen corpses in the winter so the pieces could be buried.

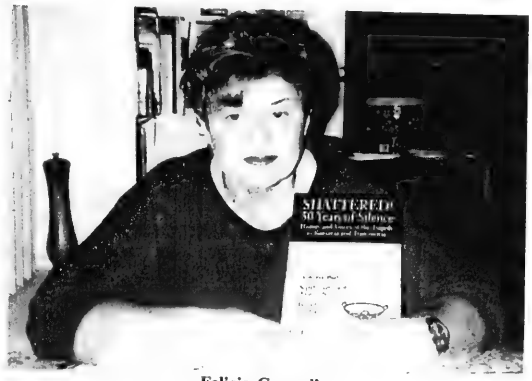
Following liberation, Carmelly returned to Romania and in 1961, went to Israel. She came to Canada in 1963 and plunged into the study of psychology.

"I had completely wiped out every memory of Transnistria — until now," she says, sounding as through she has healed herself. "This book has been a cleansing experience."

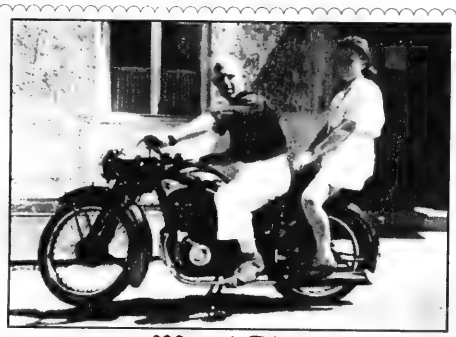
The book is available through the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, M2R 3V2.

* * *

Carmelly is to address a program on her book during Holocaust Education Week, on Nov. 14, 8 p.m. at Beth Habonim Congregation, 5 Glen Park Ave.



Felicia Carmelly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Greater Toronto Area

Divisions within community no joke: rabbi

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The notion of the Jews as G-d's chosen people could be a unifying force in the Jewish community, according to the rabbi/academic who founded the Union for Traditional Judaism.

Rabbi David Novak, 55, speaking to a capacity crowd in the chapel of Beth Tzedec Congregation on The Fractured Jewish People: What Can be Done?, explained that Israel, the Holocaust and religious observance, all of which have been proposed as bridges within the Jewish community, just haven't worked.

Rabbi Novak, who will leave his position as professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Virginia to become the University of Toronto's first chair of Jewish Studies this January, spoke as part of the Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg endowed annual memorial lecture series, part of the synagogue's adult education program.

Although differences among Jews have long been a basis for "all the delicious Jewish jokes about how Jews can't agree with one another," the jokes are over, the rabbi announced.

Last year's assassination of Yitzhak Rabin by a religious Jew "shook Jews to the very core ... In terms of our moral and spiritual condition, this is the lowest point that I can remember in my lifetime."

The rabbi then outlined some of the ways in which divisions within the Jewish community have been related to the State of Israel, the Holocaust and religious observance.

While it's "certainly better to have a state than not to have a state," Israel has been part of the problem, Rabbi Novak believes. He referred to both the distinctions between Israeli and Diaspora Jews and the increasingly pronounced differences between religious and secular Jews in Israel.

Rabbi Novak also sees the Holocaust as having contributed to distinctions within the Jewish community. As a fifth-generation American whose father-in-law's family was virtually wiped out in Europe, he has first-hand knowledge of such distinctions.

"Certainly our sorrow is a common experience, but the teaching of the Holocaust — and I don't question its necessity for a moment — also leads to divisions among Jews."

While the third suggestion (religious observance as a bridge among Jews) is gaining strength, especially with the growth of the *baal tshuva* movement, the strictly religious community has become "more separatist, more rejecting, more rigid and more suspicious," while "the resentment of non-observant Jews for observant Jews has grown." Even within Orthodoxy the divisions have become deeper, he noted.

Having been chosen by G-d "is a religious truth deeper than religious observance," Rabbi Novak said. "This is something we have to examine, ponder and think about. We have to go back to our deepest roots, deeper than Israel, deeper than the Shoah, even deeper than the commandments of the Torah. By understanding that nobody can be excluded, then there might be a chance for us to heal."

Correction

In the October 24 issue of *The CJN*, a student taking part in the Kefiada English Day Camp program was incorrectly identified. Apologies go out to Lori Goldwasser of Toronto.

The family of the late
David V. Freeman ז"ל
wishes to express sincere appreciation to their relatives and friends for their thoughtfulness and generosity during their recent bereavement.
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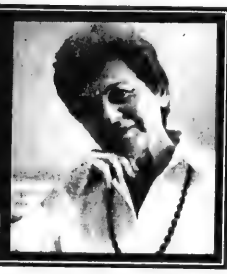

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Nov. 7, is deadline for Nov. 21 issue and Thursday, Nov. 14, is deadline for Nov. 28. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 7

EZRA AND NEHEMIAH

Jacob Israeli (former principal at Beth Tzedec) weekly class on the books Ezra and Nehemiah, 8 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue. Open to the community.

Saturday, Nov. 9

KRISTALLNACHT

Holocaust Memorial Committee, Beth Tzedec adult education, Men's Club and Sisterhood Kristallnacht program 7:15 p.m., candlelighting by Holocaust survivors and their children, and keynote speaker **Rabbi Roy D. Tanenbaum** discusses his book *The Man in Stripes*.

Sunday, Nov. 10

BOOK LAUNCH

Adath Israel Congregation and Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute book launch of *A Small Glimmer of Light* by **Rabbi Steven Saltzman**, 8 p.m., Adath Israel. Reception follows. 635-5340.

DUTCH JEWS

Temple Sinai breakfast presentation, Ettie Hillesum and the Story of the Dutch Jews During World War II, Leslie Robbins of Jewish Storytelling Arts, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

SJA TEEN PROGRAM

Secular Jewish Association Holocaust Education Week teen program, the movie *The Wave*, how a school teacher brainwashes his students,, 10 a.m., SJA Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. 364-7002.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast program, Education and Training for the New Health Care System, **Dr. Renate Krakauer**, Mitchener Institute for Applied Health Sciences. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Come listen, come tell, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914.

POLYCYSTIC RESEARCH

Polycystic Research Society open meeting, two renal dietitians from St. Michael's Hospital, 2 p.m. Beth Sholom Synagogue.

HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES

Morris Winchevsky School fundraiser, Healthy Alternatives: A Community Health Fair, sales and displays from various health oriented companies, raffle ($500 travel gift certificate) and more, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 789-5502.

Monday, Nov. 11

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Rosh Chodesh Kislev at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 7:45 p.m. Maariv for and by women; 8 p.m. shiur for men and women, **Rabbi Chaim Sacknowitz**, Studies in Sefer Shemot.

BONE BUTTON BORSCHT

Bone Button Borscht, a Jewish story about rewards of sharing within the community, presented by the Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School, 10:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. 636-1880, ext. 368.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

ATTENTION DEFICIT

Associated Hebrew School Parents' Association presents Attention Deficit Disorder: Implications for Home, School and Community, **Dr. Russel Schachar**, Hospital for Sick Children, 8 p.m., Hurwich campus. **Doris Charow**, 764-6485.

CUSTOM IN JEWISH LAW

Rabbi Moshe Stern lecture, The Role of "Custom" in Jewish Law and Tradition, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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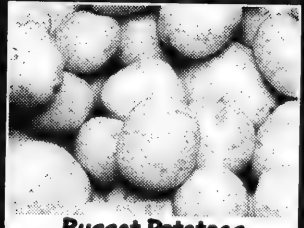
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

KOSHER COOKING
Kashruth Council of Toronto's Kosher Cooking School, Gourmet Meats and Treats, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
As part of Holocaust Education Week, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue presents **Jana Renee Friesova**, author/Holocaust survivor, now working for the Shoah Foundation in the Czech Republic, speaking on *Fortress of My Youth*, the title of her book, 8 p.m.

CAFIP MEETING
Canadian Association for Israel Philately program of Jewish life in the early '90s as seen through postcards, **Harvey Frankel**,7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP
Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles hands-on workshop of embroidery stitches, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. **Rona** 905-764-3620.

A DIET FOR THE SOUL
Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's Class 3 — Kosher:A Diet for the Soul, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

THE ROSENDORF QUARTET
At Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, **Genya Intrator** reviews *The Rosendorf Quartet*, the story of the Israeli Symphony, noon. Bring lunch and $1. Coffee, tea, cookies served. **Leslie Lewis** 789-3291, ext. 233.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM
Jews for Judaism Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, The Real Messiah: Isaiah 53. 789-2851.

Thursday, Nov. 14

BRUCE ADLER CONCERT
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, in cooperation with State of Israel Bonds, brings star of Broadway and Yiddish theatre **Bruce Adler** in concert to the North York Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. 8 p.m. Program includes presentation of State of Israel Bonds Heritage Award to **Luba and David Smuschkowitz**. Proceeds to Cantor Louis Danto Endowment Fund for the Advancement of Jewish Music. Beth Emeth 633-3838 or Bond office 789-3351.

CURRENT AFFAIRS
Erika Biro discusses Current Affairs at National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section meeting, 8:30 p.m. Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Members $8, non-members $10. 633-5100.

COMPOSER/LECTURE
Former *CJN* music critic **Rick Kardonne** demonstration/lecture, Avram Goldfaden, the Father of Broadway, 2 p.m., Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., 785-1511.

ISRAELI PIANIST
Women's Musical Club of Toronto, noted for presenting stars of tomorrow in their Toronto debuts, features young Israeli pianist **Aviva Aranovich**, 1:30 p.m., Edward Johnston Building, 80 Queens Park. $22 at door. 487-3697.

And What Else Is New...

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT
Toronto Jewish Healing Project "healing group" for individuals coping with a physical illness begins Friday, Nov. 15, 10-11:30 a.m. for eight weeks at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Group leaders are **Elaine Cooper**, psychologist, and **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**. For details and registration, 944-3359.

THE INVESTIGATION
In recognition of Holocaust Education Week, Medina Theatre Ensemble presents a staged reading of excerpts from *The Investigation* by **Peter Weiss**, directed by **Miriam Laurence**, Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St., and Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Eglinton/Don Mills Road. Question and answer period with **L. Elly Gotz**. 633-2057 or 785-1074.

TWO-DAY MARKETPLACE
Something for everyone at Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary's annual Two-Day Marketplace, all new merchandise at bargain prices, silent auction, Wednesdays Nov. 13 and 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., hospital mall and mezzanine level. Proceeds in support of Mount Sinai Hospital. 586-8290.

KABBALAH CENTRE
Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.
Rosh Chodesh Kislev lecture, and meal, Astrological sign of Sagittarius, Monday, Nov. 11, 8:30 p.m; Healing and Kabbalah seminar, Tuesday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.; Morning Prayer Connection Monday-Friday 6:30 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m.; Shabbat (Saturday) Service, morning prayers 8:30 a.m., lecture on weekly portion and Torah reading 9:30 a.m.; Zohar study 5:30 p.m. Children's Shabbat service 9:30 a.m.

MY FAIR LADY
The Yorkminstrels' performances of *My Fair Lady* at Leah Posluns Theatre Nov. 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, Dec. 1. Box office 622-1971. Please bring canned goods for North York Harvest Food Bank.

COOLKLEZ
Raoul, a band of francophone musicians from Montreal, brings Klezmer a la Quebecoise to the Leah Posluns Theatre for two shows Sunday, Nov. 17, 3 p.m. perfomance alone and 8 p.m. with Toronto comic **Michael Wex**. $7 matinee, $12 evening. 636-1880, ext. 368.

THE WEDDING PROJECT
The Wedding Project (a *chassene*), written and performed by **Allan Merovitz**, with clarinetist **Martin Vande Ven** and accordionist **Alexander Luminsky**, Nov. 15, 8 p.m. and Nov. 17, 4 and 8 p.m., Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Tickets at door.

KIS DRAMA GROUP
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Youth Department's L'Hakat Drama (drama troupe) for 6 years plus, directed by **Elisa Goldman**, every Sunday 3-5 p.m. starting Nov. 17. Puppetry, improvisation, skits, preparation for production in June. Members $40, non-members $55. **Ilana Blum** 905-884-6033.

NISHMA SHIURIM
Shiurim with **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht**, Nishma Centre, 3772 Bathurst St, Suite 1. Register, 630-0588.
Mondays, Minchat Chinuch, men only, 8 p.m., starts Nov. 18; Wednesdays, advanced Pirkei Avot, women only, 10 a.m.; Shabbat afternoon, ½ hour before Minchah, Topics in Jewish Thought, in conjunction with and at Mizrachi Bayit, 296 Wilson Ave., men and women; every second Sunday, Women in Judaism, Parenting, men and women, 10 a.m.

AT BETH TIKVAH
Sunday, Nov. 10, 9:45 a.m., Adult Heder, **Avner Meiri**, Iraq; Monday, Nov. 11, 8 p.m., Shabbat in Law and Life, **Rabbi Philip Scheim**.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Single Again: Building a New Life, begins Nov. 12; Single Parent Challenge, begins Nov. 12; Living with Teens, begins Nov. 13. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance Nov. 10; Dixie Mall Nov. 14; Casino Rama Nov. 21; Las Vegas Nov. 24-28; Chanukah dance Dec. 8, members $5, non-members $6; Dec. 11, *Beauty and the Beast*; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner dance, 7 p.m. members $30, non-members $35. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 7, **Yehudah Marla**, representative of Hashomer Hatzair, lecture on Israel After Rabin. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip, four, six, eight weeks, Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Luncheon meeting Wednesday, Nov. 13, 11:30 a.m. at the centre.

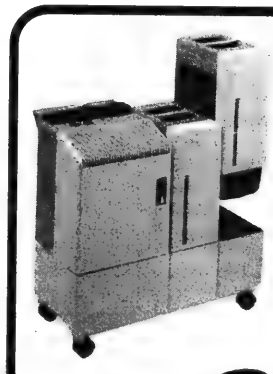
Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club orientation meeting for Arizona trip Monday, Nov. 11, 1 p.m.; Purim vacation trip to Israel March 2-24,; musicals at theatre in Buffalo,*Swing, Swing, Swing*, music of the '40s, Dec. 11, *Song of Singapore*, May 11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden book donations go to Laniado Hospital. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Two places left for **Young at Heart** Florida trip to Sagamore Hotel, one month $1,674, six weeks $1,835, two months $2,735. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.
Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) Jewish Book Fair presentation, **Simcha (Sam) Simchovitch** will read from *Song Will Remain* and talk (in English) about three generations of Yiddish poets in Canada, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 10:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. **Bookie Kwart**.
LLI and Etrog present North York Concert Orchestra performing A Musical Smorgasbord, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m. members $4, non-members $6. **Bookie Kwart**.
LLI Holocaust Education Week program, How Is the Holocaust Taught in Schools and Universities?, **Pnina Zilberman**, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, Thursday, Nov. 14, 1:30 p.m. Bookie.
Sonnee Cohen Lecture, Diabetes Update, **Dr. Ron Goldenberg**, Baycrest Diabetes Education Centre, Thursday, Nov. 7, 1:30 p.m.
Non-Medical Treatment for Stress, **Alex Bellan**, Tuesday, Nov. 12, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

The Holocaust: A Cultural Perspective, a conference presented by Bloor JCC to coincide with Holocaust Education Week. Saturday, Nov. 9, an evening of performances and film, registration 8 p.m.; Sunday, a day of lectures, readings, film and discussions, registration 9:30 a.m. Details/tickets 924-6211.
At Bloor JCC Seniors Club **Meyer Kirshenblatt** presents slides of his paintings of Memories of Life in Poland Before the War, Thursday, Nov. 14, 2 p.m. Also, tickets available for *Private Lives* at St. Lawrence Centre Dec. 11 matinee (non-seniors welcome too). **Judy** 924-6211.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From coast to coast

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

Eggleton wins committee debate

OTTAWA – In an old committee room on the third floor of the West Block on a rainy night in Ottawa last week, men in suits gathered before the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee to talk about the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

The pact was signed in Toronto on July 31, but it still needs Parliamentary approval in Canada (it doesn't in Israel) before it can go into effect Jan. 1 as planned.

Last month, the Liberal government rushed the agreement into the Commons and then over to the standing committee for clause by clause approval and through Parliament before too many people had time to raise a stink.

It's not that the free trade pact is a bad deal. On the contrary, everybody involved, Canadians, Israelis and Palestinians, all think it's great. Eliminating 20 percent tariffs on trade is a wonderful way to increase business and make potfuls of shekels and dollars – money for everybody concerned.

Right now Canada and Israel trade about $450 million a year, a 37 percent increase over last year. It could easily go to over $1 billion a year within two years after free trade.

So what's the problem? It's simply that some people believe the deal should be used as leverage against Israel regarding the situation of the Palestinian population in the territories. They want Canada to hold up implementation of the pact, and implement it only in stages as Israel moves closer to respecting the Oslo accords.

Representatives from the Canadian-Arab Federation, the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations and the Centre d'Etudes arabes de Montréal all took the stand to testify to that effect before the committee.

They repeatedly faulted Israel for occupying Palestinian lands, "stealing" water, bombing homes, and razing entire villages, building more roads into "settlements" and increasing "closures" of the West Bank and Gaza in violation of the Oslo accords.

They said that implementing the pact now would be seen by the world as a reward to Israel for its shoddy treatment of Palestinians.

Henri Rothschild of the Canada-Israel Research and Development Foundation and Shimon Fogel of the Canada-Israel Committee both defended the deal and urged that it be approved to help Israelis and Palestinians alike.

The star witness was Canada's International Trade Minister Art Eggleton who energetically defended the deal. It will restore a "level playing field" for Canadian businesspeople, who have been up against the free trade deal that the United States and the European Union have had with Israel for the past 10 years.

It's been so bad that some Canadian businesspeople have had their products manufactured in the United States just to take advantage of the duty-free U.S. deal with Israel – jobs lost to Canada.

Eggleton played down "injustices" to the Palestinians and emphasized instead business benefits to Canada.

And then Eggleton played his big card, which caught everybody by surprise. It was a letter from Israeli Trade Minister Natan Sharansky promising to offer Palestinians under the Palestinian Authority the same provisions contained in the Canada-Israel deal.

What does Yasser Arafat say about that, asked MPs from all three parties, as if they were all speaking with one voice?

Eggleton replied that Palestinian Authority officials had told Canadian diplomatic officials that anything that will help bolster the moribund Palestinian economy is okay by them.

Then and there Eggleton had won the debate.

The Canadian-Arab representatives who followed him tried to argue otherwise, but none of them had a letter from anybody in the Middle East opposing the deal.

Liberal MP Mark Assad, Senator Marcel Prud'homme, and former Liberal MP Ian Watson, of the Canadian-Arab Business Council, rushed out to try to locate the Palestinian Authority's representative in Canada, to find out what he thought. But they returned shortly afterwards, having failed to find him.

His absence was eloquent. If the Palestinian representative in Canada had not seen fit to testify before the committee, it said lots about the Palestinian Authority's position on the pact.

Outside the room, I asked Eggleton why he didn't have a letter from Arafat endorsing the deal.

"I guess he has lots of other things on his mind these days," chuckled Eggleton, trotting off down the corridor to his office.

Inside the room, the Canadian Arab representatives kept on explaining in detail for two hours all the "terrible things" being done to Palestinians.

They made it clear they are not against free trade with Israel, only against this particular deal at this particular time.

But it was to no avail. The MPs had already made up their minds.

The letter from Sharansky and the absence of any letter from the Middle East opposing the deal had sealed the day in committee.

It won't be so easy when it comes before the Senate for approval," vowed Senator Prud'homme. "You will see."

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From coast to coast

Christie gets space to speak at library

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — The Greater Victoria Public Library has been criticized by anti-racists for allowing a private meeting of the Canadian Free Speech League to be held in its main branch.

According to Michael Peters, former chair of the Capital Region Race Relations Council, the league "professes to believe in freedom of speech and uses that as a front to disseminate hate literature. It's unfortunate they made the municipality an unwilling partner."

The meeting was organized by the league and by lawyer Doug Christie, who told *The CJN* in a phone interview that since it is virtually impossible to hold a private meeting of the league, the library was asked for space.

Victoria Councillor Bob Friedland, the only Jewish member of Victoria Council, said in an interview that he will bring up the matter at a meeting of council and has instructed the city manager to "place on the agenda the issue of use of the library for Doug Christie's group ... A number of constituents have expressed grave concern regarding the library's actions in this regard."

Allan Dutton of the Canadian Anti-Racism Education and Research Society in Vancouver said he monitored the meeting. He said the municipality and City of Victoria should understand the importance of not providing access to groups that promote racist views and oppose immigration and multiculturalism.

There was no trouble at the meeting, Christie said. "No racism. One speaker was black."

Friedland pointed out in his memo to the Victoria city manager "that early in this council's term, council unanimously passed my motion prohibiting the City of Victoria from allowing the dissemination of racist material in any city facility." (The motion came after anti-Semitic material was distributed openly at city hall.)

But his motion doesn't cover the library, Friedland said, because it is a project of the Greater Victoria Regional District (GVRD). He wants the prohibition on racist material extended to all GVRD facilities.

Maurice Chazottes, chair of the library board, said in a phone interview, "I'm on the horns of a dilemma about the meeting because we have to respect democratic ideals."

He said he thinks the league broke library rental rules by not listing the names of the speakers in advance, as required, and by claiming to be a non-profit group, although a $10 fee per person was charged for admission.

Among those at the meeting were Tony McAleer, who operated a hate phone line in Vancouver until it was stopped by a Human Rights tribunal and the Federal Court of Canada, and columnist Doug Collins, who is facing a Human Rights complaint for an alleged anti-Semitic column on *Schindler's List*.

Vancouver Negev Dinner launched

VANCOUVER — The honoree at Vancouver's annual Negev Dinner will be Annette Rothstein, who, with her late husband Norman, has been a major supporter of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) and other community activities.

The Rothstein ties to Israel go back a long way, said Norman Gold, chair of the dinner planning committee.

Brig.-Gen. Yitzchak Fuchs, executive director of the JNF Pacific region, said proceeds from the Negev Dinner this year will be earmarked for Action Plan Negev, a five-year JNF program with the Jewish Agency and Israel's Ministry of Agriculture, to create rural employment "and foster economic stability in the Negev, the largest land reserve in Israel."

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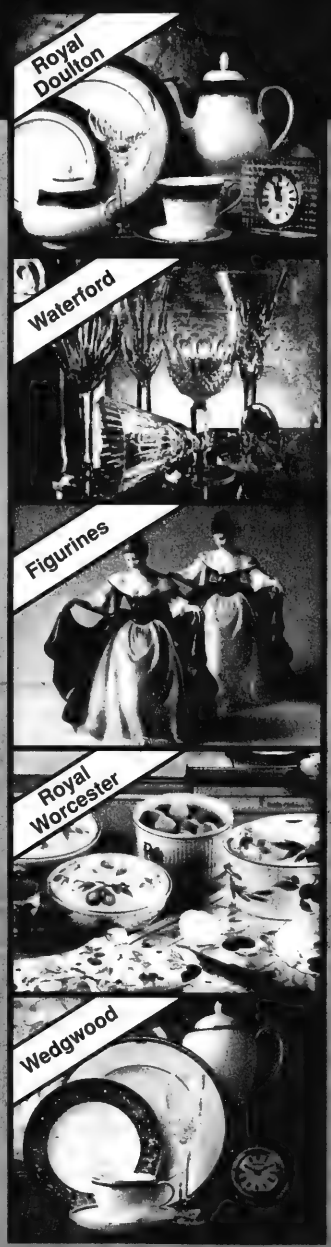

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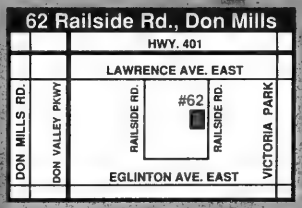

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Advocacy: Social and Political

ASAP

UJA FEDERATION

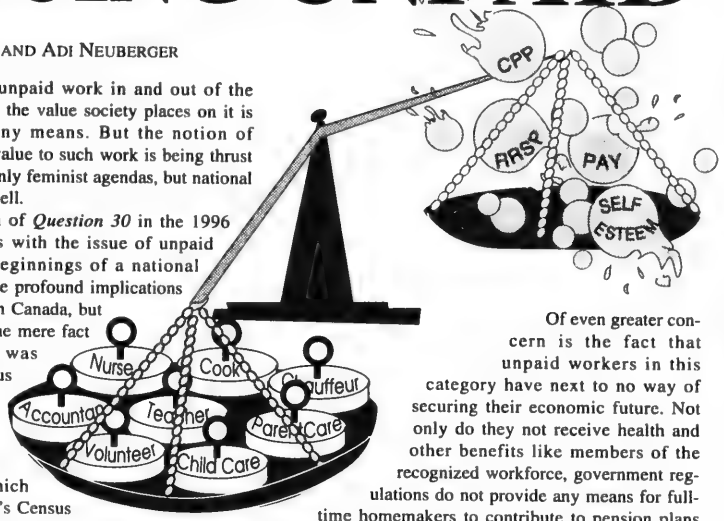
The following is a selection of articles from the current issue of ASAP, a newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation Social and Political Action Committee. For a complete copy, call JWF at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

VALUING UNPAID WORK

BY PAM ROSMARIN AND ADI NEUBERGER

The issue of unpaid work in and out of the household, and the value society places on it is not new by any means. But the notion of assigning economic value to such work is being thrust into the fore of, not only feminist agendas, but national political agendas as well.

The introduction of *Question 30* in the 1996 Census, which deals with the issue of unpaid work, signals the beginnings of a national debate that could have profound implications for women, not just in Canada, but all over the world. The mere fact that the question was included in the Census signifies a recognition that the issue is of rising social import.



The question which appeared on last May's Census reads as follows; "Last week how many hours did this person spend doing unpaid housework, yard work or home maintenance for members of this household...looking after one or more of this person's own children, or the children of others or providing unpaid care or assistance to one or more seniors?"

Ten federal agencies, five provinces, several university departments and numerous women's and social action groups lobbied relentlessly since the 1990 Census for the question on unpaid work to be included. In 1994 the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NACSW) passed a resolution urging its members to boycott the 1996 Census if housework and childcare were not included.

For women's groups such as the Canadian Alliance for Home Managers and NACSW, the question's inclusion is a noteworthy victory.

Momentum began to build towards victory at the 1995 World Conference on Women in Beijing where there was agreement to recognize women's unremunerated contribution to the economy as well as to find better methods of measuring that contribution and to reflect it in official accounting systems of countries.

For years, women, who perform at least two thirds of unpaid chores according to a Statistics Canada limited survey, have been fighting to include the value of unpaid work in the country's total economic activity. The survey reported that in 1995 Canadians spent 25 billion hours a year on unpaid work worth $234 billion; $152.3 billion was performed by women. There's a strong impetus by women's groups to include this work in national accounting systems.

But enumeration and recognition are not the only battles being fought.

As MP Sheila Finestone points out, "Women returning to the workforce should have their unpaid work experience and household management skills recognized by the employer. Managing a household budget," explains Finestone, "can be compared to managing an office or even a government departmental budget." Both men and women need to recognize the skills involved in unpaid work.

Of even greater concern is the fact that unpaid workers in this category have next to no way of securing their economic future. Not only do they not receive health and other benefits like members of the recognized workforce, government regulations do not provide any means for full-time homemakers to contribute to pension plans or to RRSPs. The inability of this segment of society to build long-term financial security is closely linked to high levels of poverty among women, especially single mothers.

Advocacy groups like the Ecumenical Coalition for Economic Justice (ECEJ) are also raising the argument that it is unpaid work that allows for the paid workforce to function. "Unpaid work," says Lorraine Michaels of ECEJ, "which is invariably performed by women sustains the workplace."

Volunteer work, which is increasingly replacing and supplementing waged labour, is also an area that must be addressed. Government cutbacks in funding for social services heightens the pressure on women volunteers to pick up the slack and perform what are often deemed essential services for no pay.

What will make a difference? Education and advocacy. Arna Banack, Policy and Planning Manager of the Community Initiatives Unit of the Solicitor General's Office, says, "If we begin to recognize the fact that work in the home is work, we will understand that this investment in the home and children has great benefit not only for individual families but for society as a whole."

According to Banack, the struggle will be waged on several levels. She emphasizes that "the kind of societal change signaled by the Census will take many years and possibly many generations to effect. We must continue to move slowly towards the goal of valuing 'women's work,' whatever guise that takes."

For more information, call:

National Action Committee on the Status of Women — (416) 932-1718

International Women Count Network (North America) — (610) 664-8556

The Ecumenical Coalition for Economic Justice — (416) 921-4615

JEWISH GENETIC LINK TO

BY SALLY LEVITA

Jewish women have a unique chance to take part in, and benefit from, new research into breast cancer. Several high-risk clinics in the province are studying a possible predisposition to breast cancer in Ashkenazi Jews. An international study, released in the United States last September, indicates nearly 1% of Ashkenazi Jews carry a gene mutation that may increase their risk of breast and ovarian cancer. The discovery was a joint effort by researchers in the U.S. and Israel, who tested DNA samples from randomly-selected Ashkenazi Jews. Various mutations of a gene known as BRCA1, have been linked to breast cancer. In the U.S./Israeli study, 0.9% of those tested carried a specific mutation of the BRCA1 gene.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

1. Call The Marvelle Koffler Breast Cancer Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital for more information. (416) 586-8799.
2. Speak to your doctor about recent research and the implications it may have on your health.
3. Encourage your affiliate or other organizations to become involved in organizing or publicizing public education events. Please call The Familial Breast Cancer Clinic at (416) 586-3244.
4. Join the Pink Ribbon Campaign by calling the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation at (416) 596-6773.

Researchers say the occurrence of that one mutation among Ashkenazi Jews is about three times higher than the occurrence of all other types of BRCA1 mutations combined, in the general population.

What needs to be understood is how many Ashkenazi women already diagnosed with breast cancer have the mutation and what the implications are. Studies are planned to try to find these answers. One current study is being coordinated by the Ontario Cancer Genetics Network (OCGN), and includes investigators at Mount Sinai Hospital and The Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre.

The Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai currently works with women who have breast cancer or have a family history of cancer. The head of the clinic, Dr. Pam Goodwin, says they plan to expand those criteria to include Ashkenazi women with breast cancer, whether or not they have a family history of the disease. They hope to determine how common the mutation is in Ashkenazi women with breast cancer.

"We will be able to look at the prevalence or likelihood of a mutation in the gene in Ashkenazi women with breast cancer, according to a number of different factors: age, whether or not they have a family history, whether there are other risk factors," says Dr. Goodwin. "It will help us improve our understanding of the meaning of this mutation in that particular population."

The researchers want to determine the implications of this mutation in Ashkenazi women with breast

The Social and Political Action Newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation

Editors: Karen Green Pam Rosmarin

TOGETHER

WOMAN ABUSE: A Community Affair

BY LORI DENNIS

It is only within the last 10 years that research derived from Jewish social service agencies has begun to reveal the extent of wife abuse in the Jewish community.

According to Gail Gould, Supervisor of Toronto's Jewish Family and Child Service's Woman Abuse Program, there are, at any point in time, approximately 300 cases at JF&CS where woman abuse has been identified as an issue. When one considers that families on average have 2.2 children, one must recognize that this issue has enormous ramifications within the Jewish community.

ALL WOMEN VULNERABLE

"The literature and our clinical experience indicates that batterers are found in all socio-economic levels, all educational, racial and age groups. Violence knows no socio-economic or denominational distinctions. It occurs with equal frequency in poor and wealthy homes and in Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative, Orthodox and Hassidic communities," says Gould.

In her article "Breaking the Silence....Reaching Out to Battered Jewish Women," Elana Eizak Kuperstein states that the premise of a Jewish husband harming his wife is so disbelieved that actual reports of woman abuse by Jewish men are usually met with complete denial. She contends that "Shalom Bayit" (Peace in the Home), while well intentioned to preserve and promote the sanctity of the Jewish home, has served to negate the existence of battered Jewish wives.

Now that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Jewish community to deny that woman abuse exists in our own backyard, some obvious questions arise: "Why do Jewish women stay in abusive relationships?" "And, what is the Jewish community doing to support these women?"

Regarding the first question, it is noteworthy that a research study done by JF&CS in 1987 indicates that Jewish women stay in abusive relationships twice as long as non-Jewish women. A Jewish woman's difficulty in leaving a violent situation is often related to her belief that she is letting down the Jewish community. Not only is she admitting that her own "perfect" marriage is a myth, she also thinks she is contributing to the breakdown of Judaism's very core.....the family.

Her struggle to leave is also often related to her social and economic status. "The higher it is, the more difficult it is for some women to leave for fear of losing their status, their home and their family's good name and reputation," says Gould. JF&CS staff report that the Jewish community can be very judgmental. Long standing, well respected community members have a much harder time leaving than those who have fewer ties.

Finally, a woman's shame often encourages her to keep quiet and forego the very support she desperately needs. If she speaks up, she fears community disbelief and even reprisal.

JEWISH COMMUNITY RESPONSE

So what is the Jewish community doing to support these women? The answer is: more than ever, but still not enough.

In 1987, the Jewish Family and Child Service established the Woman Abuse Program both for battered women and for men who batter. Since its inception, the number of cases has grown significantly, and so has the number of services. These include long-term therapy groups, an incest survivor group, a sexual assault therapy group, and Jewish Family Life Education Workshops. In addition, JF&CS offers financial support for those who are abused, a short-term shelter with kosher facilities, as well as the "children witnessing violence program."

This year, Jewish Women's Federation is launching the first ever Women Abuse Awareness Program including a "Jewish Community Awareness Month" which will take place in May 1997. This coincides with the Provincial Sexual Assault Prevention Month. The purpose is to increase public awareness and support, to empower women who are victims of violence and to stimulate advocacy within the Jewish community. Initiatives which are already under way will be highlighted.

Such an initiative is being undertaken by Na'amat Canada, which has launched a free legal advisory service for women in abusive relationships. Lawyers are available to help women explore their options and to provide guidance and referrals to other resources in the community. Services are available in Russian and Hebrew. Na'amat has published a resource guide - "I can't believe it is happening" - an informative booklet on the nature of woman abuse, including a list of services for abused women, such as distress lines, shelters and individual and group counselling.

Another important initiative has been launched by Jewish Women International which has distributed a "Rabbi's Kit," which is designed to bring awareness to Rabbis on the issue of Woman Abuse and includes sermons on the topic.

These and similar efforts will be supported by JWF which is planning to provide synagogues, schools and other organizations with speakers, sermons and other resources to educate and raise awareness in the community. Rabbis will be encouraged to conduct at least one sermon throughout the year on Woman Abuse and will be sent resource directories to enable them to better support abused women in their congregations.

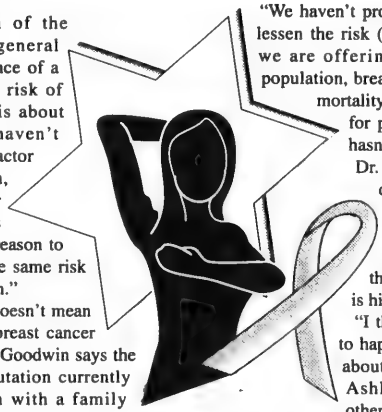
Lori Dennis is a professional writer who runs her own business, "Word for Word Creative Communications."

RESOURCE LIST

Assaulted Women's Helpline	(416) 863-0511
Barbra Schlifer Clinic	(416) 323-9149
Community Information Centre of Metropolitan Toronto	(416) 392-0505
Jewish Family and Child Service	(416) 636-7800
Jewish Women International	(416) 630-9313
Na'amat Legal Services	(416) 636-5425

BREAST CANCER

cancer. With a mutation of the BRCA1 gene, in the general population and in the presence of a family history, the overall risk of developing breast cancer is about 87%. Researchers haven't determined a specific risk factor for the Ashkenazi mutation, but Irene Andrulis, director of Ontario Cancer Genetics Network, says, "There's no reason to think that it doesn't carry the same risk as any other BRCA1 mutation."



On the other hand, that doesn't mean all Ashkenazi women with breast cancer have the gene mutation. Dr. Goodwin says the only information on the mutation currently available involves women with a family history of breast cancer. It is important to determine what the mutation means for women without a family history. "We don't want to create undue anxiety," says Dr. Goodwin. "At the same time we don't want to say 'no,' it's meaningless." They'll know more once the results are in from these studies.

The only way Ontario women can currently be evaluated for this particular gene mutation is by taking part in one of the OCGN studies. However, Dr. Goodwin is quick to point out that genetic evaluation is only one part of the whole risk assessment process done at the clinic.

"We haven't proven that anything can be done to lessen the risk (of developing breast cancer), but we are offering screening." In the general population, breast cancer screening can reduce the mortality rate by 30%, but its effectiveness for people who carry a gene mutation hasn't been determined.

Dr. Goodwin admits the potential for direct benefit to women taking part in studies now is relatively low, but she says once the results from the studies have been analyzed, the potential for benefit in the future is high.

"I think in the long run, what's going to happen is we're going to know more about the genetics of breast cancer in Ashkenazi women than we will in other women and we'll be able to give them much better information, much more useful information, than we will be able to for the general population."

For more information about the study, or breast cancer in general, call The Familial Breast Cancer Clinic at (416) 586-3244. A public education event is being planned for the coming Fall.

Sally Levita is a freelance journalist who has worked in private radio, the CBC and for national wire services.

From coast to coast

The family of the late

ABIE BERMAN ז"ל

It would almost be impossible to thank everyone who has touched our lives during our recent tragic loss. We wish to express our deepest appreciation to all our family and friends for your support, compassion and willingness to help. Your caring and love have kept us going and it means a great deal to us.

The Berman, Krasowsky, Shecter and Serota Families

Villeneuve letter angers CJC

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Raymond Villeneuve's attempt to excuse his outburst against Jews for their opposition to separation is not convincing to Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) or to at least one of the individuals he singled out.

In fact, as far as they're concerned, Villeneuve has only confirmed their opinion about him.

In a statement released to certain media, Villeneuve says it was "unfair to implicate all anglophone Jews as we did" in a September issue of *La Tempete*, a publication of the Mouvement de Liberation Nationale du Quebec (MLNQ), of which he is president.

He said he did so out of a "legitimate" anger, but now regrets the "form" he used.

"That many individuals (Like the leaders of CJC, B'nai Brith and Mssrs. [Mordecai] Richler, [Robert] Libman, [Howard] Galganov, etc.) of that community have transformed themselves into shock troops for a system of neo-colonial type exploitation and domination, that they can give moral support to the negation of the right of a people to existence, does not authorize us, in return, to target all of that community."

At the same time, Villeneuve chastises the community for not distancing itself from these "provocateurs."

He denies that he threatened violence against Jews, but rather "reproached" the community for its "monolithism."

Moreover, he maintains he is not anti-Semitic because he did not criticize francophone (Sephardi) Jews.

"This doesn't mitigate a thing; in fact, he's just making his anti-Semitism and racism obvious," said CJC Quebec Region executive-director Jack Jedwab. "I wouldn't call this an apology."

Robert Libman, who was one of the individuals named in *La Tempete*, finds this latest missive "just as disturbing" as Villeneuve's earlier statements.

Villeneuve defends his right to denounce the "barons" of the ethnic communities for "mobilizing their communities against Quebec and the French language ..."

He maintains that some of "the worst slanderers" of Quebec and the Quebec people are found among the ethnic communities.

Villeneuve warns ethnic Quebecers that "if they refuse to integrate into their country of welcome and that if they persist as communities to oppose the desire for emancipation of an entire people, they expose themselves to finger-pointing, if not worse. Above all, English domination of Quebec is not their cause."

Jedwab said CJC is going ahead with trying to have Villeneuve charged under the anti-hate laws for not only what he wrote in *La Tempete*, but also what he said in subsequent radio interviews.

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Kids news

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Children Need love

Fighting has again erupted in Zaire. The lives of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, are threatened. Children are almost always the first casualties of fighting because they are the most vulnerable.

Dr. Richard Hodes, head of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee medical team in Goma Zaire, examines a Rawandan child in the Kibumba refugee camp.

An Israeli soldier brings a Rawandan orphan to an orphanage after the child was successfully treated at an Israeli Defense Force field hospital in Ndosho, Zaire, July 28. two years ago.

Remembering and building for the future in Israel, children are called upon to build for the future even as they must remember the past.
These photos show a Jewish girl and an Arab boy working together at the Sataf archeological site near Jerusalem, and a group of friends lighting memorial candles for victims of terror. [ISRANET PHOTO]

Back to school, for the first time in Israel.These photos show young newcomers starting their school year and making new friends at the Talpiot State Religious Elementary school in Jerusalem. For many of the children it was their first time in a Israeli school. [UJA Press Service/ Avi Hirshfield 1993]

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The CJN enjoyed all of the Sukkot cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Avi Bernstein of Hamilton, Debra Mancini of Thornhill and Penina Rothenstein of Downsview. Each will receive a cheque for $20.

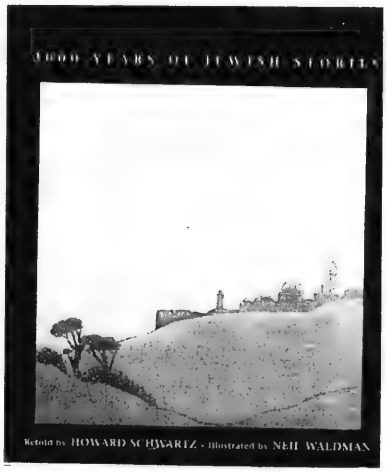
Dear CJN.
I would like to thank you all very much for the $20.00 which you sent me. I was so excited when I found out I won. There were so many people that recognized my name in The CJN. My little brother is turning 5 in November and I plan to buy him the greatest birthday gift ever with my prize money. Thank you so much again!
Love . . . . Deborah Lipszyc

Kids news

Book Review & cartoon too

Legends of Jerusalem show generations of longing

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter



This year, Jerusalem is celebrating a very important anniversary – 3,000 years since King David made that city the capital of Israel.

Throughout the year, there have been joyful celebrations, including dance festivals, concerts, art competitions, dramatic presentations and even a biblical-style feast.

Howard Schwartz has produced a beautiful book about Jerusalem, called *Next Year in Jerusalem: 3000 years of Jewish stories* (Viking, 1996). It is full of legends and stories about the people and places of the city over the centuries.

Some of the stories are about famous rabbis, such as Rabbi Nachman of Bratslov. After he died, his followers kept his chair, out of their great respect for him. When they had to leave the city to escape from the Nazis, they each took a piece of the chair, intending to reassemble it in Jerusalem. Everyone who carried some of that chair survived the war.

There is a wonderful story about a little boy in Poland who is magically carried to Jerusalem, and one about Miriam, a child in the city when it was controlled by the Muslims, who is saved from death by King David himself.

All of the stories tell of the magic, the beauty and especially the holiness of this very special city.

The illustrations by Neil Waldman are full of dreamlike blues, purples, pinks and golds, showing the dreams of returning to Jerusalem that Jews have had over the years.

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TAU research project may save cancerous larynx

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A research project at Rabin Medical Centre of Tel Aviv University (TAU) may save those with cancer of the larynx from losing their voice.

Dr. Raffi Feinmesser, oto-larygologist-in-chief of the centre, told a recent meeting of Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University that researchers are studying the P53 gene, which prevents the multiplication of unhealthy cells, removes dead or damaged ones, and suppresses the development of new tumors.

If the P53 gene itself is damaged, he explained, then diseased cells (like cancer cells) will multiply.

The treatment for cancer of the larynx has typically consisted of removing the larynx, which leaves the patient unable to speak. One reason for this, Feinmesser said, is that because of the physiology of the larynx and its small size, it is very difficult for a pathologist to determine just where the cancerous cells are.

The new study suggests that if the P53 gene is found, then surgeons can more accurately determine how much of the larynx needs to be removed.

There are 12,000 cases of laryngeal cancer in the United States each year, he said. Total removal of the larynx gives security, but at a terrible price. "To take away less than the whole thing means you may be giving [the patient] life — or just leaving the voice for a short time."

The Isabel Silverman CISEPO program of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital is helping to fund the research, he said.

Drs. Raffi Feinmesser (left) from Rabin Medical Centre, Tel Aviv University, and Arnold Noyek, from Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. [Leila Speisman photo]

Dr. Arnold Noyek, executive director of CISEPO and otolaryngologist-in-chief of Mount Sinai Hospital, told the gathering of over 100 people that CISEPO is involved with assisting medical research and care in many countries.

Because it is a non-governmental agency. "We are not caught up in bureaucracy, and so can work at all levels," including medical outreach, education, multidisciplinary programs, innovative uses of technology and fellowships. Feinmesser, in fact, was the first fellow trained in head and neck surgery under CISEPO.

Research projects have been carried out between various countries, including Canada, Israel and Norway, and a program Noyek is instrumental in arranging between Canada, Israel and Jordan (called Looking East).

Besides Feinmesser's study, many of CISEPO's programs in Israel are based at Tel Aviv University. One, in conjunction with Hebrew University, helps Soviet olim re-establish themselves as practitioners and researchers.

A molecular biology lab, which has allowed Feinmesser to do his study, has been established at TAU, and is also studying Alzheimer's disease.

"The sense of smell seems to go first in Alzheimer's disease," Noyek said, and the lab is studying that in collaboration with staff at Baycrest Hospital."

Noyek said that CISEPO hopes to soon become an associate member of the Middle East Cancer Consortium, which, together with Looking East, will, he hopes, "contribute to the peace process."

Technology aids bypass surgery

By WENDY ELLIMAN
Jerusalem Dateline

JERUSALEM, Israel — Israelis have adapted technology used for night vision by the IDF and developed a thermal-imaging camera that helps ensure the success of coronary bypass surgery.

The system, said to be the first of its kind in the world, was created by Opgal Medical, a company based in the Galilee town of Karmiel. It has been developed and tested in the Cardiothoracic Surgery Department of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Centre in Jerusalem.

Israel performs some 4,000 coronary artery bypass operations each year. Vessels taken from the patient's leg are transferred to the heart in order to circumvent coronary arteries clogged with plaque.

"Before we had this camera, surgeons relied on their experience and intuition as to whether blood-flow through the grafted vessels was normal," says Prof. Gideon Merin, head of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Hadassah.

Experience and intuition can now be scientifically borne out, however, by the newly developed intraoperative vascular angiography system (IVA). Suspended a metre above the patient during surgery, the IVA camera can pick up variations in temperature inside the grafted vessels as minuscule as less than one C.

Within three to four years, Dr. Zucker anticipates that IVA will become equipment around the world. "It has already been successfully used to perform several hundred bypass grafts in Israel, and is now being tested in the United States, Italy, Spain and Britain."

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Israel to hold security meetings with Russia

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Regular strategic consultations will be held with Russia's security and diplomatic establishments to discuss such issues as terror and Islamic militancy, Israeli ambassador to Russia Aliza Shenhar told reporters last week on the eve of the visit by Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

Primakov also held talks in Syria, Lebanon and Egypt.

Russia is "willing, like us, to institutionalize a regular dialogue with us on issues such as terror and radical Islam," Shenhar said.

She said a preliminary dialogue has begun between diplomats, but now it will both be regularized and expanded to "include the entire establishment in both countries."

Security sources, however, suggested that Russia has not yet formalized an agreement to such a dialogue.

Shenhar said that Moscow, which is an official co-sponsor of the 1991 Madrid peace conference, is also seeking a more active role in the peace process. However, both Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur and Shenhar indicated they wanted this role to deal with reviving the largely moribund multilateral talks on regional cooperation, designed to supplement the sensitive bilateral peace talks on peace, security and land.

"We very much value the multilaterals, and we think that Russia could have a key role in advancing those issues," Bentsur said. "The foreign minister expects to raise this issue with his Russian counterpart."

Bentsur and Shenhar sought to soften the image of Primakov, who is largely perceived as an Arabist. They both said that Israel deeply valued his knowledge of Middle East affairs and his connection with Arab leaders.

Shenhar said that Moscow is interested not only in selling arms to the region, but in increasing its economic profile. She said that, like France, Russia has dispatched oil and trade teams to Baghdad so that it will be ready when UN sanctions against Iraq are lifted and business can commence.

When asked if the question of selling a Russian nuclear reactor to Iran would be raised with Primakov, Foreign Ministry officials suggested that it is better for the United States to explore this with Russia.

Shenhar noted that Iranian students are coming to Moscow to learn more about Russian nuclear technology.

After Primakov met with Foreign Minister David Levy, the two were to sign an agreement on establishing cultural centres in each other's country. Moreover, Levy is expected to symbolically hand Primakov the registration of Russian properties in downtown Jerusalem, thereby closing an issue which has been an irritant in the bilateral relationship.

With the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia made an agreement that it would assume all liabilities and assets of the former regime. Therefore, Moscow was upset that Israel had engaged in the cumbersome procedure, which took years, of asking all former members of the Soviet Union if they had objections to the registration transfer.

Earlier this year, it was decided to transfer the registration. The properties are a parking lot on King George Street, which Russia reportedly wants to turn into an office building; the court complex in the Russian Compound; and the adjoining Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Another irritant to the relationship was removed a few weeks ago when Russia renewed the registration of the Jewish Agency in Moscow, which had been revoked during the Russian election campaign earlier this year. The United States had intervened on Israel's behalf.

Primakov will also speak with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky in a meeting scheduled at Russia's request. The Russian authorities have invited Sharansky to visit Russia at the end of next month, the first time he will be visiting since emerging from a prison camp in early 1986.

Primakov was also scheduled to visit Gaza.

E-MAILS ON HIGH
Avi Moskowitz, president of Virtual Jerusalem, places a new e-mail message last week in the ancient stones of the Western Wall. [RNS/Reuters]

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Bill would invalidate non-Orthodox conversions

By HAIM SHAPIRO
JerusalemPost Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – A bill designed to invalidate Reform and Conservative conversions performed in Israel is to be submitted to the Knesset within two weeks, following an agreement between representatives of the religious parties and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a spokesperson for the National Religious Party said last week.

Yehoshua Mor-Yosef said that the proposed law intends to deal with conversions performed in Israel. Spokespersons for the Reform Movement, however, have expressed fear that the law would also relate to conversions performed outside of Israel.

According to the Law of Return, which establishes the right of all Jews to come to Israel, a Jew is anyone born of a Jewish mother or anyone who was converted to Judaism. The High Court of Justice has declared valid any conversion carried out by a Jewish community abroad, non-Orthodox as well as Orthodox. Repeated efforts to amend the Law of Return to state that conversion refers only to conversion according to Halachah have generated vehement protests from Diaspora Jewry, especially the American Jewish community.

Last year, for the first time, the court ruled that a Reform conversion performed in Israel could not be declared invalid for civil purposes, although the court did not order the Interior Ministry to register the convert as Jewish in the population registry. According to Mor-Yosef, there are now 15 cases of local Reform conversions before the High Court.

Anat Bendor, an attorney for the Reform Movement's Israel Religious Action Centre, said that the proposed law could be used to prevent Reform and Conservative converts from immigrating to Israel.

"The proposed law, as stated, does not distinguish between conversion abroad and that in Israel. A Jewish Agency official could tell a convert abroad that he would have to have his conversion approved by the [Israeli] Chief Rabbinate," Bendor said.

Mor-Yosef said that the proposed law now has the support of all the parties in the coalition, including Yisrael b'Aliyah, which, he noted, has a vested interest in the issue. Yisrael b'Aliyah spokesperson Motti Inbari said yesterday that apparently the party would agree to the passage of the law, although this had not been formally approved by the party's institutions. According to Inbari, there are about 150,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are not halachically Jewish.

Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, said it is outrageous that the government should come to such a decision this week, when the Jewish Agency Board of Governors is meeting in Jerusalem. The majority of the board members are not Orthodox, and the majority of contributors to the Jewish Agency are not Orthodox, Hirsch said.

"The reality is that a significant proportion of Jews in the Diaspora are converts to Judaism and do so through non-Orthodox rabbis," Hirsch said.

In Israel, Hirsch said, some 10,000 people a year apply to the rabbinate to convert to Judaism, but the rabbinate carries out only around 400 conversions a year.

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Egypt not inviting leaders to economic parley

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – So as to avoid inviting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to this month's Cairo economic meeting at a time of tense regional relations, Egypt has decided not to invite any heads of government, senior officials said.

"Within the last week, Egypt decided not to invite heads of government due to the poor regional climate," a key official said.

Egypt felt this was not the time to invite Netanyahu to Cairo, another senior official said. Netanyahu had publicly made clear his interest in attending the event.

This marks the first time since the annual economic conferences began in Casablanca in 1994 that heads of state have not been invited.

Therefore, the parley in Cairo is now being called an "economic conference" rather than an "economic summit."

Egypt was apparently waiting for the IDF redeployment in Hebron to take place. Since this has not occurred, Egypt decided to downgrade the political representation at the parley.

Foreign Minister David Levy will be the top official representing Israel. He will be joined by Finance Minister Dan Meridor, Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky, and Communications Minister Limor Livnat.

Egyptian ambassador to Israel Mohammed Bassiouny confirmed that heads of government would not be invited, but denied that this was tied to the regional atmosphere or an interest in excluding Netanyahu.

"There is no political issue behind it. We would like to concentrate on the economic issues, so we invited the ministerial level," Bassiouny said.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office also sought to downplay the fact that Netanyahu will not be invited. He said there is a need to build economic cooperation even during a period of political turbulence.

Jordan, Israel to open consulates

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – In an effort to promote tourism and facilitate trade, the Hashemite kingdom and the Jewish state plan to open consulates in the Red Sea towns of Eilat, Israel, and Aqaba, Jordan, respectively.

The decision was made by joint committees formed under the 1994 peace treaty between the two nations.

A spokesperson for the Israeli Embassy in Amman said additional measures were being considered, including free, one-day visas for tourists.

Meanwhile, Israeli President Ezer Weizman plans to travel next week to Amman to meet with King Husseln.

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 28

• The head of the IDF's manpower division met with Batya Arad, mother of captured Israeli air navigator Ron Arad, to brief her on the latest mission of German mediator Bernd Schmidbauer. Schmidbauer was in Israel after establishing contacts last week in Lebanon in an effort to get information about Arad.

Oct. 29

• The Knesset began debate on the 1997 budget and economic arrangements bill amid threats from coalition members to vote against the budget, saying that it hurts the weaker sectors of society.

Oct. 30

• The Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel concluded its meetings in Jerusalem after approving a $502 (US) budget for 1997. The board also approved a strategic planning process to define the goals of the agency, now in the midst of a five-year fiscal recovery and reform program for the next century.

• The Tel Aviv District Court handed down stiff prison sentences and fines to six Israeli Discount Bank investment counsellors convicted of stock manipulation.

Oct. 31

• Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor, the coordinator of activities in the territories, came under fire from certain coalition members after Israeli media reported that he had recently met with and briefed opposition leader Shimon Peres and former minister Yossi Beilin.

• President Ezer Weizman announced plans to travel next week to Amman to meet with King Hussein.

Nov. 1

• The Supreme Court rejected a petition that has been holding up construction on a controversial Jewish neighborhood at Jerusalem's Har Homa.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

More than 700 people were expected to attend the International Congress of the International Society for Development of Ultrasound in the Locomotor Apparatus.

Orient House focus of tension

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Orient House, the Palestinians' chief institution in East Jerusalem, continues to be a flashpoint in Israel's tense relations with the Palestinians.

Mideast Analysis

A stately 19th-century Ottoman-style building in the sedate American Colony neighborhood, Orient House functions on two levels. It is the PLO's quasi-foreign ministry and it provides services to Palestinian economic, social, educational and cultural institutions.

Founded in the 1980s, Orient House was at first the headquarters of the Arab Studies Society, an organization Israel suspected of being a front group for the then banned PLO.

Once the Madrid peace process got underway in October 1991, Orient House was the seat of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations, as well as a venue of meetings between foreign dignitaries and leading PLO officials.

With the signing of the September 1993 Declaration of Principles, and Israel's recognition of the PLO, the importance of Orient House increased.

Israel was never happy with Orient House because its very existence was a constant challenge to Israel's territorial claim to eastern Jerusalem, which is recognized neither by the Palestinians nor by the world community.

In response, the Knesset passed a law outlawing political activity by the Palestinian Authority (PA) anywhere in Israel (including East Jerusalem, which the Israeli government annexed in 1967).

The director of Orient House, Faisal al-Husseini, the PLO's top official in East Jerusalem, claimed that Orient House was not funded by the PA and thus was in compliance with the Oslo accords. As further proof of his assertion, he reminded the Israeli authorities that Shimon Peres, Israel's foreign minister, had written a letter in October 1993 attesting to the usefulness of Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem.

Israel, however, claimed that there was a direct connection between Orient House and the PA. Israel argued that Palestinian institutions under the umbrella of Orient House were directly funded by the PA and therefore were subordinate to the PA.

In February 1994, Israel's internal security minister, Moshe Shahal, brashly announced that foreign visitors would be prevented from setting foot in Orient House. Israel was irritated by the fact that numerous foreign ministers had visited Orient House, which was fast becoming the spearhead of Palestinian efforts to establish a foothold of sovereignty in East Jerusalem.

Shahal did not carry out his threat because the Israeli cabinet was divided. When Peres noted that Israel could not prevent foreign ministers from visiting Orient House and admitted that he had resigned himself to such visits, Shahal quietly dropped the matter, much to the indignation of Ehud Olmert, the Likud mayor of Jerusalem.

As the debate raged, the Likud bloc presented a Knesset bill to close down Orient House. The proposed legislation passed its first reading, but later died in committee.

During last spring's general election campaign, Benjamin Netanyahu promised to shut down Orient House. But once Netanyahu was in office, the Likud government backed off, modifying its position.

Speaking on Netanyahu's behalf, Olmert declared that Israel would not press its case, provided foreign diplomats stopped visiting Orient House and thus depoliticized the issue.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who is chiefly responsible for the Orient House dossier, concurs with this tactic. Recently, he said that he will not exert pressure on Orient House if it upholds the provisions of the Oslo accords.

Israel's resolve has been tested by France, which favors a Palestinian state. In July, France's foreign minister, Herve de Charette, agreed to boycott Orient House in exchange for Netanyahu's pledge not to portray his no-show as an Israeli victory. Last month, when Jacques Chirac, the president of France, visited Israel, he dispatched his deputy health minister to Orient House, pointedly leaving his foreign minister at home.

In honoring Israel's wishes, France was hewing to the European Union (EU) guidelines. In a recent policy decision taken in Florence, the EU decided that visits by foreign ministers to Orient House were no longer mandatory.

Israel has no vital interest in blowing the Orient House controversy out of all proportion. But Netanyahu has warned the EU that if it challenges Israel's policy, Israel will not receive EU officials.

Yasser Arafat, president of the PA, has promised David Levy — Israel's foreign minister — that the PA will desist from political activity in Jerusalem. But in light of Palestinian claims in East Jerusalem, it remains to be seen whether Arafat will be willing or able to honor his commitment.

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As a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford since 1962, Gilbert has also made a major contribution to the study of Jewish history. His two most recent books are Auschwitz and the Allies (Holt) and the Holocaust (Holt). These books are scrupulously researched, reveal much new evidence and form the basis of a number of fascinating and moving lectures.

French Jews angered by Chirac's Mideast trip

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS – French President Jacques Chirac upset not only Israel and the United States during his six-day visit to the Middle East, but also Jewish community leaders in his own country.

Leading voices in France's Jewish community said they felt betrayed by Chirac's overt pro-Arab positions, adding that his behavior was too biased for someone posing as a mediator.

During his trip, Chirac called on Israel to back the creation of a Palestinian state and to return the Golan Heights to Syria, stances firmly rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

And while he addressed the Palestinian legislative council, he refused to address the Israeli Knesset.

Chirac, who was campaigning for a European peacemaking role in the Middle East, also praised President Hafez al-Assad of Syria.

His very public display of fury at Israeli police during his tour of Jerusalem's Old City was also seen by many as pandering to Arab interests.

"The mind set of the Jewish community in France today is incomprehension, disappointment and concern. The community is having a hard time understanding the French position," said Henri Hajdenberg, president of CRIF, the umbrella group of secular French Jewish organizations.

"In diplomacy, there are two types of behavior: discreet or spectacular. France has fallen into the latter, by taking sides publicly, which reflects its political points of view, not those of a mediator, who is expected to bring together the parties involved," he added.

The chief rabbi of France, Rabbi Joseph Sitruk, has asked to meet with Chirac "to better understand what he meant.

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David Broza concert a triumph of awesome talent

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Planted on a simple stool on a bare stage, one leg dangling, his face glowing, David Broza furiously strummed an electric guitar and let forth a stream of lilting folk rock melodies.

Clad in black, and occasionally mopping his brow with a white towel, Israel's foremost rock singer was on the last lap of a Canadian tour, fresh from concerts in Montreal, Ottawa and London.

Broza was in his prime, and his audience, a preponderance of young women, adored his two-hour, nonstop concert, squealing, shouting and clapping appreciatively.

Appearing last week in a musty old theatre in Toronto's Hellenic quarter, Broza — the acme of cosmopolitanism — showed why he is probably Israel's greatest performing and recording artist.

Born in Israel, raised in Spain and now living in the United States, he was totally at ease in Hebrew, English and Spanish.

In a strong, resonant, smoky voice, this appealing troubadour sang of love and romance, of longing and identity and of memorable landscapes. And jocularly at one point, he launched into a Hebrew version of the blues.

Broza's poetic-tinged, flamenco-flecked songs, culled from such albums as *The Woman By My Side* and *Stone Doors*, were by turns cheerful and mournful, introspective and extroverted.

A natural and supple performer, he segued from an ironic melody about secret love letters to a celebration of a Rocky Mountain state.

But the most indelible impression he finally left was that of a masterful musician. Broza is a superb guitarist, milking the instrument for all it is worth.

In Broza's hands, the guitar fuses with his soul. It soars and it swoons. It is a rumbling locomotive and a trembling murmur. It is at once redolent of classical Spain and sabra Israel.

And as he sat there, inexhaustibly singing his heart out and strumming like there was no tomorrow , Broza conquered the crowd completely, the concert a triumph of awesome talent and endless energy.

David Broza: Poetic troubadour

Egypt offers multi-visas

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli businessmen now can get a single "multi-visa" for as many visits to Egypt as they want in any six month period, Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny said recently.

The announcement was well received by some 30 businessmen, who had expressed concern at the bureaucratic difficulties of travelling to Egypt.

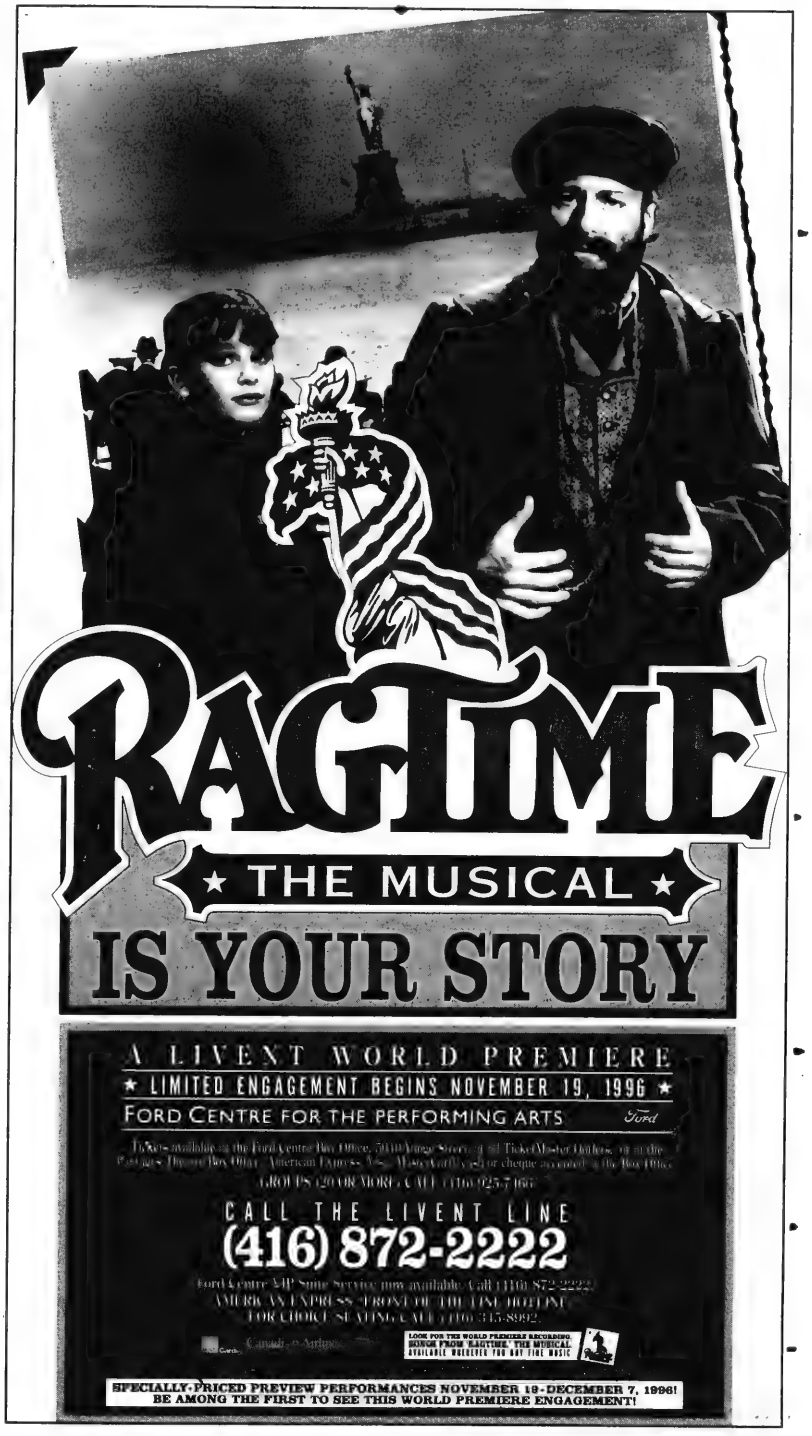
Speaking in Tel Aviv, Bassiouny made an impassioned plea for all sides to make the Cairo economic summit a major success.

"Egypt will be proud to hold the conference next month," said the ambassador. "I believe that you recognize the economic potential of the Middle East. In spite of all the challenges, which we do not exaggerate nor underestimate, there are bridges which could be crossed."

While there was consensus on the potential importance of the conference, Koor chairman Benny Gaon expressed concern about the predicted lack of participation by Egyptian companies. So far 52 have registered.

"There should be some signals from the top of the Egyptian government and the president, signalling to the business community in Egypt that they have a green light to move ahead," said Gaon.

"Of course, we have given the green light - this conference is very important," said Bassiouny.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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Upcoming Events

Book Fair

Prof. Eugene Orenstein, chair of the department of Jewish studies at McGill University, lectures on *New Yorkish*, a brilliant collection of Yiddish stories translated by Max Rosenfeld as part of the Toronto Jewish Book Fair. The lecture will be in Yiddish and English. Tickets $3. Leah Posluns Theatre, Nov. 10, 1:30 p.m. 416-635-2883, ext.155.

Another book fair-related event, presented with Olive Eye Productions, features **Raoul, Klezmer à la Québécoise!** Popular in Quebec, the four-member francophone klezmer band from Montreal plans the release of a recording, *CoolKlez*, to coincide with its performance here. Leah Posluns Theatre, Nov. 17, 3 p.m. Tickets $7. Evening performance at 8 p.m., featuring The Comedic Yiddishisms of writer-raconteur **Michael Wex**, $12. 416-636-1880, ext. 368.

Also part of the book fair, the Morris Winchevsky School United Jewish People's Order presents **Roz Wolodarsky Usiskin**, translator and editor of *A Lifetime of Letters: The Wolodarsky Family*, speaking on the topic War, Revolution and Pogroms: The Agonizing Wait to Emigrate. Additional readings by family members **Faige Lazareck, Elaine Swirsky & Bill Wolodarsky**. Tickets $3. Leah Posluns Theatre, Nov. 10, 4:30 p.m. 416-636-1880, ext. 368.

Holocaust Education

As part of Holocaust Education Week, the Bloor JCC features An Evening of Performance & Film, Nov. 9 at 8:30 p.m. (registration 8 p.m.) Featuring dramatic readings from *Vedem*, a journal produced by the young inmates of Terezin; poet-novelist **Anne Michaels** reading from her acclaimed novel *Fugitive Pieces*; dancer **Shula Saltzman** performing Different Trains, a Holocaust memorial; ethnomusicologist **Judith Cohen** performing various traditional musical pieces; a screening of *Night and Fog*, the Holocaust film by **Alain Resnais**; and singer-actress **Theresa Tova** doing pieces from her musical *Still The Night*.

A Day of Lectures, Readings, Film & Discussions takes place at the Bloor JCC on Nov 10, beginning at 10 a.m. (registration 9:30 a.m.) Featuring speakers **Frank Bialystok** at 10 a.m. and **Michael Marrus** at 11 a.m., filmmaker **Eric Geringas** and journalist **Julian Sher** from 12 to 1:30 p.m., **Anne Michaels** at 2:30 p.m., the documentary *Children of the Third Reich* from 3:30 to 5 p.m., and two films by **Jack Kuper** from 5 to 6 p.m. Tickets, 416-924-6211.

A Holocaust Commemorative Exhibition, sponsored by the Zukerman Foundation, runs Nov. 12 to 30 at the Joseph D. Carrier Gallery, Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave. W. Visas For Life: The Righteous Diplomats tells the stories of three diplomats and their families who risked all to save more than 50,000 Holocaust refugees. Celiberti: Writings Of The Soul features works by Italian artist **Giorgio Celiberti**, inspired by graffiti found at Terezin. Opening ceremony, Nov 12, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. 416-789-7011.

Literary

Celebrated beat poet **Allen Ginsberg**, author of *Kaddish and Howl*, brings his call for sexual, social, artistic and political liberation to Toronto on the heels of his 70th birthday. "America's greatest living poet" speaks, performs, reads from *Ballad of the Skeletons* and answers questions at Convocation Hall, Toronto, Nov. 15, 8 p.m. Tickets $17.95. Front of house seating & reception, $37.95. 416-870-8000.

An open-table discussion group with Ginsberg, with enrolment limited to 45, is offered Nov. 14, 7 p.m. at the Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Admission $45. 416-603-4580.

Music & Drama

Israel Bonds and the Beth Emeth Synagogue present **Bruce Adler**, star of Broadway and the Yiddish theatre, in concert. Also featuring **The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**. Ford Centre, Nov. 14, 8 p.m. Tickets $50 & $36. Special double mitzvah package available. Ticketmaster, 416-872-2222 or synagogue office, 416-633-3838.

Tickets now available for *Lost In Yonkers*, **Neil Simon**'s Pulitzer Prize-winning play, which opens Feb. 4 at the Atlantis Theatre, 955 Lakeshore Blvd. Previews start Jan. 30. To be directed by **Al Waxman**. 416-260-8000.

Galleries & Showings

The annual Forest Hill Art Club Show and Sale opens Nov. 15. A large variety of drawings and paintings in oil and watercolor are featured, including a collection by artist **Gerald Scott**. Club Studio, 666 Eglinton Ave. W. 416-533-8323.

Gallery Gevik presents The Western Series, 1994-96, a collection of paintings by realist artist **Ivan Wheale**, including works reflecting his association with Manitoulin Island and the First Nations. 12 Hazelton Ave. Nov. 9 to 21. Opening Nov. 9, 1 to 5 p.m. 416-968-0901.

The Willowdale Group of Artists presents the 50th Annual Fall Show, Nov. 3 to 30, North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St., 2nd floor. 416-395-5535. Admission free.

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Major Discoveries Found in Israeli Digs

It has been one of the best years yet for archeology in Israel, where uncovering the past is a national pastime. All over the country, experts have come up with exceptional finds. Among them:

• An amphitheatre above the theatre in Beit She'an. The Byzantine theatre and surrounding ruins in the southern Israel centre of archeology attract hundreds of thousands each year. Also discovered was another bath house in the heart of town. Beit She'an was destroyed by an earthquake in the seventh century CE, but has been rebuilt in recent decades into the spectacular tourist attraction it is today.

• The walls from the Roman Temple of Augustus, built by King Herod in Caesaria. An archeological team from Haifa University is studying how the city's port was built.

• A 100-square-metre mosaic floor, revealed during highway widening in Lod, near Tel Aviv. The floor features complex images of animals and fish.

• The ruins of a Samaritan temple on Mount Gerizim. The Samaritan structure is said to resemble the Jewish Temple in various ways. Mount Gerizim is cited in the Bible as the mountain towards which blessings were directed by some of the Hebrew tribes.

Archeological excavations are undertaken not only by Israeli specialists but also by visiting teams from around the world. Israel offers some exciting programs for archeology volunteers. To obtain information on any of the current digs, please write to the Israel Antiquities Authority, P.O. Box 586, Jerusalem 91004 Israel. Phone 011-972-2-629-2607; fax 011-972-2-629-2628, e-mail harriet@israntique.org.il.

* * *

CJC Mission to Israel

Members of the community are invited to join Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) officials on a Congress Executive Mission to Israel, set for Feb. 23 to March 4, 1997.

Participants on the '97 mission are expected to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and senior members of the Israeli cabinet, the oppostion, Palestinian leadership, Canada's ambassador to Israel and the media. Briefings by officials of the Israel Defence Forces are also scheduled.

The trip involves extensive touring to strategic sites such as the Golan Heights, the Israel-Lebanon border and a military base, as well as visits to Yad Vashem, the Kotel (Western Wall) and other spots. According to plans, the group will fly Air Canada and stay at the Laromme Hotel in Jerusalem and the Carlton Hotel in Tel Aviv.

"This represents a very important venture for the CJC," said CJC national executive chair Renee Switzer Bellas of Vancouver.

"It has become a matter of CJC policy that we convene in Israel at least once during every three-year mandate. We feel it is a very special way of experiencing Israel, by meeting up close and personal with the decision makers."

While the mission has largely been arranged for CJC national and regional officers, members of the community at large are being encouraged to register.

"While we will be having a meeting of our national executive, we have found in the past that this kind of trip represents a wonderful opportunity for others in our community to take part in our deliberations and learn more about CJC," said president Goldie Hershon.

Total price of the trip is $2,199 (double occupancy) from Toronto or Montreal. The price includes all taxes and gratuities, daily breakfasts and some other meals. Application forms are available from the CJC national office, 514-931-7531, any regional CJC office or the official travel agent, Sabra Tours of Toronto, 416-222-0011.

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Shine opens up Madness Fest

TORONTO — This year's Rendezvous With Madness Film Festival will open up with a gala screening of *Shine*, one of the hottest films of this year's Toronto International Film Festival.

The film, which won the People's Choice Award and the Metro Media Award at the festival will be shown Nov.13 at 7:30 p.m.

Shine stars Lynn Redgrave, John Gielguld and Armin Mueller-Stahl. It is based on the life story of David Helfgott, the classical pianist who suffered a complete nervous breakdown in his 20s, only to rise again to great acclaim.

A panel which includes filmmaker Morley Markson, psychiatrist and author Dr. Vivian Rakoff, Toronto writer Anne Steacy and renowned classical pianist Anton Kuerti, will discuss Helfgott's triumph over psychic breakdown the experience of psychiatric treatment and the legacy of Holocaust wounds.

Prior to the film, from 5:30 p.m. there is a wine and cheese reception and a viewing of works of the artists involved with the Depressive and Manic Depressive Association's yearly art exhibit, Art of Darkness.

Rendezvous With Madness takes place Nov. 13 and 17. It is organized by the Workman Theatre Project, a non-profit theatre company which operates out of the Queen Street Mental Health Centre.

For tickets or futher information call 416-583-4606.

More budget cuts looming

BY DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The government probably will have to make an additional budget cut in 1997, Israel's budget director Ran Kroll said.

Treasury officials handed the Knesset their NIS190.8 billion budget early, so politicians can have time to read the document before the budget debate scheduled last week.

Despite speculation to the contrary, the proposed 1997 budget cut remains unchanged at NIS4.9 billion. Both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor have indicated this cut is the absolute minimum needed to correct what they see as excess public expenditure by the Labor government over the last two years.

Speaking ahead of the introduction of the budget to the Knesset, Kroll said that since the original 1997 proposals were formulated in July, there has been a change in the country's economic indicators. This, he said, will force a rethinking in the level of the cuts.

"Amongst other things, there has been a reduction in the GDP that we expected and revenues are lower than expected," said Kroll. "As a result we will have to recommend appropriate steps.

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TAB news

Jewish themes central to Matt Cohen's work

JEWISH AUTHORS

BY BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO — Matt Cohen strides into the Future Cafe on Bloor Street West wearing a hat that looks suspiciously like the hat favored by one of the two brothers who are the main characters in his latest novel, *Last Seen* (Knopf, $28.95).

Over a cup of coffee, however, the 54-year-old Kingston-born novelist insists that it isn't strictly necessary for a writer to stick to what he knows.

"You write not only about what you know, but also about what you're capable of imagining. People don't necessarily write well about their own lives. Sometimes they can write well about other people's lives."

Harold and Alec, the brothers in *Last Seen*, resemble no one that Cohen knows, he says, yet he claims complete knowledge of them. "About certain characters you know anything and you can write about any detail in their lives. You can write about the clothing they have stuck in a cardboard box under their desk. These are the characters you end up writing about."

Harold, a talented advertising exec, is struck down by brain cancer in his middle years. Alec, a writer and teacher, is devastated by the loss, which has followed their father's death by too few years. The survivor's depression soon gives way to bewilderment and wonderment as he encounters the post-mortal Harold and their mutual companion, Francine, at the mysterious Club Elvis on Toronto's Queen Street.

Harold, still alive? Apparently so, though not even the ghost can explain this bizarre and surreal twist.

Like the characters in several of Cohen's previous novels — including *The Spanish Doctor* (1984), *Nadine* (1986) and *Emotional Arithmetic* (1990) — the protagonists in *Last Seen* are Jewish.

"In Canada, I'm seen quite correctly as a Canadian writer," he observes. "But in Europe, I'm seen as a Jewish writer, and the fact that I'm Canadian is completely meaningless to them.

"The odd thing is, I'm not seen as a Jewish writer in Canada. Whoever the official Jewish writers are, I'm seldom considered to be one of them."

Obviously, though, Jewish matters are central to at least part of Cohen's eclectic oeuvre of 12 novels and eight non-fictional works. *The Spanish Doctor*, for example, unveils a rich tapestry of Jewish life in Toledo in the years before the Spanish Inquisition. Descendants of the characters from that novel inhabit the subsequent novels *Nadine* and *Emotional Arithmetic*, Cohen points out.

"When I started writing *The Spanish Doctor*, I realized that so much of the way the world sees the Jews, and the way the Jews see themselves, has been shaped by the Second World War. So much of the past has been blacked out by the hugeness of those events. That's why I wanted to do *The Spanish Doctor*. That was a very interesting period in Spain, and Jews led very interesting lives then."

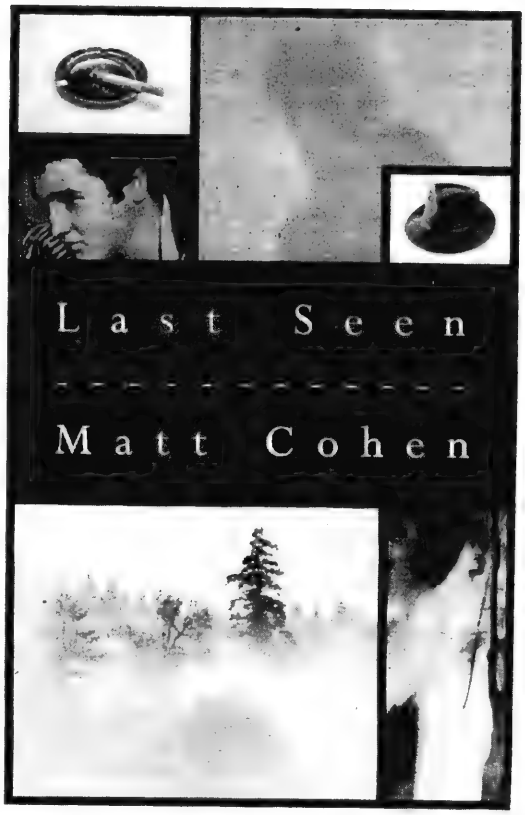
Currently writing a screenplay for *Emotional Arithmetic* for the Canadian company Triptych Films, Cohen has also been researching medieval Jewish life in southern France for a future novel.

"A lot of Jews settled there because they had a freedom there that they didn't have in the rest of France," he says.

"It's an interesting period for Judaism because many of the questions that exist now existed then. For example: How should Jews in exile continue being Jews? And what degree of isolation and assimilation is appropriate?"

Considering the good notices that *Last Seen* has garnered — Margaret Atwood called it the author's "best novel to date" — and the fact that his well-received 1993 novel *The Bookseller* has just been commercially released in the United States, Cohen may soon need his hat as camouflage against a growing legion of fans. He is, after all, considered among the top rank of Canadian novelists.

The interview concluded, he dons his coat and hat and steps out into the October drizzle, still free to amble unrecognized through a city where his books sell well and his name has become increasingly known.



Shaham's royalties sent to kibbutz

TORONTO – With a new book on Israel's bestseller lists, Israeli author Nathan Shaham seems pleased by the renewed attention he is receiving but altogether indifferent to the financial rewards that usually come with having penned a successful novel.

That's because all royalty cheques go to Kibbutz Bet Alfa, south of Lake Kinneret, where the Tel-Aviv-born writer has lived for more than 50 of his 71 years.

"Living on Bet Alfa, I never had to think about the commercial side of my writing," said the author, who recently spent several weeks in Toronto, visiting family. "I'm lucky that I sell very well and the kibbutz is happy about the royalties. If I didn't sell so well, I'd be uneasy to see other people working so hard around me."

Shaham's new book, *Lev Tel Aviv* (*The Heart of Tel Aviv*), focuses on the rich history and personalities associated with several buildings in one city block of Tel Aviv, roughly defined by Yavneh, Ahad Ha'am and Karl Netter streets, from 1924 to the present.

Many smaller stories are woven into the main plot, in which the sons of a famous local painter and a celebrated local writer attempt to save the buildings from demolition in order to establish a museum to honor their parents as Israeli cultural pioneers.

Having based the fiction on real life, Shaham said he had no difficulty keeping the plot interesting, since the actual events were intriguing enough.

"I didn't have to imagine anything," he said, "but I had to cut out some of the facts because they were too unbelievable. Some coincidences can happen only in real life."

Author of some 45 books, including 14 novels, essays, plays, short story anthologies and travel books, Shahams previous novel, *The Rosendorf Quartet*, won Israel's Bialik Prize and the prestigious U.S. National Jewish Book Award in 1992. It has been translated into several languages, including Russian and Chinese, and it received a favorable half-page review in the *Beijing Daily News*, China's largest newspaper.

The chair of the literary department in the Israeli culture and art council, Shaham characterizes contemporary Israeli writing as a "coexistence of realism and surrealism and experimental literature."

Shaham is currently working on another three novels involving his memories of many persons who, like himself, participated in the founding of the state.

As a youth between 1943 and 1945, he was a liaison between the Stern and the Haganah, and interacted closely with Yitzhak Rabin, Moshe Dayan, Yigal Alon, Moshe Sneh, Chaim Barlev and others who have loomed large in Israeli political life and history.

"I still have some friends from that period," he said. "At one time we were enemies, but after so many years we have become friends.

"But most of the close friends of my youth have died already, so I decided now I can write about them. I'm trying to write about political figures the way I knew them as people. Once they become historical figures, their personalities tend to disappear."

One political figure that Shaham has not yet warmed up to, however, is Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. How does he feel about the election results?

"Bad," he said, after a moment's hesitation. "I want to believe that Netanyahu and his government will have to take the route to peace because there is no other way. That's all I'd like to say."

He and his wife were in Toronto visiting their son, Yavin Shaham, a research scientist at the Addiction Research Foundation, and their daughter-in-law and three grandsons.

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Business Profile

Shoppers soars like an eagle under Bloom's wing

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A depiction of an eagle by Canadian artist Robert Bateman occupies prime wall space above David Bloom's office desk.

To the chairman and chief executive officer of Shoppers Drug Mart, the large bird — noted for its size, strength and powers of flight and vision — is symbolic of the corporation he leads. "I always felt Shoppers wanted to fly like an eagle. It soars. It's got confidence. It's got the qualities I think a company should have."

The description applies equally well to Bloom himself: recently named Canadian Retailer of the Year by the Retail Council of Canada, Bloom, 53, has overseen the growth of Shoppers in the past 13 years from 406 franchised stores with $1 billion in sales to 850 stores with $4 billion in sales across Canada.

Most recently, Shoppers bought the 135-store Big V chain. The stores will be converted to Shoppers early in 1997, around the same time the company wraps up its three-year Vision 97 program, which will consolidate buying, accounting and distribution systems.

Bloom sees a potential of 1,000 Shoppers franchises altogether. He is not interested in growth for growth's sake, he noted recently, pointing out that the company has only 66 Pharmaprix stores in Quebec, but the acquisition of Big V brings the number of Shoppers stores in Ontario up to 450.

Ironically, Bloom was the recipient of condolences as well as congratulations when Murray Koffler, Shoppers' founder and Bloom's mentor, handed over the company reins in 1983 — some people assumed the company was already at its peak.

Obviously they didn't know David Bloom well. It's typical for him to "come up with 10 ideas [on his way] downtown, and he'll be on his carphone to different executives to shoot out ideas to us," said Arthur Konviser, Shoppers' senior vice-president, public affairs, who's known Bloom for 20 years.

"We want to be the very best pharmacy in Canada," Bloom said.

To that end, he's been known to conduct on-the-spot interviews with store customers to find out what they would change about Shoppers. A recent workday saw him visit eight different stores.

Although the company also uses professional market researchers, Bloom's informal surveys have indicated general trends like an increased need for prescription delivery, as well as specific problems like understaffing in a particular store.

The Bateman eagle in the office of Shoppers Drug Mart CEO David Bloom (above) represent his vision of the company.

A pharmacist himself, Bloom didn't sell his Yorkdale Shoppers franchise until three years after he went into management. His on-the-job training was supplemented by "slews of MBA-type [university] programs."

Although Bloom concerns himself with every aspect of Shoppers Drug Mart, from the packaging of Rialto products ("probably the biggest challenge to the Body Shop") to the acceptability of television commercials, he insists he's not a workaholic and guesses he puts in about 60 hours most weeks.

He received flak a few years ago from at least one Canadian actor who objected to the casting of well-known American actor Bea Arthur in Shoppers commercials. Although current ads feature only Canadian actors, Bloom stands by the previous ad campaign, which he says was very successful.

No Canadian actor came close to Arthur in attempting to portray "the toughest customer in the world," said Bloom. "We hired the best. I don't care whether it's a man or woman, Canadian or American."

At central office (the term Bloom prefers to head office), there is a deliberate plan to fast-track women to reflect the large percentage of female customers. And after years of informal mentoring, a formal mentoring plan (for men and women) is now being introduced.

Bloom didn't set out to run the company, he claims. He attributes his success to Koffler's mentoring, luck and a desire to excel. "I wanted to be the best pharmacist I could. Then [a few promotions later] I wanted to be the best vice-president of operations. I have an inner drive to be the best at what I do."

His interest in pharmacy was piqued as a high school student, when he worked part-time at Weinstein Drugs, the downtown Toronto pharmacy co-owned by his father and his uncle.

But Bloom would rather talk up Shoppers than answer questions about himself. "Not that I'm super modest; I really believe it's a team effort."

Part of that effort includes a commitment to health education and funding of related projects. Shoppers is the largest corporate supporter of diabetic research in Canada, he pointed out. A recent walk for diabetes, run by Shoppers in 11 cities, raised $1.5 million, Bloom said.

"I really believe that when you're a leader of a company that's a leader, you have a big responsibility to give back to the community."

Shoppers is a major supporter of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and recently came out with instruction cards on breast self-examination. The waterproof cards, part of Shoppers' Healthwatch program, can be used in the shower.

Other medical conditions on the Shoppers agenda include asthma, hypertension, heart disease, arthritis and osteoporosis. Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children is a Shoppers beneficiary, with proceeds from its in-hospital pharmacy being given to the hospital.

Although Shoppers is in the health promotion business and has produced anti-smoking literature for customers, Bloom still bristles over the Ontario government's decision to ban pharmacies from selling tobacco, a move which hurt pharmacies economically. And as an employee of Imasco, parent company for both Shoppers and Imperial Tobacco, Bloom would appear to have a double conflict.

He insists that is not the case. "We will not be the moral, cultural or social censor board for any product ... Did the incidence of smoking fall [after the ban]? No. All it did was hurt us financially. [Notwithstanding, Shoppers recorded a·41 percent gain in operating profits in the first half of this year.] We lost related sales. If someone came in and picked up cigarettes and shampoo, now he'll go to the supermarket. All it did was make us more uncompetitive. I don't advocate smoking, but I do advocate personal rights and freedoms."

Bloom suggests the ban has created further problems; he claims some of the smaller stores now selling tobacco are not as conscientious as Shoppers was in refusing to sell to underage teens.

Any bad days that Bloom has are usually related to government policy, he said. "I love what I do. I love the company."

His enthusiasm is infectious, according to Konviser. "He has that electric personality."

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[David Haas photo]

World Series Champs!!

By DR. BERNARD RUBIN

Special to the CJN

The New York Yankees are the world champions of baseball, and I find it difficult to put into words how happy this makes me. Let me begin by saying that I was born and raised in New York, and the Yankees were in almost every World Series (usually victorious) of my childhood and youth. They won 14 pennants and nine World Series from 1949 through 1964.

My childhood was, therefore, connected to having my beloved Yankees as perennial World Series champions, or at least contestants. As a fan, I would begin each baseball season speculating who our great lefty, Whitey Ford, would pitch against to start that year's World Series.

Getting into the series was taken for granted. We Yankee fans believed then, and still believe now, that the championship belongs in New York. If this comes across as arrogant and insensitive, you must understand that I am culturally a New Yorker, and I am also a dentist. If *The CJN* wanted sensitivity and delicacy, they could have found someone with a different background to write this article.

After 1964, the Yankees, for a variety of reasons, stopped winning. It became part of my growing up to understand that in life, just as in baseball, you can't always win.

When the Yanks returned to the World Series in 1976, '77 and '81, winning in '77 and '78, I thought that the world, after a 20-year hiatus from 1964 to 1976, was returning to the way it should be, with the Yankees constantly winning. Little did I know that from the last victory in 1978 (Yankee fans only rejoice in total victories), there would be a complete drought until 1996.

My youth and innocence had totally disappeared. Teams all over the United States were winning World Series, and Yankee victories were mere memories to be relived on old-timer days. Even upstart franchises in foreign countries, such as the Toronto Blue Jays, won a couple of championships.

Now that the Yankees have at last won another title, it brings me back to the strong connection with my childhood, when the Yankees were always the best team and I would enjoy watching them either in person or on television with my parents. I even had the good fortune of attending, in person at Yankee Stadium, Don Larsen's perfect game against the hated Brooklyn Dodgers. It was the pivotal fifth game of the 1956 World Series that the Yankees eventually won in seven games.

The Yankees of the '50s starred Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra and Whitey Ford. They were joined in the '60s by Roger Maris, who hit 61 home runs in 1961. Mantle and Maris, as well as my parents, have since passed from the scene.

This year's victory evokes the memories of an innocent, pampered childhood, where everything was right and wonderful with the world and I enjoyed it with two loving parents.

The 1996 edition of the Yankees was not the dominant team in baseball, as were my old-time Yankee teams. This team won due to hard work, experience, grit and a few well-placed umpire mistakes. I nevertheless welcome the victory, as it evokes a time gone by that is lost forever. The Yankees are the champs. Long live the champs.

Rubin, a longtime Yankee fan, once met Mickey Mantle.

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CJN CHANUKAH POETRY CONTEST

The CJN announces its 2nd annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under. 2. Thirteen to 18 years old.
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible. We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to: CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18, 1996.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 22, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 5, 1996. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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New listing! Renovated 4 bdrm. 2 storey, new windows, upgraded mechanical & heating, a must see at only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

FAYWOOD / SHEPPARD – NEW LISTING!
Detached bungalow on 50x159 ft. lot. Quiet street, close to all amenities, only $218,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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PRIMROSE CONDO – PENTHOUSE UNIT!
New listing! Spacious 2 bdrm., modern eat-in kitchen, balcony, bright southeast exposure, shows well! Only $209,000 — ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!
4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, dream kit., stone fireplace. An architectural masterpiece — MUST SEE! Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., gorgeous 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rooms, finished basement, reduced to $1895 / month. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE – CUSTOM-BUILT BEAUTY
Spacious 4+1 bdrms., quality construction, loaded with extras, oak trim, hdwd. floors, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Apt. located at **The Meadows,** Sarasota, Fla., 1st flr., fully equip. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, with view of lake & golfcourse, priv. pkg., pool, avail. Dec. 1. Call 941-379-6712 or 410-358-3115.

Arien House W., large 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, Nov. 20-winter, $1500/mo. U.S. 905-771-8434.

Bal Harbour, 2 bdrms., 2 bath condo., close to all amen., pool, on the ocean, must be Kosher, fully furn., new upgrades. $3,000./mo. U.S.Call 785-5626.

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

Hallandale, beautiful 2 bdrms., 2 bath, magnificent view, all amenities. 416-783-9726.

Hallandale/La Mer, luxury 2 1/2 bdrm. apt. on beach, fully equipped, low floor. Kosher. Avail. Jan. 8th - April 8th, n/smokers, $2500+util/mo. U.S, 416-223-0511.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

Hollywood, immac. beautifully furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, on ocean, lge. balc., indoor pkg., pool, $3,000/mo. U.S., Jan.15-Mar. 15. Call 613-726-0658.

Inverrary, from Dec./Jan. on, 2/2,nr shops/shul 905-738-0383

Longboat Key, Exclusive beachfront & tennis resort, 2 bdrms., 2 baths condo., new furniture, fishing, swimming pool, starting Dec. Seasonal/monthly. Phone/Fax (216) 248-2747.

Miami, Collins/159th, Coastal Towers, $1200./mo. U.S., 2 minutes to beach 416-630-0754

North Miami Beach, beautiful 2 bdrm. condo. apt. avail. for rent for 2-3 mos. as of Dec. 17/96. 905-471-4936 or 416-494-8229, after 8pm.

Three Islands, furn. condo., 2 br., 2 baths, den, wrap around balc., 1800 sq. ft., 5 appl's. + washer/dryer in apt., on intercoastal, pkg., 24 hr. sec., pool, tennis, min. 3 mos., $2200/mo. U.S. Call 255-1161 or 961-7474

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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HIGHLAND BCH CONDO
2/2, 24 hr. security, SE exposure, ocnfront, clubhouse. Just reduced. $219,000. Seas. or Ann. rental available. Call **MIRIAM MATZ, COLDWELL BANKER, 1-561-391-9097, eves. 1-561-243-0029.**

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BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
Immaculate, beautifully furnished 3 bed (1 converted to a den) 2 bath 2nd floor villa in Quail Hollow in fabulous Boca West C.C. $179,000 furnished or rent for season @ $4000.00 per month; Corner, 7th floor Lakewood midrise apt. furnished, overlooking golf course, $99,000.00 or $3000.00 per month for season. Both require equity purchase in Boca West C.C.
Call
David Greenblatt, *Realtor,*
(former Canadian Attorney)
Coldwell Banker Real Estate,
561-997-7300; eves. 561-988-9030.

North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrms., 2 bath condo. for sale/rent, options open, 416-223-7147.

Palm Aire/Pompano, house, 2/2 lux. furn., $2300/mo. U.S., min. 3 mos., 222-3146, eve.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Seeking Accommodation, Century Village, Deerfield, 1 bdrm. condo., for 3 mos. 633-4798.

In Three Islands, middle of Feb. - end of March, 733-1209.

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Prof. retired Jewish man is leaving for Florida end of Nov., by car. Looking for a person as a companion, will share expenses in 1 bdrm. condo, must be no older than 70 yrs. of age. Returning Apr. 15/97. Reply to CJN Box 6844.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
Seasonal rentals. We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos. Nicely furnished in super location. From $850 - $3500 per month.
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(619) 327-8429

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Condo. for rent in Acapulco, Las Gemelas,right on the beach,905-889-2266,after 7 pm

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Experienced Tailor, high class men's wear store, part-time hrs. Call Mr. Bloom, 633-4361.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Two 19 yr. old Auperes from Israel to work for religious families. Available immediately. Please call Bracha in Israel, 011-972-6-782-996.

217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

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UNIQUE RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

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247 DAY CARE

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

All Purpose Cleaning, avail. for Holidays, dinners, parties, open houses, guests, waiters & renovation. Call **Toronto Home Care,** 416-620-9240, Mariola.

Caregiver/clean'g, night sitter, errands, etc. reliable. 269-5626.

EC ACCESS EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (Filipino Owned & Operated). We seek employers to sponsor Filipino **live-in** caregivers for children/elderly from overseas. **No placement fee,** minimum wage, apply - Please call 905-475-2518.

Exp. cleaning couple indiv. avail. with refs., man has exp. as a superintendent. 782-7592.

PERFECTIONIST will clean one day a week, reliable. Carla 747-5384.

From Europe, exp.,honest lady seeks a cleaning job. 747-8148.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian speaking cleaning people. Free estimates. Please call 416-446-0059 and leave a message.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exper. Nanny Wanted, will share, live-out, n/smoker, for our baby, born Sept.'96, 3 days/wk., Dec. start. Call (416) 928-6599.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA seeks work with the elderly in their home, evgs., no live-ins, refs. avail. 265-2130.

Woman seeks job to take care of elderly, days work, house cleaning,refs.,exper., 763-7594.

259 SENIORS

Caregiver/Companion. A kind, caring, Jewish gentleman with medical training who looked after our father until his recent death, is now available to care for your father. We offer you the highest recommendations for his loyal, reliable & generous companionship & service. 489-4178.

Elderly parents in Israel? Want to be more involved in their care? For more information, call **INTERNATIONAL CARE MANAGEMENT** (416) 236-6857 or 1-888-377-3222.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Another Engagement! She's a teacher, he's a businessman. You might be next! **Bringing People Together** 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1170** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.**398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Desperate, need two witnesses for Mathausen & liberated in Gunskirchen, for the German compensation. Please help, will pay travel expenses. Zeev Fried, Toronto, 416-445-3038.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, 31, very attr., petite, quiet, warm, seeks attr., rugged, Prince Charming, 32-41, with a big heart & warm personality for serious relationship, photo apprec. CJN Box 6845.

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

Young lady, 28, tall, slim, attr., good natured, Univ. educated, not into the bar scene, would like to meet a SJM, 28-35, with similar traits. Please reply with photo to CJN Box 6839.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Gentlemen, start your engines! If you're looking for marriage & are 35+, funny, outgoing & intelligent, than I'm for you. I'm 39, pretty, plus all I've requested in you. If interested, reply with picture to CJN Box 6846.

A Senior male, young in spirit, is looking for a sincere, warm hearted female (age over 45). I (Gordon) live in Toronto. We will meet over coffee. CJN Box 6820.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESOV, SLOVAKIA, Jewish Community plans **Survivors Reunion**, August, 1997. For more info., write: Dezider Landa, Zidovska Nabzenska Obec, Svermova UL 32, 080 01 Presov, Slovakia.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Edna & Gordon Berger take great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their son, **Lawrence** to **Kimby**, daughter of **Marlene & Ed Jaffe** of Honolulu, Hawaii. Proud grandparents are Sarah Berger of South Africa, Gertrude Morgenroth of Toronto, Julius Jaffe of San Diego, CA., and Sam and Nettie Epstein of Skokie, Illinois.

GOLD - WEIDMAN
Denise Gold and **Monty Gold** and **Rosalie Goldstein** and **Martin Weidman** take great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their children, **Amanda** and **Joshua**. A spring wedding is planned.

Irving & Eva Nightingale are delighted to announce the engagement of their son, **Murray** to **Leslie Horowitz**, daughter of **Esther Brown & Charles & Sheila Horowitz**. Proud grandparents are Toby and Sam Kalchman and Ethel Brown.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

WANTED
Yiddish Music Rolls
for Player Pianos.
604-222-8766.

330 OBITUARIES

Frieda Sherman on October 18, 1996, late of 14 William Morgan Dr.
Elliott Lloyd Marrus on October 19, 1996, late of Baycrest Hospital
Jack Skop on October 19, 1996, late of 131 Torresdale #608
Ilsa Shore on October 19, 1996, late of 278 Bloor Street East. #1502
William Solomon on October 20, 1996, late of 65 Skymark Drive #1507
Gertrude Catzman on October 21, 1996, late of 22 Castlewood Road
Elizabeth Schwarcz on October 20, 1996, late of 355 Ameer Avenue
Rose Gotlib on October 21, 1996, late of 155 Dunblaine Avenue
Betty Lefkovitch on October 20, 1996, late of 94 Fairholme Avenue
Brian Scholl on October 22, 1996, late of 44 Charles St. W #1115
Yetta Lowsky on October 22, 1996, late of 37 El Dorado Street

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
David V. Freeman
ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, November 10, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Har Zion Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

Langleben (Lang), Carol on October 22, 1996, late of 25 Snowshoe Millway
Silverstein, Irving on October 22, 1996
Brodsky, Max Louis on October 23, 1996, late of 75 Dufflaw Rd.
Rifle, Barbara on October 22, 1996, late of 10 Stanford Rd.
Zimmerman, Frances on October 22, 1996
Gore, John Reuben (Jack) on October 24, 1996, late of 650 Coldstream Ave.
Cass, Lillian on October 24, 1996, late of 255 Haddington Ave.
Seaberg, Abraham on October 24, 1996, late of 19 Wetherby Circle
Lifshitz, Sarit on October 27, 1996
Kirsh, Milton on October 26, 1996, late of 641 Briar Hill Dr.
Schwartz, Mary on October 26, 1996, late of 60 Cocksfield Ave.
Slotkin, Helen on October 26, 1996, late of 2233 Kipling Ave.
Furat, Hajnalka on October 27, 1996, late of 89 Glen Rush Blvd.
Leyton, Norman on October 24, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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Last minute orders or come in. We have freshly prepared foods to go.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

על פוליטיקה ישראלית.

"אני לא יודע מה הם רוצים ממני, לא עשיתי להם כלום", כך מצטטת אורלי אוזלאי-כץ את שמעון פרס בספרה: האיש שלא ידע לנצח - שמעון פרס במלכודת סיזיפוס, ערוך רמי טל, ידיעות אחרונות/ספרי חמד. זהו ציטוט מדברים שפרס אמר על חבריו שהיכו אותו בילדותו. כזה, סבורה אוזלאי-כץ, היה גם הלך המחשבה וההרגשה של שמעון פרס בשנות בגרותו ובמהלך חייו הפוליטיים. תמיד חש שהוא בצילם של בעלי הכריזמה: בן-גוריון, דיין, רבין. בהקשר זה מצטייר פרס כדמות טראגית שנאחז וניצמד לכיסא הפוליטי ואינו מרפה.

בטרגדיה של סיזיפוס מצאה המחברת את המקבילה לשמעון פרס

במקום לטפח את עצמו, על כל חולשותיו, שאף להידמות לאחרים, לבעלי הכוח, ואילו הם, בזו לו, כולל יצחק רבין.

בתבונה אין המחברת מרבה בפרטים על מערכת הבחירות האחרונה. כבר דובר בה רבות, אלא מציינת את עיקרה: פרס שוב צועד כעיוור לקראת ההפסד. ושוב הוא "לא יודע מה רוצים ממני" והם, האחרים, אשמים. כמה מאנשיו של פרס ניסו לדבר על ליבו בתקופת מערכת הבחירות. שימנה את ברק לשר הבטחון, שירומם נציג של העלייה הרוסית בשורות המפלגה, ועוד. הוא לא רצה ובמקום זאת חיזר אחר אנשים שלא היה צריך להם ושלא בחרו בו.

שמעון פרס, איש נבון ומשכיל. ואולם, בנוסף לכך, ולרוע המזל, בעל יכולת נדירה להפוך ניצחון כמעט בטוח (לאחר רצח רבין) להפסד. "רק שמעון פרס מסוגל לעשות ביצים מחביתה" מצטטת המחברת את אברהם כץ-עוז (דווקא אחד מנאמניו של פרס).

לדברי יורם קניוק ספרה של אורלי אזולאי-כץ נקרא כסיפור מרתק. הציטוטים רבים ומוסיפים עניין והתוכן חשוב.

ספר אחר, שאיננו בבחינת ביוגרפיה אלא פרשנות פוליטית הוא ספרו של אמנון ברזילי, רמון - ביוגרפיה פוליטית, שוקן. ברזילי, כתב "הארץ" מעניק לקוראים תמונה מעניינת של אדם שעשה דרך קשה מימי ילדותו, דרך ימי בגרותו ועד לעיצובו כדמות פוליטית.

סביר להניח שאישיותו של חיים רמון היתה קשה להסבר אנאליטי מעמיק. האיש מתקשה בפתיחות בפני אחרים.

ידוע לנו על מות אביו בגיל צעיר יחסית וניחסיו הסבוכים של חיים רמון עם אמו. רמון הטיל איסור על ברזילי לשוחח עם אמו או אחיו ותמחבר עמד באיסור. (אחיו מתגורר אי-שם בכפר, בצרפת.)

חיים רמון גדל ביפו הערבית וחוא מוקף בסרסורים, עבריינים צעירים ושאר אנשי העולם התחתון. בנעורותו השתייך לחבורות רחוב. דרך רבת פיתולים עשה מאז ועד שנות הארבעים לחייו כאשר עלה לצמרת והיה אחד המועמדים במפלגתו לראשות הממשלה.

זכור לנו שבשעתו עשה לו רמון חדים בשאגתו נגד ראשי ההסתדרות ("הלוויתנים"). חיים רמון זעק נגד אותם מנהיגים שאמר עליהם שפעו בעם ורוקנו את ההסתדרות מתוכן סוציאליסטי-שוויוני. זהו "יצאום הלוויתנים" המפורסם של רמון משנת 1994.

נביא זעם! מהפכן חברתי! לאו דווקא טוען אמנון ברזילי. ליתר דיוק, ולאמיתו של דבר, אדם תאב שלטון. לא מהפכן חברתי הזועק מחאה על חזון לאומי שנופץ, אלא פוליטיקאי שאפתני.

יתרה מזו, החבטה שחיים רמון חבט בהסתדרות לא היתה צעד פוליטי נמרץ ולא סימן דרך לאומי. הדרדרותה של ההסתדרות אינה אלא סממן מתוך שורת התפתחויות חברתיות-כלכליות שיסודן בנצחון הקפיטליזם בחברה הישראלית. חיים רמון לא "הרג" את ההסתדרות המושחתת; ההסתדרות המושחתת הרסה את עצמה ולא היה זה מפנה פתאומי אלא תהליך הדרגתי.

על אף הנתונים החשובים והפרשנות הפוליטית הרצינית שאמנון ברזילי מעניק לקוראים, לא נוצרת תחושה שהחכמנו דעת בנושא אישיותו של רמון. מן הראוי לציין שהמחבר עצמו הודה שלא הצליח לפענח כחלכה את חידת אישיותו של חיים רמון.

The Inside Back

About families

Dear Susan,

Chanukah is supposed to be a joyous time, but because I can't afford to spend lavishly, my children are feeling deprived and cheated. Television only contributes to their feelings of hardship by bombarding them with advertisements featuring the latest toy crazes. I want to maintain a balance, but I feel pressured to give in to their needs. Do you have any creative approaches to suggest?

Dear Reader,

Many thanks for having the courage to share your dilemma. I think there are three basic components to your dilemma — the urge to "fit in" and behave in a "normal" manner; your concerns about being trapped by your children's demands; and your moral obligation to teach your children what is right or wrong according to the values and ethics of your family.

Jewish children often feel overwhelmed by the sights, sounds and symbols of Christmas. Outwardly they are surrounded by symbols and traditions in which they do not share. In their need to feel a part of a society that is annually captured by the trappings of Christmas, they feel a need to fit in, and to secure what others have — big gifts.

Within the confines of your house, it is your right and responsibility as a parent to stipulate what is and isn't acceptable vis-á-vis gift giving. Gifts at Chanukah are to be tokens, and they are in no way a measure of our affection. We must be careful as parents not to get caught up in the trap of conspicuous consumption.

As a parent it is your job to impart moral, ethical and religious values to your children. Chanukah is an ideal time for strengthening the moral fabric of your particular family. It was the Maccabees' belief in themselves that ultimately led to their victory despite all odds. It was their belief in the sanctification of the Temple and in their families that made the oil lamp so bright that one days worth of oil burned for eight days. One could extract a very '90s message from this festival of lights. It is about more for less, and about one's belief in oneself and the strength of the family that makes it possible to overcome pressures against all odds. If you believe in yourself, what you know to be right will easily get your children through this holiday season.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

CARAMEL APPLE COOKIES

HERB CAPLAN SELLS Amana FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

3/4 cup powdered sugar
2/3 cup margarine or butter, softened
1 tblsp apple juice concentrate, thawed
1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/4 tsp salt
flat toothpicks
30 vanilla caramels
2 tblsp apple juice concentrate
2 tblsp water
3/4 cup finely chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, beat powdered sugar, margarine and 1 tblsp apple juice concentrate until light and fluffy. Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup; level off. Stir in flour and salt. Shape dough into 3/4" balls. Place 1" apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 12 to 17 mins. or until edges are light golden brown. Immediately insert toothpicks in centre of each cookie. Cool compeletely on wire racks.

In heavy 1 qt. saucepan over low heat, combine caramels, 2 tblsp apple juice concentrate and water. Cook until mixture is smooth, stirring constantly. Place walnuts on plate. Spoon caramel mixture over whole cookie, letting excess drip off. Press bottom of cookie in walnuts. Set on sheet of waxed paper. If caramel mixture becomes too thick, stir in more water 1/4 tsp. at a time. Yield: 36 cookies. *Microwave tip:* In 4 cup microwave safe measuring cup, combine caramels, 2 tblsp apple juice concentrate and water. Microwave on High 3-4 mins. or until caramels are melted, stirring every minute.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

The Canadian Jewish news IS MOVING The Canadian Jewish news

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מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Mazel tov to Roslyn & Morris Brodsko on their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 17. Love from Marsha & Steven, Joan & Barrie, and grandchildren Jeremy, Marni, Elijah, Rebekah and Abigail.

Aron & Pola Starkman celebrated their 50th anniversary on Oct. 19. Mazel tov from their children and many grandchildren.

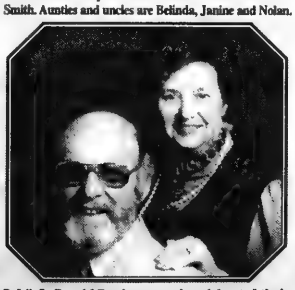
Mazel tov to Harold & Lucy Fealdman, who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Sept. 16. Love from children and grandchildren, Isobel, Joel & Amy, Sharon, Richard & Rachel and Tony.

Proud parents Andrea & Paul introduce their gift from HaShem, Abigail Joanna Skosowski, born Aug. 26. Grandparents are Benny & Glenda David and the late Abraham & Sally Skosowski and Great-Gran Babe Smith. Aunties and uncles are Belinda, Janine and Nolan.

Mazel tov to Rose & Jack Nusinowitz who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 12. Love from children, Freda & Joe, Sid & Judy and grandchildren, Gayle, Alisa, Alan, Rachael, Leah and Jeremy.

Fred & Sarah Nusynowicz will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 12. Love and best wishes from son Samuel and grandchildren Carie-Debrah and Ryan Kalmele.

Mazel tov to Luci & Alan Zoltak on their 40th wedding anniversary Nov. 17. Love from Murray & Marsha Zoltak and family.



Sybil & Gerald Burley recently celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary. Love and good health from Harold, Hillary, Darren and Jason Burley of Perth, Australia, and Barney, Adele, Robin and Joanne Breslow.

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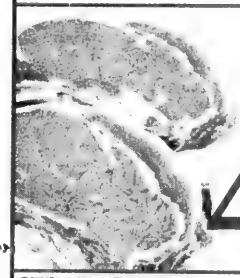

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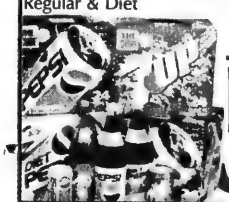

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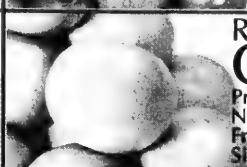

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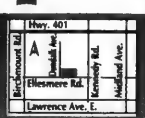
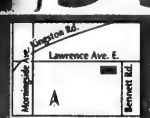


850 ELLESMERE RD. AT KENNEDY RD.



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This Week

Coast to Coast

Jean-Louis Roux, Quebec's former lieutenant-governor, seeks forgiveness. **Page 3**

Greater Toronto Area

Two Oshawa men charged with distributing racist material. **Page 5**

Bathurst Jewish Centre nearly breaks even in its first year. **Page 6**

Batsheva performs at Tzedek, the Jewish campaign for social and economic justice. **Page 20**

Health news

Organ transplants a mitzvah, rabbi says at public health forum. **Page 33**

Sports news

Music play *Still the Night* is a masterful piece of art. **Page 36**

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Kislev 4, 5757
Havdalah: 5:37

Netanyahu and Arafat talk

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In an effort to move the Hebron negotiations forward, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu telephoned Yasser Arafat last weekend at the Palestinian Authority chairman's request.

The call followed a meeting between Arafat and Netanyahu advisers Dore Gold and Yitzhak Molcho, during which Arafat requested that the prime minister personally assure him Israel remains committed to the Oslo accords and would implement them fully.

Netanyahu reportedly assured Arafat of Israel's commitment, but pointed out that unless there were proper security safeguards for the Jewish settlers in Hebron, there would be an explosion. Netanyahu also urged Arafat to conclude the redeployment agreement, saying Arafat's foot-dragging is enabling extremists to sabotage the entire agreement.

Sources in Jerusalem said reports that a Hebron agreement would be signed in Cairo this week are unfounded.

SALUTATIONS BETWEEN HEADS OF STATE
Israeli President Ezer Weizman (left) and Jordan's King Hussein face reporters during a news conference at the Royal Palace in Amman last week. It was Weizman's first official visit to Jordan. He travelled there to personally ensure sound relations with the King. *[RNS photo]*

Politicians and IDF relations strained

BY LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Relations between Israel's government and its top military brass are strained according to Prof. Zeev Maoz, head of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies.

Maoz told *The CJN* that last week's decision by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to suspend Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor had further soured relations between the government and the military.

Netanyahu suspended Shahor as top negotiator for civilian affairs with the Palestinians, after a media expose showed the general at a clandestine meeting with opposition leader Shimon Peres.

Netanyahu justified the suspension by saying the incident involved "an officer who secretly and furtively went to speak to the opposition, without reporting this, at the most sensitive stage of negotiations."

Continued on page 30

FTA goes to the Senate

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — The bill implementing the Canada-Israel Free Trade Accord passed third and final reading in the House of Commons last week, and now heads to the Senate.

The deal, scheduled to take effect Jan. 1, 1997, could have been delayed had a motion from a Reform party MP calling for further study of the bill been passed. Instead, it was the Reform party that introduced the motion to pass Bill C-61.

And in the Senate, it's expected that Marcel Prud'homme, a longtime, vocal critic of Israel, will have plenty to say about free trade with the Jewish state.

Prud'homme, an independent senator, was appointed to the upper chamber in 1993. Prior to that, he served as a Liberal MP from Montreal, and often railed against Israel and domestic "Zionists." Prud'homme did not return *The CJN*'s calls last week.

Following House of Commons committee hearings on the bill late last month, Prud'homme slammed the government for proceeding with the deal.

"Not at this time, for God's sake," he said. "It is the greatest encouragement to immobility in the peace process. The duty of Canada is to send signals around the world, and the best signal is to pass [the bill] but suspend it until such time as we know the true intention of [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu."

The Senate's current composition is Liberals, 51; Conservatives, 50; and three independents.

Rob Ritter, national director of the Canada-Israel Committee, said it's hard to say whether the deal's approval in the Senate is assured. He said "certain elements" in the upper chamber "have a predisposition" on Israel-related matters.

As in the House, Bill C-61 will receive three hearings in the Senate. Following second reading, it will be debated by a committee, likely by the standing committee on foreign affairs, chaired by Sen. John Stewart.

Sen. Erminie Cohen believes the bill will "probably" pass and receive royal assent before the end of December.

Continued on page 30

INSIDE

Rabbi Dow Marmur reflects upon the role of religion in building a civil society. Please see Perspectives on page 9.

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Iran offers to help search for Arad — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

War Crimes Intervention

OTTAWA – Canada's Jewish and German communities will be on opposite sides of the courtroom when an appeal of a ruling in a Nazi war crimes case is heard next month.

Both Canadian Jewish Congress and the German-Canadian Congress have applied to intervene in the Federal Court of Appeal when the federal government challenges a ruling that halted the war crimes cases against three Ontario men.

ACJS Annual Meeting

MONTREAL – The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies will hold its 1997 annual meeting at Memorial University, St. John's, Nfld., on June 1 to 2.

It will mark the first time the organization has met in Atlantic Canada.

OJC Celebrates Success

KELOWNA – About 30 members of the Okanagan Jewish community joined to celebrate the success of one of its members, Steven Cipes, for winning the top award in the Okanagan's recent Winefest. Cipes' firm, Summerhill Estate Winery, produces Ehrenfelser wine, which was declared the best in the Okanagan.

Cipes also won a meritorious award for "entrepreneurial efforts" in the wine industry, at the Business Excellence Awards ceremony held last month.

ISRAEL

Minister Visits Hebron

JERUSALEM – British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind urged Israeli and Palestinian negotiators to reach an agreement for the redeployment of Israeli troops in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Rifkind, who paid a one-day visit to Israel and the Palestinian self-rule areas, called on the two sides to negotiate "in an inspired way that recognizes the great prizes to be won."

WORLD

Essay Contest

NEW YORK – The annual Kaplun Essay Contest is back for its sixth year for students from grades 7 to 12.

Students in Grades 7 to 9 should write an essay on The Reasons I Want to Grow Up Jewish, while students in older grades must write on We Are The Chosen People, What is Our Mission.

Entries must be postmarked by March 10, 1997, and finalists will be notified by May 16, 1997.

Students should send their essays to Morris J. and Betty Kaplun Foundation Inc. Essay Contest Committee, PO Box 234428, Great Neck, N.Y. 11023.

Jewish Agency's Budget

NEW YORK – The Jewish Agency for Israel's fiscal crisis appears to have been alleviated after the passage of the 1997 budget by the agency's Board of Governors.

The board, meeting in Jerusalem, approved a 1997 operating budget of $400 (US) million. It projects an income that will exceed expenditures for the first time in years, triggering optimism that the agency has stabilized.

Deportation Proceedings

NEW YORK – The U.S. Justice Department has initiated deportation proceedings in Detroit against Ferdinand Hammer, a Nazi war criminal who was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in May.

Hammer, who is now 74 and lives in Sterling Heights, Mich., was a guard at the Auschwitz and Sachsenhausen concentration camps and served as an SS guard on prisoner transports between the camps.

Hammer was born in Croatia and came to the United States in 1955.

PM's To Blame

NEW YORK – An analysis of editorials in the largest-circulation daily newspapers in the country found that 60 percent of those surveyed characterized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or Israel as precipitating the recent violence by Palestinians, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Pollard Web Site

TORONTO – Justice for Jonathan Pollard has launched a page on the World Wide Web authorized by Jonathan and Esther Pollard.

The address is [http://www.terraport.net/abrook/pollard.htm].

Tears of Shock

JERUSALEM – A virtual photographic exhibit now on the Internet captures the sense of shock that followed the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin a year ago.

The exhibit consists of 33 photos. The exhibit is on the Internet at [http://www.snunit.k12.il/rabin].

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday November 12, 1971

AFRICAN LEADERS SEEK DIALOGUE

The spokesman for the four African presidents (Senegal, Nigeria, Cameroon and Zaire) visiting Israel on a fact-finding mission for Middle East peace has suggested that the group immediately prepare practical proposals for a dialogue between Israel and Egypt.

President Leopold Senghor, who compared Zionism to the African liberation movements, said he may return to Israel again after he and his colleagues visit Cairo.

******

CONGRESS ACCUSES B.B. OF ISOLATIONISM

Canadian Jewish Congress Leadership accused B'nai Brith's Canadian district of "dissociating" itself from the Jewish community in Canada and described the organization as "isolationist" and "parochial."

The comments were touched off by B'nai Brith's refusal to send delegates to the Congress Triennial in Montreal.

Harry J. Pachter, district B'nai Brith president, countered by saying that B'nai Brith lodges are prevented by their Supreme Lodge from being members of any other organization.

Responsibility.

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Vol. XXXVII, No. 29 (2,825)

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Roux seeks forgiveness from the community

'I do not ask you to forget'

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – Voice quivering with emotion, Jean-Louis Roux asked forgiveness from the Jewish community and from all servicepeople who had fought in the two worlds wars for his "lack of judgment." He apologized for being the "victim of a reprehensible ignorance" 54 years ago in wearing a swastika and, however minimally, falling into the anti-Semitic and anti-war sentiment of his milieu.

It was the day after his resignation as Quebec's lieutenant-governor.

The passage of time does not mitigate the gravity of this "error," nor can it be put down as the "insouciance of youth," he said.

The latter may be an explanation, but it cannot serve as an excuse or justification, he said.

Roux met for over one hour privately with officials of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) and the Communauté Sépharade du Québec at CJC headquarters, an appointment he kept despite his resignation.

He then read a two-page statement to the media and left without taking questions.

The Jewish leaders accepted his "declaration" as an apology and commended Roux for "having done the honorable thing in resigning." However, they regretted that separatists are using this episode "for partisan political purposes" and called for Quebec to come to terms with the fact Nazi sympathy was widespread among the elite of the time.

Roux, 74, addressed his remarks both to the Jewish community and to those who served in the two world wars and others, praising their courage in fighting "abusive and totalitarian regimes in order to permit us to live in full enjoyment of our rights and freedoms." Of the Jewish community – "victim of odious Nazi repression in the '30s and '40s" – Roux asked "indulgence."

"I do not ask you to forget; you fight justly in order that events of this painful period are neither trivialized nor erased from memory.

"You fight, we fight against all manifestations of anti-Semitism that I denounce with all my strength and that continue unfortunately to exert their ravages in Quebec, Canada and the whole world."

Coming close to tears, Roux expressed the hope that if he is thought of again "in the few years I have left to live," people will recall the good he tried to do over the past half-century. He said he also hoped his grandchildren will "show more wisdom than me" and live in a society of "tolerance, mutual understanding, generosity of spirit, benevolence."

CJC Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum said, "While we understand that he was by no means the only one of his generation to do so, the gravity of his acts merited a full public apology.

"He has now expressed himself and all can appreciate for themselves the extent of his remorse.

"Certainly, he should not be judged by those acts alone, but also by his illustrious career and his contributions to society."

BBC regional director Robert Libman described Roux, a respected actor, as a "man of character and integrity" and expressed regret for the ordeal he has been through. "He deserves better."

Jedwab calls for government commission

Both CJC and BBC had called on Roux to make a full apology after an interview in *L'Actualité* magazine quoted him as saying he had drawn a swastika on his lab coat when he was a premedical student and had participated in an anti-conscription demonstration in 1942 in downtown Montreal, during which the windows of stores with foreign-sounding names, especially Jewish, were broken.

CJC Quebec region executive director Jack Jedwab suggested the Quebec government establish a commission of inquiry into this period, which he said many Quebec intellectuals still prefer to ignore. He also favors a review of the history textbooks in Quebec's French schools, which avoid mention of this period and continue to revere Abbé Lionel Groulx as a father of Quebec nationalism.

Jedwab proposed that the name of the Lionel Groulx metro station be changed because it is inappropriate that the anti-Semitic cleric be so honored today. The campaign might be led by Gilles Rhéaume, vice-president of the Mouvement Souverainiste du Québec, who led the demands for Roux's dismissal.

"There is a tendency among Quebec intellectuals to be very dismissive (of Quebec's fascist past)...The trivialization of this phenomenon is harmful because it does not allow Quebecers and Canadians to learn the lessons of this period" and their bearing on today's political debates.

"If anything positive can be drawn from this unfortunate affair," Libman added, "perhaps it is that we can begin to exorcise some of the demons from this very dark and silent period."

The reaction of the Jewish community to the Roux affair has been divided, Jedwab admitted. There was concern that it would appear Jewish organizations had cooperated with separatist groups' goal of removing Roux, whom they dislike for his outspoken federalism. Others felt his personal qualities and record since the war permitted forgiveness.

Neither CJC nor BBC called for Roux's resignation, but they were not satisfied with his first statement the day after the controversy broke. They felt Roux should have immediately admitted he was wrong and clearly denounced anti-Semitism.

Roux downplayed what he did as being "inspired by a...mischievous desire to show off and be provocative" and said he was not among the demonstrators who actually broke any windows. His attitudes, he claimed, were like those of a "large proportion" of Quebec youth at the time, who did not yet know about Nazi repression of the Jews."

Roux had been a Liberal senator appointed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in August 1994.

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From the editor's desk

Parchment, a news story, and remembering

Across my desk last week I received the fifth volume of *Parchment*, an annual literary journal of contemporary Canadian Jewish writing. As Bill Gladstone recently noted in *The CJN*, Volume 5 (1996-1997) is the first issue of the journal edited by Adam Fuerstenberg and published under the auspices of the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University.

Parchment is an important periodical. It is the only journal of Jewish Canadian creative writing, the only vehicle in which the renowned and the promising writers will travel down the road of exploring and expanding upon Jewish themes.

* * *

While reading the *Globe and Mail* last week, my eyes snagged, like a woollen sleeve on a jagged metal edge, on a small Reuters news report on page 16 of the first section. The story was less than two inches in depth, part of a roundup of international news. I reproduce it in its entirety.

"Muslim fundamentalists slaughtered 31 people, slitting their throats between Tuesday night and yesterday morning in one of the bloodiest attacks on an Algerian village in five years of violence. Algerian security forces simply stated that 31 people died, but eyewitness survivors and relatives of the dead who visited Sid el Kebir yesterday said all had had their throats cut."

Why did the story not merit more prominent coverage than a barely noticeable brief on page 16? The slaughter in Algeria is ongoing. It is savagery and brutality of an unimaginable nature and on an unimaginable scale. Many of the 31 people whose throats had been slit were women and children. Last Sunday, 10 more people were killed in Algeria, ripped apart by a bomb planted by Muslim extremists. Since 1992, when the military government refused to accept the election of a Muslim fundamentalist government, more than 50,000 people have been killed in fighting, the majority of them murdered by religious fanatics, sacrificed in the name of God by hatred and intolerance on the altar of terror.

What type of coverage, I wondered, would the story have received if Israel had been involved?

* * *

The word for remembering, *zachor*, is used in the Bible, in one form or another, 222 times. It is not merely an action or a state of being, it is a moral, spiritual obligation tying together in a transcendental chord of common memory, across vast impenetrable expanses, human beings who will live hundreds, even thousands of years apart.

Earlier this week, we marked Remembrance Day.

Parents must tell their children. Children must ask their grandparents. And grandparents must be able to close their eyes at the end of the day, the poet's assurance in their hearts accompanying an inevitable rest.

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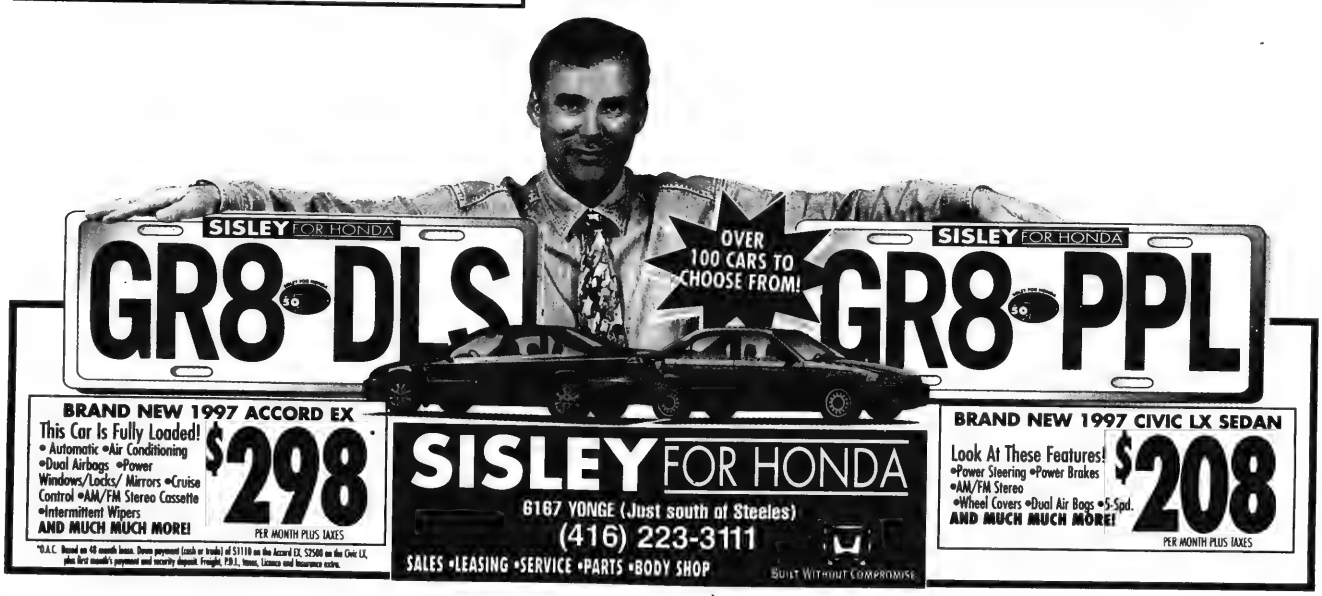
This bed of 'Anne Frank' tulips was planted in the memory of the 1.5 million children who were victims of the Holocaust on
ANNE FRANK DAY
November 2, 1995

PLANTING TULIP BULBS

Students from Metro Toronto's Brown School and Deer Park Public School recently gathered with their teachers to plant 750 Anne Frank Tulip Bulbs in Amsterdam Park in memory of 1.5 million Jewish children, victims of the Holocaust. Among those who brought greetings were a former hidden child in Holland, Ada Winston, the Consul General of the Netherlands, Paul Schellekens, and Jehudi Kinar, Consul General of Israel. Seen here with the children is (from left) Schellekens, Kinar, Winston, Isabel Basset, MPP for St. Andrew-St. Paul; and a member of the Dutch/Canadian Association.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Greater Toronto Area

Two men charged with distributing racist material

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The attorney general of Ontario has dusted off the little-used hate promotion section of the Criminal Code to charge two Oshawa-area men in connection with the distribution of white supremacist material two years ago.

The material inundated the eastern end of the city and the adjoining community of Courtice with business-card sized flyers and stickers pasted onto hydro polls. The material attacked Jews and blacks and included "cards with swastikas and KKK-type material," said Staff Sgt. Bob Peacock of Durham Regional Police.

Thousands of flyers were distributed in the spring and summer of 1994. Some were left in school yards, others were pitched in front of homes and offices. Some hate material was delivered to Oshawa MPP Allan Pilkey's downtown office.

At the time, the Oshawa news media reported that one of the pamphlets was headlined "kill and burn all niggers now," while another called on blacks to be deported as a way of fighting crime.

One of the business-card size flyers is decorated with a swastika and the comment, "six million served." It indicated the card was printed by a neo-Nazi group in Lincoln, Neb.

Another card, also featuring a swastika, reads: "non-profit organization, Hebrew basic burial, traditional graveside service."

In commenting on the arrests, Peacock described the material that formed the basis of the charges only in general terms. It is not clear that the material cited above formed the basis of the charges. Peacock said some white supremacist material was seized by police at the suspects' homes.

Morton Marder, president of the 66-family Beth Zion Congregation, said the Oshawa Jewish community did not appear to be specifically targetted when the material was distributed. At Saturday services during the height of the blitz, "people were concerned if we were centred out in any way, but we weren't."

Marder said he stumbled onto some of the materials in front of a Roman Catholic school while going for a walk. "They were white supremacist in nature ...Certainly it was alarming," he said.

"Speaking as a Jew in a small community, I was very pleased that police were able to lay these charges," he added.

Canadian Jewish Congress also commended the Durham Regional Police, as well as the Metropolitan Toronto Police, the Ontario Provincial Police and the attorney general for their joint efforts in leading to the arrests.

Ellen Cole, chair of community relations for Congress' Ontario region, praised Attorney General Charles Harnick "for giving consent to the laying of charges ...Hopefully, these arrests and charges will send a stern warning to those contemplating the promotion of hatred against minority groups in our society."

Ironically, Congress has in the past criticized Harnick and previous attorneys general for failing to lay charges against other alleged hatemongers such as pro-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel. Under the Criminal Code, consent of the attorney general is required before charges can be laid.

Although the constitutionality of the law has been upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada, it has rarely been used. Former Alberta teacher Jim Keegstra has been convicted under the law for promoting hatred against Jews. Two Toronto men, Don Andrews and Robert Smith, have been convicted of promoting hatred against non-whites. The last person facing hatemongering charges was former Heritage Front member Elisse Hategan, but those charges were eventually dropped when it became clear she was attempting to expose her former comrades in the white supremacist group.

Charged in connection with the Oshawa incidents are Guy Carlton Mayne, 30, and Ted Francis Beavis, 21. The pair face three joint charges of wilfully promoting hatred and one charge of conspiracy to promote hatred. Beavis faces an additional four charges of promoting hatred, Peacock said.

Congress concerned by police violence

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – "There is a concern across Ontario about the use of deadly force by police officers in some cases," the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, said in its submission to a government review of civilian oversight of police operations.

It is important that police authority continues to be subject to civilian review, the region said.

"Civilian bodies which directly address citizens' complaints in relation to police conduct are vital to uphold the public trust in a democracy."

At the same time, the submission said, there are other areas under provincial jurisdiction dealing with the police and the justice system that remain a concern for visible minorities.

One of these is how the government will deal with the 400-page report reflecting concern about systemic racism in Ontario's criminal justice system.

The region's submission was signed by chair Moshe Ronen and Ellen T. Cole, community relations chair.

SALUTING THE PAST
Jewish War Veterans salute as they pass the Holocaust Memorial at their annual Remembrance Day Parade. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

BJC 'near break-even' after its first year

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – "The community realizes we are here to stay and we will recapture its past glory," said president Michael Kerbel at the recent annual meeting of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC).

He was referring to the restructuring of the Jewish Community Centre in the wake of a $15-million debt two years ago. The Bloor JCC is now independent and the Valley branch at Steeles and Leslie has been sold to private interests.

"Coming to a near break-even budget is a monumental event," executive director Deborah Pinsky told BJC members in the Jerusalem Room.

"Twenty of our respected friends have guaranteed that future debts will be met," Kerbel said, predicting a bright future for the BJC and noting that basketball has attracted 500 players, a 30 percent jump.

In its first full year ending June 30, the BJC incurred an operating loss of $380,000 on revenue of $4.9 million. A much greater loss had been expected. An operating loss of $30,000 is forecast for the current year.

The operating loss for the year included $225,000 in capital expenditures, treasurer Bruce Leboff said. The total revenue of $4.9 million included $1.8 million in program fees, $1.5 million in fees from 3,000 athletic members, $602,000 from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (JFGT), $370,000 from United Way and $200,000 in government grants.

This year the BJC camp program served 665 children, a record, Leboff said. The new fun centre is proving a popular spot for birthday parties. A total of 15 treadmills and 20 exercise bikes have been added to general athletic facilities.

Kerbel referred to the "infamous group of seven," supporters who kept the building going during the financial crisis. He and six others, Geoffrey Bledin, Paul Nightingale Sheila Engel, Marty Goldberg, Phil Daniels and Tom Lobel were given plaques by Sandra Brown, JFGT president.

Other volunteers given awards were Ben Swartz and Gerry Weiner of the Stroke Recovery Group, Sue Rosenblat of Early Childhood and Gerry Granek, house committee chair.

"Gerry came down at three o'clock in the morning to make sue the women's locker room had air conditioning," phys. ed. dirctor Jim Emery said.

Fun centre popular spot for birthday parties

Pinsky said the BJC has raised $600,000 in two years and has further plans for fundraising. "We're meeting the increasing needs of the community with diminishing resources."

"I'm excited to see that the parking lot is filling up again," said Brown, paying tribute to the BJC board and staff.

Vice-president Helen Finder Guttman chaired the meeting.

Congress presses for public funding of day schools

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress is urging two government committees to recommend to cabinet that it agree to public funding of Jewish day schools. Doing so would be in keeping with the provincial government's goals of providing school choice to parents and enhancing the fairness of the education system, Congress has argued.

The Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education (OJAEE), a Congress committee, recently submitted a brief to a Ministry of Education committee, which is studying the allocation and expenditure of education funds. A second brief was provided to another secretariat, established to review the way funds are raised to finance education in Ontario.

In both briefs, OJAEE argued that independent religious schools can fit into a new distribution and spending plan for the public-funded education system in Ontario. The briefs suggested that publicly funding religious schools would ensure that resources are shared fairly and that there would be no second class students in the province; that such an arrangement would increase the accountability of the schools to the government and taxpayers; that community-owned religious schools "leads to results-oriented efficiency and accountability, with respect to costs."

OJAEE also argue that such funding would "uphold the value of school choice," giving parents the right to choose how to educate their children without experiencing any financial penalty by having to fund both the public system and independent schools.

There are currently more than 10,000 students attending Ontario's Jewish day schools. Tuition fees and subsidies from community organizations provide funding for the schools. Roman Catholic schools receive full government support.

OJAEE is supporting a legal challenge to that practice brought by five couples with children in Jewish day schools. The parents argue that funding only Catholic schools violates the equality provision of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The case has been heard by the Supreme Court of Canada, which has yet to deliver its judgment.

Greater Toronto Area

Kleins deliver powerful message as program opens

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The kickoff event to Holocaust week left a lump in every throat and not a dry eye in the house.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

Guest speakers Gerda and Kurt Klein imparted the Holocaust's message in a personal, heartfelt way that hit home for many of the 500 who came to the annual week's launch last Thursday at U of T's Convocation Hall.

Gerda Klein is an internationally acclaimed author and speaker, who last spring accepted an Oscar for the HBO movie *One Survivor Remembers*. The film, which won in the Best Documentary category, chronicled her and her husband's remarkable Holocaust story.

Speaking to a hushed audience after a portion of the film was screened, the Kleins, who live in Phoenix, looked back on how the darkest days of World War II ultimately led to a tranquil, fulfilling life in America.

Gerda Weissmann was a teenager when she was deported from her hometown of Bielsko, Poland, and wound up in brutal slave labor camps just across the border in Germany. In 1945, she and thousands of other young women were forcibly marched to Czechoslovakia – a death march in which hundreds perished from exposure and hunger.

In the film, she explained that she managed to survive thanks to a pair of ski boots her father made her wear, and thoughts of which color dress she prefers.

On May 7 of that year, she met a young American soldier, her liberator. He was Lt. Kurt Klein, the man she would later marry.

Kurt Klein too has his story. He and his siblings fled Nazi Germany before the war began, and then toiled to bring their parents out. The U.S. State Department granted his parents' visas – two months after they were deported to their deaths.

"We have always considered ourselves fortunate to have fashioned a meaningful life out of war," Klein said. "The tide turned for me 56 years ago, when I joined the U.S. Army. At that moment, I went from powerless bystander to active participant."

His wife, the author of an acclaimed biography, *All But My Life*, which has gone through 36 editions, called her Oscar-night appearance "an incredible moment – to say to millions what I had been afraid to even whisper before. How could I possibly have even dreamt the reality of that night?"

In her years in the camps, there was not a single suicide or nervous breakdown among the inmates, she recalled. "What a marvelous tribute to the human spirit."

Her ultimate message, she said, is simple: "Never give up. The darker the night, the brighter the dawn."

As for Holocaust deniers, there is just one answer: "Germany itself has never denied it. They have paid out millions in reparations. They would never have paid a penny if they didn't have to."

Gerda and Kert Klein

Both Gerda and her husband have found succor in writing. She has penned her story in addition to children's books; he is an accomplished poet. Today, they have three children and eight grandchildren. Like so many Holocaust survivors, Gerda said, "I often ask myself why I am so lucky."

Prior to the program, Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall repeated an earlier proclamation declaring Nov. 7 to 17 Holocaust Education Week.

Hall recalled her visit last spring to Auschwitz as "the most terrifying moment in my life."

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Rueful Roux

When staunch federalist Lt.-Gov. Jean-Louis Roux described his "swastika" indiscretion of some 54 years ago to *l'Actualité*, the separatists of Quebec immediately set their sights on him. Like frenzied hunters, the smell of their encircled prey's blood in their nostrils, they "bagged" a federalist.

The separatists struck a blow against a popular, persuasive federalist adversary and also against the federalist institution of lieutenant-governor. In a nutshell, that was the essence of the resignation drama which played itself out last week, quickly and painfully on centre stage of Quebec political life.

The separatists' moralizing and sanctimony was hollow and hypocritical.The *Globe and Mail* expressed it well in their editorial last week. "These are the last people who should claim the high ground. It was Jacques Parizeau who invoked repeatedly the differences between old stock Quebecers and anglophones and allophones. It was Bloc Québécois leader Michel Gauthier who raised the religion of activist Howard Galganov ... It was Lucien Bouchard who alluded to racial purity during the referendum campaign."

To be sure, the original incident of 1942 betrayed a huge insensitivity, a callous ignorance, a mocking heartlessness to the indescribable suffering of everyone caught up in the Nazi horror. But the incident must not be judged outside of its context, namely within a society generally hostile to the war and sympathetic to anti-Semitism, committed by a teenager at university. Roux had long ago recanted and repented. The apology last week was sincere and his contrition honest. The matter should have ended there. That it did not was more a testament to Roux's integrity than that of the people who were delighted to be challenging him.

Congratulations

President Bill Clinton won an impressive victory last week. He returns to the White House for a second term, the head of state and the commander in chief of the most powerful country on earth. Though his margin of victory over Bob Dole was wide, he has already been served with notice from some of the leaders of the Republican Congress that his margin of comfort in governing may be very thin indeed.

Such is the nature of American governance. To a large extent, their system of checks and balances rests on partisanship. When conducted in an atmosphere of reasonable balance, such partisanship is the basis for vital compromise and the advancement of public policy. In the extreme however, partisanship can be ugly and debasing, more food for the cynic's malicious maw, further justification for his disdain of government. But even when the Americans stoop to very low partisanship, as television seems increasingly to encourage, they generally draw the line between attacking the president/the human being and attacking the president/the office.

All the dreams and aspirations of "Americanism," however they are defined, seem bound up in the office of the presidency itself. America's face to the world is the face of the presidency. Americans understand this. Thus, there appears to be deep within their psyche a sort of in-built mechanism of measured self-restraint when it comes to hurling mud at the president/the man which seems to click in just at the right moment to prevent sullying the president/the office, and thus, in effect, sullying themselves. If only some of the other democracies, notably Israel among them, could learn the lesson of this trans-institutional relationship, that partisanship in the extreme is ultimately self-discrediting in the extreme.

The CJN congratulates Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore and wishes them the prudence, insight, courage and counsel to govern soundly and wisely for the benefit of all mankind.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"Whatever has not happened in a thousand years, may happen in the very next moment." *(Ladino Proverb)*

DAVID THE SHEPHERD BOY SAW THAT THE PHILISTINES AND THE ARMIES OF THE SYRIANS HAD GATHERED AGAINST THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL...
...AND THEY BEAT THEIR WAR DRUMS AND BRANDISHED THEIR SPEARS AND SHOUTED THEIR THREATS.
JUST YOU WAIT LITTLE DAVID! WE'RE GONNA GET YOU! JUST YOU WAIT!!
WAIT 'TIL WHEN?
WAIT 'TIL AFTER BILL CLINTON GETS RE-ELECTED!
GRRR
Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Nov.14, 1815 Abraham Joseph was born in Berthier, Quebec. He became president of the Quebec Chamber of Commerce and was one of the first directors of the National Bank. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Reform MP objects to CJN article

I am writing in response to the article (*CJN*, Oct. 31) "Controversial columnist invited to Reform event." The article is introduced by your staff reporter, Paul Lungen, through the use of a blanket statement: "Even as the Reform party attempts to chart a middle course in Canadian politics, it continues to attract members of the radical right, sometimes with the active recruitment of its own MPs."

Three events or circumstances are then described in the article: a panel discussion on Quebec, sponsored by Reform MP Ted White, at which Holocaust denier Doug Collins was a discussant; a conference of Libertarians, at which Reform MP Herb Grubel was a host and presenter, and where the conference attendees and presenters included persons with degrees of association with U.S. paramilitary groups; and the Heritage Front Web site link to the Reform party.

With respect to the reference to the Reform party on the Heritage Front Web site, persons involved with the Internet generally appreciate that it is impossible to restrict access or referent access. The Reform party has denounced the actions of the Heritage Front – both now, and during the 1993 campaign, when it was made clear to members of this group that they were and remain unwelcome within Reform.

Image and reality often have but coincidental linkages, though protentially damaging linkages nonetheless. What your columnist has done is to join three separate incidents together in the same story, to imply an underlying anti-Semitic bias on the part of the Reform party.

The reality of the *CJN* should be that of informed journalism. The image, from this article, is that of advocating guilt by innuendo and association. This is most regretable.

Ian McClelland, MP
Edmonton Southwest

Editors's note: Mr. McClelland does not deny the main point of Paul Lungen's story, that a Reform MP had invited a Holocaust denier to speak. Mr. Lungen left several messages including ones to Preston Manning's office which were not returned.

We reject the assertion that The CJN *is advocating guilt by innuendo and association. The facts speak for themselves.*

Deplores publicity for David Irving

Let me try to get this straight. When David Irving who has claimed, among other monstrosities, that Auschwitz was "built by the Poles after the war as a tourist attraction" - writes things we *don't* like, we zealously attack his credibility. But when he says things we *do* like - such as Joseph Goebbels was an unrelenting enemy of the Jews, he merits a column by the respected Rabbi Gunther Plaut in the *CJN* (Oct. 24).

St. Martin's Press, which was to have published Irving's book on Goebbels, withdrew its contract last March. Said Thomas J. McCormack, CEO and editorial director of the press, "The sub-text of *Goebbels* was, in my judgment, this: The Jews brought it on themselves."

In a revealing book entitled *David Irving's Hitler: A Faulty History Dissected*, Eberhard Jackel demonstrated precisely how Irving selects and chooses evidence to fit his agenda, which is to deny the Holocaust and discredit Jews, while ignoring the rest.

Although Rabbi Plaut includes a mild disclaimer, the mere fact of having chosen *Goebbels* for review in a notable Jewish publication lends Irving's work credence. (Let us remember that dozens of new books are ignored for every one that snags premium space.) Be assured that the Holocaust deniers will have appropriated this piece for their purposes before *The CJN* can say "oops."

Erna Paris
Toronto

A disservice to Joseph Kage's reputation

I know this didn't appear in the *CJN* but your paper identified with the contributor to the *Lives Lived* feature in the *Globe and Mail* Oct. 29 and it is a matter of common Jewish concern.

By saying Joseph Kage avoided war-time conscription because he was a teacher, the impression is clearly left that Kage because he chose teaching contrived to avoid the military draft - a distinct disservice to his reputation. What evidence is there that this was so? There is plenty of evidence on the other hand that teachers were *not* exempt from military service.

The Jewish Peoples School where Kage served as vice-principal was and is secular but can hardly be called left wing unless anyone to the left of R.B. Bennett can be so termed.

Its longtime headmaster Shlomo Wiseman was a Judaic scholar of note thoroughly conversant with and guided by Jewish tradition and very much at home in the sacred scriptures, which were and are reverently taught there to this day.

Gershon Cohen
Montreal

Ron Csillag responds: The reader is correct in observing that teachers as such were not exempt from compulsory military service during World War II. Inaccurate information was supplied to me. At no time did Mr. Kage conspire to avoid military duty.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The role of religion in civil society

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

Though the Hebrew Bible does not have a word for "religion," for most Jews, "religion" — as we have come to use the term in the West — is what the prophets taught. And they had very definite views about human responsibility for civil society. It was — to quote a popular prayer in Jewish liturgy — *letaken olam b'malchut HaShem*, "to mend the world by [the criterion of] the Kingdom of God."

The Hebrew word *tikkun* has become an accepted term for trying to make the world a better place through social action; you find it not only in the title of an influential contemporary Jewish journal, but also in *To Mend the Word*, the magnum opus by Emil Fackenheim, one of the most important Jewish thinkers of our time, whose 80th birthday we celebrated here in Toronto recently.

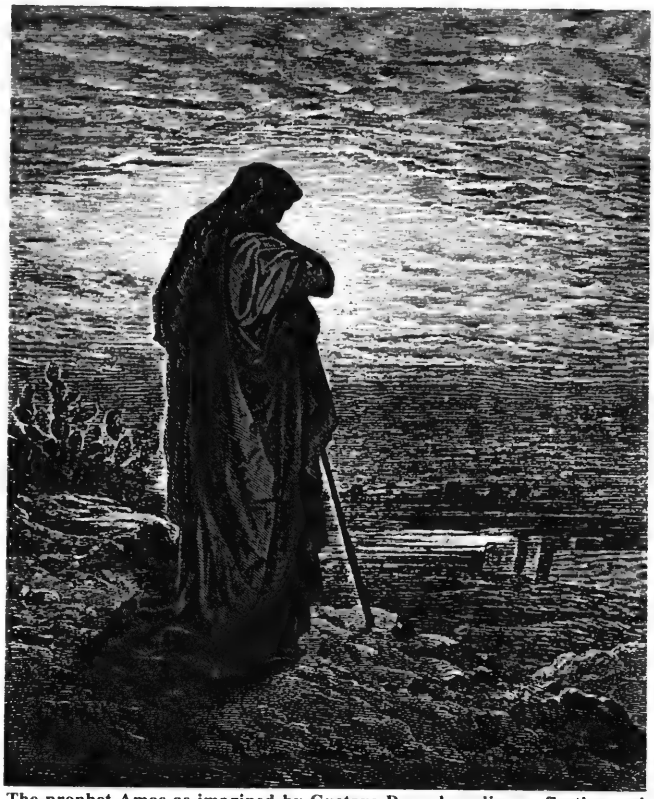
The authentic Jewish way to describe the role of religion in building civil society is to tell those in power to use it in the service of justice, as revealed by God and articulated by God's spokesmen, the prophets, of whom Moses, The Lawgiver, was the greatest. Justice is the means of preparation for the rule of God. The way we treat the weakest in society is usually the most telling indicator of success or failure.

The stress on justice points to a Messianic future, but not as a "vertical" event — something happening through supernatural intervention — but primarily as a "horizontal" occurrence — an ideal society in space and time through the efforts of earthly beings who have submitted to heavenly rule. Hence the Hebrew term Mashiach, Messiah, "the anointed," the ideal king.

This vision of an ideal future compels prophets — and their followers to this day — to be critics of the present. From the perspective of the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Flesh and Blood will always be found wanting. That's why the targets of the most biting prophetic critique throughout biblical literature are earthly rulers. From the challenge that Moses puts before Pharaoh in Egypt — "Let my people go" — to the formula that Zechariah (one of the last three prophets in the Hebrew Bible) puts before the governor of Judea some seven or eight centuries later — "not by night, nor by power, but by My spirit, said the Lord of Hosts" — for society to be civil, the law of God must be obeyed.

It is this principle, I believe, that shapes the role of religion in civil society: to be a corrective to the powers that be; to remind them that, for all the public relations extolling the virtues of those in power now, perfection is not yet — it is a goal which, by definition, has not yet been realized — and that their efforts must be judged by the criterion for that perfection, justice. If they move along the horizontal line toward the Kingdom of God, they will deserve our approval and command loyalty; if they don't, they must be denounced, irrespective of the personal consequences for the accusers.

Religion ceases to be part of the solution and becomes part of the problem when it is wedded to power, however brilliant the rationalizations and however noble the expressed aims of the alliance. That's why every involvement in the exercise of political power in the name of religion turns into disaster, whether it comes from "the religious right" in the United States, Khomeinism in Iran or the haggling by the political parties of Jewish Orthodoxy in Israel.



The prophet Amos as imagined by Gustave Dore, brooding, reflecting and ultimately guiding the people to strive to build a civil society. [Excerpted from *Pictures of the Bible, Illustrated by G. Dore*, Harbour Press, 1988]

Religionists who, in the days of the prophets, would sell out to expediency were considered to be false prophets. These political hacks in religious disguise said what their masters wanted them to say, not what God had spoken. The authentic prophets, whose writings have been preserved in Scripture, denounced them. They also accused the professional priesthood, if not of selling out to kings, then of exercising power on their own behalf, not in the name of God in whose service they had been ordained.

The tension between prophets, the emissaries of God, and kings, the epitomes of power — the spirit of God versus the aspirations of a King David in the judgment of Nathan, or of a Queen Jezebel as viewed by Elijah — and the tension between humble prophets and aristocratic priests — the custodians of organized and ritualized religion — characterize much of biblical literature. I believe that it is my duty to follow its unmistakable message.

This means it is not enough to preach it. Though the Hebrew for "prophet" (*navi*) really means speaker, it is in action and action alone that the words of God are tested. For that, we need to build communities. Jewish tradition understands the injunction in the Book of Exodus — "You shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" to mean that it is the duty of each of us to advance the Kingdom of God not only by being critical of the Kingdom of Flesh and Blood, but above all, by creating a Kingdom of Priests, in which each member serves the others because we are all God's creatures.

The role of religion in building civil society includes uncompromising affirmation of democratic principles that allow individuals a say in the shaping of that society, not out of personal interest, but as a manifestation of commitment to, and obedience of, the word of God.

I don't wish to enter into the contemporary debate as to whether or not communitarianism is a suitable alternative, or complement, to central government. The point I wish to make is that, as I understand tradition, the building of egalitarian communities dedicated to serving humanity and God is the primary religious responsibility of every citizen. This cannot be done either by being a member of a faceless mob of a totalitarian regime or by living as a hermit, away from the world.

To live authentically as a Jew is to live in community. That's why the erosion of communal life under the pressure of that strange contemporary, all-embracing alliance between mass culture and narcissistic individualism — often manifest as consumerism — is such a threat to civil society, when viewed from the religious perspective.

It is a perspective rooted in affirmation of the covenant between God and the people. The covenantal community meets around the common objective of doing God's will as laid down in Scripture and tradition, so that God be compelled, as it were, to fulfil the divine part of the mutual agreement and bring us into the Promised Land, the Kingdom of God, Messianic times, or whatever terminology you care to use.

The Kingdom of Priests thus becomes a stage on the way to the Kingdom of God. Even if none of us individually can do God's will, we can do it jointly, in community. Therefore, tragedy can always be averted, for having lived up to our part of the covenant, it is reasonable to assume that God will live up to God's own promise.

Critics often point out that this is an exclusive kind of vision, a bourgeois version of civil society that has no room for those who are not part of the covenant. Despite all their talk about democracy and equality, Jews have often been accused of this kind of exclusivity. (But then Jews — like every minority — will always get it from somewhere: If they keep to themselves they are cliquey, if they don't they are pushy.) In truth, however, there is nothing in Judaism that bars persons from participating in the community, as long as they are prepared to take upon themselves "the yoke of the Kingdom of God," that is, the responsibilities of observing the terms of the covenant.

The authentic Jewish community is inclusive, not exclusive. But it is also tolerant of other communities. It does not believe that you must to belong to it, in order to play your part in civil society. As long as other communities share the universal vision, they are welcome, indeed encouraged, to express it in their own particular way. As long as the final destination is the Kingdom of God, the way in which communities seek to act as correctives to the Kingdom of Flesh and Blood and to manifest their citizenship in the Kingdom of Priests, should be acceptable to others.

The aim is to seek to cooperate with all like-minded communities for the common purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God. The community of such communities is what we might call civil society. Government is needed to administrate, arbitrate and, when necessary, protect. In Jerusalem of old, the Royal Palace and the Temple were always separate, but frequently interdependent.

For similar reasons, I am currently involved in efforts by leaders from various religious traditions to make a contribution to keeping Canada as one country, one civil society in which variety and diversity in the community of communities — distinctiveness — is not only tolerated but promoted and cherished. Once again, the importance of government is acknowledged at the same time as the significance of community is affirmed.

These are two examples of the kind of role religion can — and, in my opinion, must — play in building and maintaining civil society. Its objectives, to repeat, include to promote respect for denominational and other divides, yet work for unity. In the same way as each human being is different yet created in the image of God, so it should be possible to accept and promote the diversity of communities, yet affirm the unity of society.

Excerpted from a statement delivered recently by Rabbi Marmur, Senior Rabbi, Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto at a public forum on Building Civil Society.

Opinions

We haven't learned the lessons

There isn't much more that one can say or write on the occasion of the first anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin that hasn't been said or written over the last two weeks. Between the Hebrew calendar anniversary, which fell on Oct. 24, and Nov. 4, the date of the assassination last year, Israel was filled with ceremony, commentary and analysis. But in spite of the rivers of ink that ran again, it seemed that the people were no closer than they were in the contentious days and weeks that preceded the murder.

By Shira Herzog

The "left" blamed the "right" for the atmosphere that led to the tragic event, and the "right" blamed the "left" for turning the assassination into political hay. Under pressure from its constituency, the government refused to make the anniversary of the assassination into a national day of mourning and the Rabin family responded with a frosty silence. At a youth rally to mark the event, youth movements on the religious and political right refused to sing the *Song of Peace* on the grounds that the left-wing Meretz party had used it as its election campaign song, and in turn, they were criticized for politicizing the memorial rally.

An especially meaningful memorial rally was held at Bar-Ilan University, where Yigal Amir had studied. Over the last year, Bar-Ilan has made a concerted effort to open its doors to dialogue and reflection on inter-community relations in Israel, as well as on the extreme ideological atmosphere fostered in some quarters of the religious-nationalist camp.

The rally at Bar-Ilan was addressed by former president Chaim Herzog, who chose to speak there because of the significance attached to that venue. In a passionate address, Herzog issued a strong challenge to Israeli society in general, but to the Zionist-religious camp in particular. Herzog's words ring with an urgency and a deep concern for the future of Israel as a community. The following is an excerpt from his address:

"I object strenuously to the attempt to wrongly cast the blame for the assassination on the entire religious-nationalist camp. I condemn any such false accusation against a significant, cherished element of our people, as though it is indirectly tainted by the crime. But the immediate consequence of the assassination should have been an unequivocal disassociation from a zealous group of extremists who speak in God's name, but have only contempt for the Torah of Israel, the values of Judaism, and the honor of the people of Israel.

"And I ask, in all honesty: Has this conclusion been reached? ... Has everything in our power been done to ensure that no such heinous crime can be committed again?... I am skeptical ... although immediately after the assassination, brave voices that called for soul searching, were heard. My sense at the present time is that these voices have gone silent. We seem to have forgotten that there were those who filled the head of the assassin with notions that made him assume a responsibility that even the Sanhedrin did not take upon itself once in 70 years.

"My roots are in the religious-Zionist camp and I educated my children in its spirit. For this reason, I have the pain at the criticism of its role and at the political and religious extremism that have relegated it to one end of the spectrum, instead of its being a bridge and an anchor for the poles.

"Yitzhak Rabin's assassination was a national tragedy of historic proportions. It can be a turning point for healing, or for further calamity ... For catastrophies of this magnitude, our sages set fast days in perpetuity, so that the soul-searching would never cease ... But it seems to me that little has changed in our lives. The candles in the squares have burned down, the shock has subsided and no profound changes have occurred in our national discourse.

"I call upon the Zionist-religious camp to assume the task. To respond to the moral challenge. To lead a new phase of national reconciliation. To return to a path that places its members at the heart of the nation, shoulder to shoulder with all other groups. To be the glue that binds the people, the Torah, our heritage and culture over and above any divisions and fragmentation.

"The challenge facing the Zionist-religious camp is first and foremost the cleansing of its own ranks, so that it can return to be a bridge between the many parts of our people. If this camp will accept this mission, will return to its centrist role and will be a moral standard for the nation — then perhaps atonement will be made for the assassination and we will be able to pray together to God for forgiveness.

"And then, and only then, will Yitzhak Rabin rest in peace."

Jewish division, Jewish strength

A year has passed since the tragic murder of Yitzhak Rabin. Rather than serving as a shock which would unite Jews in Israel and in the Diaspora, much the opposite has occurred. The deep fault lines that were there before the assassination have grown. The most important election result was not the narrow victory of Benjamin Netanyahu, but the increasing clout of the religious parties and the ongoing fragmentation of the Israeli body politic.

By Morton Weinfeld

It will be harder to find common ground between secularists and the religious camp in Israel. One reads reports from Jerusalem of women whose dress was insufficiently modest being roughed up by haredi zealots near Mea Shearim. Leah Rabin refused to give the prime minister permission to speak at the memorial at her husband's gravesite. Religious Zionist choirs refused to sing the *Song for Peace*, suggesting they were uncomfortable with its dovish political implications.

There is no point in minimizing these differences. In North America, tensions between the left and the right, between the non-Orthodox and the Orthodox, are likely to grow. These will be fuelled, not only by Israeli disputes, but by North American cultural and religious polarization. If friction erupts between a second Clinton administration and the Netanyahu government, the fallout will exacerbate these tensions. So would violence over Hebron or a complete break in the peace negotiations. Even, God forbid, a war with Syria fought in Lebanon might not have a unifying effect — recall the 1982 Lebanon campaign.

But these rifts should not be seen only as a cause of despair. Ironically, they are a source of strength.

Deep divisions among Jews have historically been the rule rather than the exception. This was the case in biblical times and recurred throughout the modern period. Movements such as Chassidism, the Haskalah, Reform Judaism, Zionism in its various political shadings, anti-Zionism and of course Jewish culturalist, socialist or communist ideologies, dominated and rocked Jewish life for two centuries prior to World War II. The trauma of the Holocaust and the exhilaration of the newly born Israel provided a brief consensual interlude which began to weaken in the 1970s. But internal debate and tension have been the norm. And they have returned.

These divisions within the Jewish world are ultimately a sign of vitality and flexible pluralism. Of course one wants to minimize extremist behaviors. But it makes no sense to wish for a Jewish community with no internal split. Debate, tensions and change have been constants of Jewish history. Rather than pose a danger to Jewish survival, this vigorous pluralism has been an asset. Take as an example the wide spectrum of Jewish religious identity.

The options are staggering. They range from Jewish secularism, weak but still present, to a growing ultra-Orthodoxy, with myriad options in between. And these religious options, with some exceptions, parallel the ideololgical-political splits in Israel and abroad.

The Jewish world has institutionalized these differences to a degree to which other religions such as Catholicism or Islam have not. That is not to say that those faiths do not boast reformers and traditionalists. They do. But in those groups reformers remain more marginal in the face of an authoritarian and cohesive power structure.

Jewish pluralism is fractious, no doubt about it. Recall that Winston Churchill also lamented the divisiveness and travails of democracy, calling it the worst political system save for all the rest. But Jewish pluralism offers Jews many ways of maintaining a meaningful identity or tie to the community, short of leaving. Future communal prospects may be enhanced because all eggs are never placed in one basket.

They may not like it, and some might disagree, but the Jewish so-called left — secularists, progressives, doves, non-Orthodox — and the Jewish so-called right — traditionalists, hawks, Orthodox, Haredim — need each other. They complement each other. Jewish life is richer, and Israel more secure, because of both. The debates must remain civil and non-violent, but they should not — they will not — cease.

Steinsaltz's lament

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz of Jerusalem is the author of a modern commentary on the Talmud that has found a worldwide readership. Not everyone agrees with every interpretation he offers, but that has always been the way with us; it is a controversy for the sake of Heaven.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Recently, a letter of his came to my attention. Written and published about half a year ago at Pesach time, it contains some cogent observations on the Jewish world. Here are some of them:

Over the last few decades, he writes, there has arisen a phenomenon, not entirely new, but one which has become very powerful in the life of our nation. There are people who legitimize hatred.

People are worried about what is happening in the State of Israel, about what is going to happen to the Jews living east of the former Green Line. Of course, everyone — rabbis, generals, politicians — knows the answers.

I am far more worried about what is happening on the western side of the Green Line.

There, (he continues), *Eretz Yisrael* is hardly ever mentioned anymore; instead we speak about the State of Israel. But there is a great difference between the two. In terms of the State, we have almost the same rights to sit in this country as the Afrikaners had, or have, in South Africa; we settled here, we built the country and developed it, and so we have the right to stay; we also have better guns and sharper bayonets. But if we intend to stay here for an extended period, then sitting on bayonets is very uncomfortable. But talking about *Eretz Yisrael*, the Land of Israel, on the other hand, is something else: not far from this place is the path that Abraham walked together with Isaac. This is altogether different from the saying, "We built the country and we are more powerful, and therefore we deserve to stay."

He ends his letter in the following fashion:

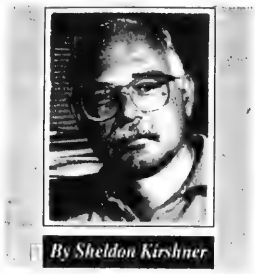
"We are, as a nation, in bad shape, because we are immersed in a myriad of small nonsensical details, because we are so busy hating each other, and we do not know, we do not care, we do not look at what is happening, we do not see one of the last windows that is still open to us. But things are still open to us. But things are still flexible and people can still change. The last real atheists have possibly been dead for many years; there are no more real atheists, there is no more real fight against Divinity; there is just a large percentage of people who are not practising. We are in a twilight world in which, if we die, it will be due to lack of awareness, because we did not do what we could have done. There is still a chance because people are open — confused and astray but still open for change."

Rabbi Steinsaltz wrote this from the heart of Jerusalem, but he might have written it anywhere in the Diaspora. Once upon a time, the sages argued about life and death and did so both in what was Palestine and in Babylon. Out of their arguments arose the talmudic volumes that became the life blood of our people. It is to such arguments that Rabbi Steinsaltz looks.

The Kirshner File

Husband-wife team tell virtually unknown story

The virtually unknown story of how Jews in Canada acquired civic and political rights has finally been told by a pair of Toronto writers.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Sheldon and Judith Godfrey's book, *Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867* (McGill-Queen's University Press, $34.95), is a revelation. In methodical fashion, the Godfreys show how Canada developed into a country where the civil rights of religious minorities were an integral part of Canadian nationhood.

Distinguished Canadian historians, notably Benjamin Sack, Irving Abella and Gerald Tulchinsky, have already illuminated this topic to some extent. But it was left to the Godfreys, a husband-and-wife team who specialize in Canadian history, to put flesh "on what was until recently only the bare bones of this experience," according to Tulchinsky in a review of *Search Out the Land* in *The Globe and Mail*.

The Godfreys, a couple given to lively conversation, claimed in an interview that they are the first to have used primary sources to illustrate their thesis that Jews enjoyed a special status in British North America during the colonial era. "It's odd that, until now, no one bothered to go to the primary sources," said Sheldon Godfrey.

Over a 10-year period, the Godfreys scoured archives across Canada, the United States, the Caribbean and Britain — delving into court records, land records and probate records, reviewing long-forgotten laws and statutes and compiling family trees, all in an effort to substantiate their thesis that early Jewish settlers were in the forefront of the movement for equality of citizenship.

Jews were invited to British North America because the authorities valued their business acumen (particularly in the lucrative fur trade), their international contacts, their access to capital, their willingness to take risks and their loyalty to whichever colonial power offered them a measure of equality, the Godfreys write.

The concept of equality, rather than being an ideal in British North America, grew incrementally. An ambiguous system of disabilities discriminated against settlers who were not Anglicans. But on occasion, these restrictions were waived in the name of enhancing Britain's imperial interests.

To the Godfreys, the Plantation Act of 1740 was a turning point, the basis for the attainment of equal rights for Jews. Jewish pioneers such as John Franks and Moses David were granted landholding rights and government positions long before any similar instances in the United States or Britain.

The Plantation Act led to Lower Canada's Declaratory Act of 1832, which held that Jews were entitled to "full rights and privileges."

As a result of these changes, Aaron Hart was appointed postmaster in Trois-Rivieres, Eleazer Levy was named a notary in Montreal and John Franks was made chief fire official in Quebec.

True, there were incidents in which Jews were treated shabbily. Samuel Hart could not take his seat in the Nova Scotia Assembly in 1793. Moses Hart's son, in 1827, could not hold a commission in the militia.

"However, the evidence is that whenever an instance of unequal treatment was directly challenged, the equal rights of Jews were upheld," the Godfreys observe.

They emphasize that the gradual removal of political and civil disabilities did not usher in an age of perfection in human relations. Anti-Semitism did not, of course, disappear. But as far as the Godfreys are concerned, the equality that existed in 1867 — the year Canada became a federal state — was "advanced for its time."

Indeed, the Godfreys claim that Jews were often better off than, say, Catholics or aboriginals, and that they were actively involved in the affairs of the evolving country. Ezekiel Solomons, for example, was a major fur trader in the 18th century. His firm, Gershon Levy and Company, was based in Montreal, with branches in Detroit, Niagara and Michilimackimac.

More often than not, the Godfreys were pleasantly surprised by the degree to which Jews achieved equality. And they go further, saying that anti-Semitism was "an aberrant phenomenon" between 1740 and 1867. "We were looking for themes of anti-Semitism and didn't find them," said Sheldon Godfrey.

The Godfreys, who received the Joseph and Faye Tannenbaum Award for Canadian Jewish history for *Search Out the Land*, did not realize what they were getting into when they started the project.

"If we had known what it would take to finish this book, we wouldn't have attempted it," said Sheldon Godfrey, a lawyer who has an MA in Canadian history from the University of Rochester.

"We were over our heads," conceded Judith Godfrey, who holds a diploma in physical and occupational therapy and who, like her spouse, is an ardent heritage conservationist. (The Godfreys own an ensemble of historic buildings in downtown Toronto, which they lovingly restored and which they documented in *Stones, Bricks and History*, published in 1984).

Breaking with the inclinations of most writers, the Godfreys did not apply for a government grant when they began research for *Search Out the Land*. They wanted to be completely independent, beholden to no one.

Consulted archives

The Godfreys, whose previous book was an account of the life of George Benjamin, Canada's first Jewish member of parliament, not only consulted dusty archives, they also interviewed the descendants of the early Jewish settlers, the majority of whom are no longer Jewish. Several, they note with some pride, attended the launching of *Search Out the Land*.

When I asked the Godfreys — the parents of three grown children — how they normally divide their workload, Judith Godfrey blurted out, "Shelly is the brains." To which he retorted, "That's not true."

Their *modus operandi* is by now well established. Usually, she gathers the documents and he files them away. "I handle the logistics," he explained. Then, he writes the text and she edits and polishes his draft.

In common with critics who've praised *Search Out the Land*, they believe that it is a worthy contribution to Canadian historiography.

"On a purely academic level, we've done a lot of the homework for future historians, who will have to take account of our book," said Sheldon Godfrey.

And, they add, the voluminous documents they compiled are bound to be of invaluable assistance to serious researchers who follow in their path.

But Judith Godfrey, a feisty lady, is not entirely sure what kind of an impact, if any, *Search Out the Land* may have. "It depends on whether or not it's read," she said, chuckling.

Having exhausted themselves in researching and writing *Search Out the Land*, which they describe as their "gift to the community," the Godfreys have no immediate plans to write another book like it.

But, they allow, a children's book about Jewish settlement in Canada may be a distinct possibility.

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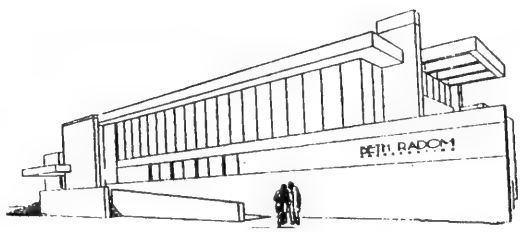

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Rabbinic Reflections

Cultural patterns were set years ago

By
RABBI ROY D. TANENBAUM

Whether wearing the jeans of 20th-century North Americans or the *kapota* of 18th-century Polish noblemen — whether partaking of the moccaccino that is the current local rage or the injera of the Ethiopians — whether speaking English in Toronto or Russian in Moscow — we Jews, wherever we are, tend to look and eat and sound like the people around us.

It is at once a positive and a negative. The old standard, celebrated in the Talmud, of not having changed our names or language is no longer with us. Instead, we, as a collective, pride ourselves on the fact that ours is a religion that is manifest not as we withdraw from, but as we go out and about the business of life. That Judaism can be found to apply to all manner of circumstances in which we find ourselves, we regard as a strength. Indeed, if the world were flooded again, we like to believe it would be we Jews who would show the rest of the world how to live under water.

In Canada, our kids play hockey. In the United States, baseball. In Argentina, soccer. Wherever we go, and in whatever era, we have engaged in the sports of the surrounding culture.

Except one. We box, ski, play tennis; but, statistically speaking, we do not hunt. Hunting is North America's largest participatory sport for adult males; Jews do not participate. Rashi spoke the French of his day and dressed as other Frenchmen. Maimonides spoke and wrote in Arabic and dressed as other Egyptians. Yet, as everything else, in the northern France of Rashi's days or in the Egypt of Maimonides' day, we did not hunt.

Culture, any culture, if it is worth anything, must affect its members in some way. This has to be as true of Jewish culture as any other. What is it, then, in Jewish culture that prevents us wherever we reside, at whatever period in history, from hunting?

Wanton destruction and cruelty to animals are of course forbidden in Jewish law. On these grounds, respectively, Rabbi Isaac Lampronti of 18th-century Italy and Rabbi Ezekiel Landau (the Noda B'Yehudah) in 18th-century Prague forbade hunting. But both of these are rather late; and, anyway, every culture is opposed to gratuitous destruction and cruelty, and most hunters justify themselves by saying they eat what they kill.

I believe the real element in our culture that has kept us from hunting is kashrut. A Jew could not say that he eats what he kills. For better or for worse, I believe the attitude this creates affects not only hunting, but also our view on owning guns in the home, capital punishment and a panoply of other issues including the fact that Israel has the highest per capita use of books in the world. This also suggests that if we as a community fail to preserve our basic laws, our values as a people will also inevitably change.

How exciting it is, then, to read in our Torah portion for this week that Esau was "a skilled hunter, a man of the field," and that his twin brother Jacob was "a quiet man, dwelling in tents." Esau was the brother who became the non-Jew, Jacob the one who continued the Judaism of Abraham and Isaac. Thousands of years ago, the cultural patterns were already set.

Rabbi Tanenbaum is rabbi at Beth Tzedec Synagogue in Toronto.

Remaining human despite inhumanity

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Carved In Stone by Manny Drukier, University of Toronto $35

I Know Who I Am by Shula Robin, Claremont Publishing $9

Why the unending flood of books about the Holocaust? Aren't we surfeited? Don't we already know — because we've been told over and over again, often in shocking and horrifying detail — that the Holocaust was the triumph of death over life, ugliness over beauty, hate over love, evil over goodness? Perhaps the books must be written to affirm those values that even the most diabolical cruelty couldn't expunge. It means to remain human, despite all the forces that strove to persuade and coerce despairing victims into grotesque forms and shapes of inhumanness.

When Manny Drukier returned to his native Poland after 50 years, he met a group of tourists who asked him how he felt after visiting Auschwitz and Majdanek? He writes, "My answer was that I wanted to scream and smash things. I could see and hear mothers clutching small children to their breasts, using soothing words to try to comfort them as the Germans loosed their dogs on them. I could see old men and children tripping over their useless bundles and valises as they were kicked and whipped and ordered to strip naked and run in snow or mud to the showers."

In 1939, when Drukier was 11, he and his family were uprooted by the Nazis, forced to leave Lodz, and plunged into a precarious existence. What would the morrow bring? Separation? Privation? Hunger? Death? Nine years later he was welcomed into Toronto by relatives and ready to face the challenges of an unfamiliar but friendly country.

Carved into Stone is the absorbing account of how a teenager survived nine years of harrowing vicissitudes, as well as a picture of Polish Jewish life before the war and during the occupation. It is also his emotional response to present day Poland, the tragic story of a vanished community.

As a youth, on his own, wild and wily, forced to live by his wits, he luckily escaped the death camps but ended up in Nazi labor camps where sadism was rampant. Finally, on a train bound for destruction, starving and desperate, he jumped to freedom. With help from strangers who hid, fed and shielded him from danger, he eluded capture and escaped to the West.

After the war, the sole survivor of his family, he was befriended by an American Jewish soldier who sponsored his immigration to the United States. It was only a short step to Canada.

This account by a successful publisher and businessman should be widely read. It is by a survivor of rare sensitivity who assures us as did Walt Whitman in a different context, "I know, I suffered, I was there."

* * * * * *

Shula Robin lost 95 members of her family during the Holocaust. She is an accomplished poet and short story writer who often reads her work to the accompaniment of music to a variety of Toronto audiences. This slender volume is alive with echoes of her perished family and filled with affection for Israel, recollections of Prague and Carlsbad and the delights and perturbations of a woman growing older in Toronto.

[Cont'd. on Page 13]

Jewish Life

The honorees' dilemma

By SHEL KRAKOFSKY

The worst part of having a dinner given in your honor is that you actually have to attend.

Guest Voices

Nobody who is so honored actually believes what they are going to hear about themselves unless they are still on medication or are a direct descendant of Don Cherry. If nothing else, give these honorees credit for allowing their names to be used as hooks to bring out a crowd to donate money for my number of worthy (and sometimes dubious) causes.

The number of individuals who are willing to be feted may be running out and several are trotted out and recycled from year to year by different organizations, in keeping with the premise that if the tux fits, wear it.

As more individuals seem to be declining such invitations, dinner committees are resorting to themes. Any day now Lexpect to receive an invitation To Honor Righteous Gentiles Who Sheltered Jews During The Blue Jays World Series Parades.

Anything to entice the lovers of roast beef and Cornish hen. The hens have apparently formed a union with the cows, in order to spread rumors of their joint insanity. This will not help these dinners although it will allow innumerable members of the bovine and poultry set to continue enjoying their own meals, without listening to some (very) deadly speeches.

At these dinners, the speeches and menus are as predictable as a Canadian winter and often just as cold.

There are few certainties in life, but for sure you will hear that the honoree is a *"mentsh"* or if gender appropriates, an *"aishet chayil."* Without them, your world would be worse. And more hungry.

In terms of modesty, people who allow themselves to be honored in this fashion don't deserve to be honored. Didn't Groucho say something like that?

There is no wonder that young people turn away from participation in communal activities if this is to be the ultimate reward. They have learned that in some circles, virtue is its own reward.

In these times of limited financial resources, the need to raise money is often acute. But there must be a better way of raising money and consciousness without resorting to exaggerations about the people at the head table while institutions and causes are being bludgeoned with hors d'oeuvre.

While these dinners try to bring out the best about the honorees, the guests know it's sometimes just a bunch of whipped cream being spread on hot dogs. Some of the speeches are worthy of being nominated for the Governor General's Award for fiction.

Just listen to the whispered comments at the tables: I heard he made his money by speculating in land on Baffin Island ... You know, her cleaning lady was born in Canada ... Their kids only got into Day School because of athletic scholarships.

Admittedly, aside from the charities, these dinners do benefit the private sector. Florists make money, clothiers make money, photographers, musicians and printers all get a piece of the action. And the caterers walk away with more than dessert.

The only way to stop these orgies of eating and self and mutual massaging, is simply not to go. Boycott. Force the volunteers to come up with better ideas to convince you to part with your time and money.

And if you are asked to be the hook for an upcoming dinner, you had better refuse even if you feel you deserve it. Remember, once you accept, a curse is placed upon you. You are obliged to participate in all such banquets as a member-for-life of the organizing committee. In perpetuality. It never ends. You will forever be going to meetings, dinners — and fat farms.

I confess, I was once the subject of one of these things. Like so many others, I was being groomed for a future of speeches, table manners, guilt and platitudes. Had I known at the time where it was leading, I would have refused.

But I didn't know any better. I was only 13.

Shel Krakofsky is a physician/ writer in Komoka, Ont.

Roll Call at Mathausen by Leo Haas

Holocaust books affirmations of life

[Cont'd. from Page 12]

In a ringing affirmation of her Jewish identity she vows, "My ancestors / survived floods, / pogroms, plagues, / burning in fires, / indescribable wars, / hunger, blazing sun, / freezing cold. / Despite all, / my people prevail, / renewing links in that / five thousand year / strong chain / untamed despite persecution / and pain. / I Am Eternal / I know who I am."

In *My Heroic Sisters* she remembers a variety of Jewish women who defied the Nazis in acts of unforgettable courage. "O Jewish maidens, / Troubadours will sing your praises, / a new tradition will be created, / during the holidays, your stories / will be told and retold from generation / to generation until the end of time."

All said and done, she laments... "We are a total patch-up / work. Life is meaningful, / yet painful, / tears convert to ice, / the soul crumbles into devastation, sorrow — / patch it up, patch it up, / patch it up. / Put a patch on the wounds / to keep it all / from falling apart."

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Montreal's Finestone honored as ORT Canada launched

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Montreal MP Sheila Finestone became the first recipient of ORT Canada's Sophie Bennett Award at the organization's founding convention, the first since the amalgamation of men's and women's ORT earlier this year.

The award was created in memory of the founding president of ORT in Canada to honor individuals who display an ongoing commitment to their community, are acknowledged for achievements in their chosen field and participate in their community on issues which reflect the welfare of citizens, societies or nations.

Avie Bennett, Sophie's son, who has endowed the chair in Jewish Literature at the ORT Braude Institute in Karmiel, Israel, in memory of his mother, honored Finestone for her involvement in issues such as "culture, dealing with minorities in the province of Quebec and the protection of minority language rights in Quebec and throughout Canada."

Finestone was also praised for her "deep concern for the welfare of the community, which has been reflected in her involvement on such varied boards as the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Interfaith Task Force on Soviet Jewry.

"Last October, she received the Samuel Bronfman Award for exceptional service to the Montreal Jewish community. Finestone's longstanding commitment to ORT's philosophy can be traced to her parents, Monroe and Minnie Abbey, both of whom were staunch supporters from ORT's inception in 1942."

Keynote speaker Ellen Isler, director-general of the World ORT Union in London, England, since 1993, stressed the importance that ORT schools play in countries worldwide and said she is particularly proud of its programs in Russia, where over 8,000 Jews have been educated in the past two years.

At ORT Canada's founding convention Avie Bennett presented Montreal MP Sheila Finestone with the Sophie Bennett Award. Kathleen Crook (inset) was installed as national president. [Barry Shainbaum photos]

"A big block of world Jewry live in Russia and the situation is still volatile. A lot of these people want to find a home somewhere and they have found it in our new ORT school.

"Learning is no longer a separate activity. It is a new form of labor and students must learn to be comfortable with new technology. In the future, we see the role of the teacher changing to one of a guide or mentor. The teacher and technology will both be tools the students can utilize. These are the challenges that face World ORT," Isler said.

At the convention's installation and awards luncheon, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein installed Kathleen Crook as the national president.

Nishmat dinner set

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO - A dinner to be held at the home of Julia and Henry Koschitzky on Nov. 18 will raise scholarship funds for Nishmat, The Jerusalem Centre for Advanced Jewish Study for Women.

Chana Henkin, founder and dean of Nishmat will be a special guest, and guest speaker will be Stephen Flatow.

Nishmat, founded in 1990, is modelled on the traditional mens' yeshivah. Henkin's intention was to create a program which would allow university-educated women to pursue Torah studies at the same level of challenge and intensity as they do secular learning.

It accepts students on full-time and part-time bases, and has different programs for the different backgrounds of the students.

Flatow, an attorney from West Orange, N.J., and his wife Roslyn, established Keren Alisa, The Alisa Flatow Scholarship Fund, a scholarship program at Nishmat, to memorialize their daughter, Alisa, who was killed in a terrorist bus bombing in April, 1995. Alisa, a student at Brandeis University, was studying at Nishmat at the time of her death.

The Flatows made a considerable stir in Israel when they agreed to donate several of their daughter's organs, as well as her corneas.

For more information, contact Esther Sacknowitz, at 789-4883.

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Best 'show business' requires planning: leaders

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — There may be no business like show business, but it's still a business, and like any commodity produced for mass consumption, it requires a marketing strategy, say three entertainment industry leaders.

Paul Godfrey, chair and CEO of Sun Media Corporation; Allen Karp, president and CEO of Cineplex Odeon Corporation; and Phyllis Yaffe, president and CEO of Showcase Television, recently spoke on the business of entertainment, an event organized by the Arts and Entertainment, Financial Services and Young Business Network Divisions of UJA Federation.

Godfrey led the *Toronto Sun* management group in a successful bid to buy Sun Media Corp. from shareholders and turn it back to the private enterprise the newspaper was when it began 25 years ago. The company operates 10 dailies, 63 weeklies and seven magazines.

The *Sun* has succeeded where other dailies have failed because it is different and user-friendly and strives to be entertaining, Godfrey said, noting that stories are short without turn pages, and there are large entertainment and sports sections and lots of opinionated columnists. Reader participation is encouraged.

The infamous Sunshine Girl, the *Sun's* "trademark" also offers entertainment value, he said. "Some people pick up the paper because we have the Sunshine Girl. Others won't read it because we do."

Yaffe, a former librarian from Winnipeg, previously worked in children's television, but next year she'll be launching a new cable channel, since her bid for a Canadian history channel was accepted by the CRTC.

There is a definite audience for Canadian history and drama to be targeted by her advertisers, she said. "I believe Canada has a culture to exploit and be proud of."

CRTC protection

Government funding through Telefilm and other agencies enabled the Canadian television industry to flourish while the CRTC protected it with its Canadian content rulings on both television and radio, she said.

"Without the CRTC, there would be no Canadian television today."

Karp noted that 98 percent of Canadian movie theatres screen non-Canadian films. Cineplex, the second largest theatre chain in North America and the largest in Canada, is committed to creating "an appropriate venue" for Canadian films, even though "other products are more profitable."

There is limited screen time for Canadian films because "Canadians don't support Canadian cinema," he said.

Karp stressed that no one can predict whether a film will become a blockbuster, citing *Field of Dreams* as an example. After reading the script, he said, he didn't think a story about "a guy who builds a baseball diamond in a cornfield" would have wide appeal, but "it turned out to be one of the biggest films of the decade."

Despite all the changes in technology, the screening of movies has not changed much in 100 years of cinema, Karp said. "Film is still transported in a can."

But theatre designs are changing to become more "people-friendly," he added. Cineplex will be opening 150 new screens in Canada in the next year, he said.

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מדליה אולימפית:

החלטתי לחכות עם התגובה שלי לאולימפיאדת אטלנטה, כי כולם אמרו משהו, כתבו משהו, השוו משהו. חשבתי שיהיה נחמד לראות מה ישאר אצלי אחרי שישקע האבק. אז ככה: מידי יום עברתי על לוח המדליות בעיתונות הקנדית כדי לראות אם ישראל זכתה במשהו, ובכל יום אכזבה. עד שיום אחד פתאום זה הופיע וגרם לי להתרגשות דומעת של אבא שהבן שלו סוף סוף עבר בחינה בחשבון. עכשיו לך תמצא במה זכינו במדליית ארד. טלפון ליורם פירוצקי פתר את העניינים. אבל עדיין לא ידעתי כלום - מי הוא גל פרידמן, איך זה קרה, מה הוא עשה? למזלי נסעתי ארצה ובסיכום האולימפיאדה חזרו לשיפור שלו שוב ושוב. הדבר שמעורר גאווה אצלי, וגם בשני אנשי הנידו שזכו לפני ארבע שנים- שהם כולם תוצרת הארץ. דווקא העולים החדשים מרוסיה, עם כישורים שפותחו במעצמה הקומוניסטית "כמעט" הצליחו אבל לא עשו את זה בסוף. אבל אל תשלו את עצמכם - ההישג של גל פרידמן לא הושג בגלל התמיכה של מערכת הספורט הישראלית, אלא למרות העדר התמיכה בספורט שלו (נלשני רוח). אין זו המצאה שלי. אמר את זה מאוד ברור אלכס גלעדי, שהוא נציג ישראל בועד האולימפי הבינלאומי, וגם סגן נשיא רשת האנ.בי.סי. לענייני ספורט. ומה היה הסיפור שהכי אהבתי בהופעה הקנדית באולימפיאדה? אחד המקצועות החדשים הכי מלהיבים היה לטעמי כדור-עף חופים (שני מתחרים נגד שני מתחרים על חוף הים). כצפוי, זכו במקום הראשון והשני צמדים אמריקניים, שמבלים את רוב חייהם על החופים המוזהבים של קליפורניה ופלורידה. אבל איך זה אפשרי שבמקום השלישי זכו שני טורונטאים, שחצי מן השנה לא יכולים אפילו להתקרב לחוף הים הקפוא? באמת איך? אז הינה כושר ההמצאה הנפלא של המוח האנושי: קנו השניים האנגר (מחסן) ענק בחווה מצפון לטורונטו, הביאו לשם משאיות כמה טונות של חול ים, הכניסו לשם הֶסֵקה, ויאללה - כל החורף, במינוס ארבעים, התאמנו בכדור-עף חופים בתנאי מעבדה....

משהו בשביל הילדים:

אם יש לכם ילדים, ואם אכפת לכם שהם ידעו ש"מוסיקה קלאסית" זה לא מוסיקה של החיפושיות (בכלל, כל דבר כיום הוא "קלאסי", אפילו קוקה קולה) - אז הינה התשובה: לתזמורת הסימפונית של טורונטו יש סידרה של קונצרטים לנוער שהיא חלומו של כל הורה. לאחרונה לקחנו את רז לראות את "Bach to the Future". זהו קונצרט בהשתתפות שני שחקנים מתיאטרון Platypus במונטריאל שגורם לילדים לא להרגיש אפילו שהם מאזינים במשך שעה למוסיקה קלאסית. הם פונשים ומשוחחים עם באך,מוצרט, בטהובן וחבריהם ורואים איך תזמורת גדולה פועלת כגוף אחד. גם לנו היה תענוג אמיתי.

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מחשבות על בית:

לסיום, כמה שורות שנוגעות חזק, כפי שכתב אותן המשורר נתן יונתן:

"הבית זה מקום שאם אתה חייב לשוב אליו
תמיד פתוחה בו דלת לקראתך,
שיריים הם לפעמים האהבה האחרונה
לבית שרחק".

יש המון שירים על בית, וכולם כמעט מדברים על נעוגעים ועל איך שהיה טוב בבית וכל זה. אבל, לטעמי האישי, נגע נתן יונתן בנקודה הכי חזקה: בית נבחן לא בזה שאתה מתגעגע אליו, אלא בזה שאם אתה צריך אותו - הוא שם בשבילך. הוא שם גם אם ממש לא בא לך לחזור אבל אין לך ברירה, כי אתה חלש, או חולה, או בסוף הדרך. ובהרבה צורות- זה מה שישראל מהווה עבור רבים מאיתנו. תחשבו על זה.

SHMOOZIN

Greater Toronto Area

NDP's Kormos calls for Vanunu's release

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ontario New Democrat MPP Peter Kormos has joined those calling for the release of Mordechai Vanunu, the one-time technician who blew the whistle on Israel's nuclear installation a decade ago.

Vanunu has suffered "excessive" punishment and should be released from his Israeli prison, says Kormos, who recently returned from a two-day international conference on the case held in Tel Aviv.

Kormos concedes his sentiments probably run counter to mainstream Israeli opinion when it comes to the matter. The MPP says Vanunu tends to be vilified in Israel as a turncoat who damaged his country's nuclear deterrent capabilities.

In 1986, Vanunu was sentened to 18 years in prison for revealing the existence of a nuclear installation in the Israeli desert. From London, he was lured by a female Mossad decoy to Rome, where he was captured and shipped back to Israel for trial.

He's been in solitary confinement for a decade and has restricted access to family — a punishment Kormos calls "torture." Vanunu is eligible for parole in two years.

Vanunu has become a darling of the peace movement and of the left for confirming what many had long suspected about Israel. Several groups, including a small one-in Israel, continue to press for his release.

As part of his recent 12-day trip to Israel, Gaza and the territories, Kormos took part in the controversial conference on Vanunu, chaired by Nobel laureate and peace activist Joseph Rotblat. About 60 people attended, mainly from Britain and North America. Also there was Daniel Ellsberg, the defence analyist who leaked the Pentagon Papers to the media in 1971.

Kormos says he attended the conference because he has "a natural admiration for whistle blowers."

The meeting, which was largely ignored by Israeli media, concluded with a statement calling for Vanunu's release. It was delivered by Rotblat to President Ezer Weizman. Kormos says Weizman was "adamant" that Vanunu deserves his treatment.

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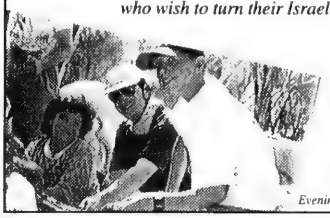

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Nov. 14, is deadline for Nov. 28 issue, and Thursday, Nov. 21, is deadline for Dec. 5. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Nov. 15

ONEG SHABBAT

West Toronto Jewish Community Association adult Oneg Shabbat, Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave., 7:30 p.m. followed by Israeli folkdancing. **Sharon** 236-2054.

Saturday, Nov. 16

ACTS OF TERRORISM

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/New Leadership sponsors talk on Acts of Terrorism: How to Control and Eliminate Them by **Steven Hartov**, author of *The Nylon Hand of God*, Jewish Book Fair, 8 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre.

Sunday, Nov. 17

YIDDISH IN POLAND

University of Toronto Jewish Studies Program and the Moyshe and Esther Menachovsky Memorial Fund present a lecture on Under Siege: Some Thoughts on Yiddish Prose Fiction in Interbellum Poland by **Dan Miron**, professor, Columbia University and Hebrew University, 8 p.m., Woodsworth College, 119 St. George St.

GIFT AND CRAFT SALE

Markham-Unionville chapter, Jewish Women International (JWI), gift and craft sale, great buys, door prizes, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Crosby Arena, Main Street, Unionville. Meet Dr. Bear from Markham-Stouffville Hospital 1-2 p.m. Proceeds to the hospital, York Region Mental Health Association and JWI causes.

SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE

Spiritual Resistance: The Rare and the Known Songs of the Holocaust, **Lenka Lichtenberg** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, 2:30 p.m., Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St.

BAZAAR AND AUCTION

Na'amat Pioneer Women annual bazaar and auction, treasures, crafts, antiques, collectibles, door prize (Air Canada holiday for two in Israel), 10 a.m., Toronto Congress Centre, 650 Dixon Rd. 636-5425.

Monday, Nov. 18

FAMILY TREE MAKER

Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library workshop, Genealogy — Your Family Tree on Computer, hands-on demonstration using Family Tree Maker for windows. Instructor **Nathan Abramowitz**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation. $9.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, general meeting, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. **Berte Rubin**, counsellor, discusses Stress Management. **Lil** 905-771-8382 or **Sheila** 665-3333.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

THE ROMANCE READER

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood celebrates Jewish Book Month with a review by literary agent/*Toronto Star* reviewer **Helen Heller** of the book *The Romance Reader* by **Pearl Abraham**, 8 p.m. Arback Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses Cosmetic Surgery — What is the Halachah?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Thursday, Nov. 21

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Women in the Bible series with **Rachel Turkienicz** continues with Ruth and Naomi: A Tale of Two Women, 8 p.m. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New...

WOMEN & THE HOLOCAUST

Prof. Yaffa Eliach, pioneer scholar of Holocaust studies will

[Cont'd. on Page 19]

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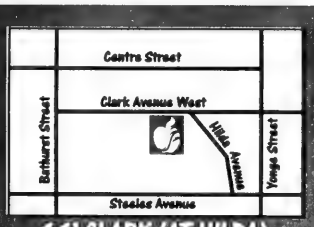

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Assorted Varieties
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What's New

[Cont'd. from Page 18]

deliver three lectures at Temple Emanu-El, 120 Old Colony Rd. Saturday, Nov. 16, 8 p.m., Women Before the Holocaust; Sunday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m., Women of Valor/Women of Pain, Women During the Holocaust; Sunday, 7 p.m., Women Survivors — The Struggle to Rebuild New Lives. **Judy Cohen** 449-3880.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, Sunday brunch Nov. 24, 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker **Bernard Katz**, University of Guelph Library, presents Rarity is in the Eyes of the Beholder — Romance of Rare Books. $8 prepaid reservations synagogue office 635-5340 until Friday, Nov. 22, 2:30 p.m. $10 at door. Dress code in effect.

CROSSING DELANCEY

Holy Blossom Temple Stagecraft Company offers three performances of *Crossing Delancey* by **Susan Sandler**, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 21, Saturday, Nov. 23, Sunday, Nov. 24 at the temple. $12 in advance, $14 at door, $50 patron. 789-3291, ext. 511.

SJA LECTURES

Secular Jewish Association hosts **Rabbi Sherwin Wine**, a founder of the modern Secular Humanistic Jewish movement, at three events:

Saturday, Nov. 16, havdalah social, Wine, Food and Culture, 7:30 p.m., 1 Overland Dr. Reserve. 489-5759.

Sunday, Nov. 17, adult education series and breakfast, Rabbi Wine lecture, The Real History of the Jews, 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave.; Jewish Book Fair lecture, Rabbi Wine discusses his latest book *Staying Sane in a Crazy World*, 4 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre.

KINDER TRANSPORT

Kinder Transport Organization Chanukah party, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m. For details 497-7086. RSVP by Nov. 22.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

The Power of Kabbalah — life, death, good, evil, success, failure, Sunday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Kabbalah Sunday School, ages 3-12, Hebrew language, Jewish holidays, drama, arts and crafts, singing, dance. Register for 1996/97.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Sunday, Nov. 17, 9:45 a.m., Adult Heder. **George Gruenfeld**, Germany; Monday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., A Shabbat Seder, **Laura Wiseman**; Thursday, Nov. 21, 8 p.m., The Dream Phenomenon, **Patti Allen**.

CHILD ABUSE

Parent and Youth Led Services Program's temporary feedback system, The Anonymous Phone Line, is geared to collect information as to what worked, what didn't work and any suggestions for improvements in the area of child sexual abuse, from those who have first-hand experience. 395-0508 until Nov. 30.

JEWISH DISTRESS LINE

Is life giving you a rough ride? Are you feeling down? Give Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line a call and talk it over with the volunteers. 635-9610.

BAYCREST VOLUNTEERS

Baycrest residents are looking for volunteers to help them to the Saturday synagogue services. Program runs every Saturday 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested, call Baycrest Volunteer Services Department 785-2500, ext. 2572.

BOOK SALE

A wide selection of paperbacks and hardcovers for children and adults is on sale at Bathurst-Clark Public Library, 900 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, Nov. 14-16 during regular library hours. Bring your own bag. 905-709-1103.

NARAYEVER SINGERS

Narayever Community Singers, directed by **Brian Katz** is looking for new choir members. Group meets Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. (except first Thursday of the month) 656-5995.

PARENT & PRESCHOOLER

Join in the fun and education in the Parent and Preschooler Program offered by North York Board of Education and learn more about child development and child management skills. Mallow Education Resource Centre 395-5015.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Canadian Magen Davaid Adom (CMDA) is organizing a fundraising day tour to Casino Rama, $30 includes transportation and buffet lunch. For reservations, CMDA 780-0034.

On Nov. 10, CMDA , together with Israel Aliyah Centre, hosted a function for a reunion of the MDA volunteer summer group 1996 who were presented with a certificate and a fellowship.

ORPHAN'S HOME REUNION

A combined reunion of the alumni of the Montefiore Hebrew Orphans Home and the Montreal Hebrew Orphans Home was held in Montreal Aug. 17-18, marking the closing of the Montefiore Home 60 years ago and the Montreal Home 54 years ago. Supervisor **Max Matt**, now 86, attended from Hartford, Conn., in addition to alumni from California, New York, Florida and Toronto.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., winter courses for adults, teenagers and pre-teens, in conversational Hebrew, all levels. Tuesday mornings (beginners) Jan. 21-April 22; Wednesday mornings (intermediate) Jan. 22-April 23; Thursday evenings (all levels) Jan. 23-April 24. Instructor for beginners **Joseph Klinger**. 787-0197.

JRC SERVICES

Do you need help at home? Jewish Russian Community Centre can help you find babysitters, housekeepers, care givers for the elderly and much more. **Inna** 224-2622 or 222-7105, ext. 27.

For Seniors

Aluma Israeli Cultural Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Nov. 21, **Avner Meiri** lectures on The Middle East — History Review. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: 17-day Arizona trip leaves Jan. 7; Purim vacation trip to Israel March 2-24, all inclusive; Buffalo theatre trips-Dec. 11, *Swing, Swing, Swing*, music of the '40s and May 11 *Song of Singapore*. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Nov. 21; Las Vegas Nov. 24-28; Chanukah dance Dec. 8; *Beauty and the Beast* Dec. 11; New Year's dinner dance Dec. 31. 395-7881.

Sunrise Group: Casino Rama, Mondays-Fridays with full-course lunch $19.97. **Esther** 223-9165.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip, four, six and eight weeks, Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Tickets available for Chanukah Party, entertainment, refreshments latkes, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) presents Psychologically Speaking with **Anne Balaban**, 1 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18, Gossip — The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, and Monday, Nov. 25, Harnessing Laughter's Power. Members $1, non-members $3. **Bookie Kwart**.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre program, First Aid Training, conducted by St. John's Ambulance, Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1:30-3:45 p.m.

How to Prevent the Skin Problems of Aging with nurse **Catherine Crane**, Thursday, Nov. 21, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Nov. 20 program is a lecture. **Anna**.

Palm Springs and San Diego, Calif., trip, co-sponsored with Bathurst Jewish Centre, Jan. 15-Feb. 5. **Barbara Zigler**, 225-2112, or **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Sunday dance to music of Creative Band Nov. 17, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

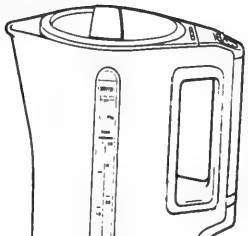
Oneg Shabbat luncheon, entertainment by cantorial soloist **Phyllis Greenberg** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, Friday, Nov. 22, 12:15 p.m. Senior Adult Services, BJC. Tickets at information desk. **Teme** 636-1880, ext 364.

What Did You Say?, a presentation on hearing by Canadian Hearing Society, Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1 p.m. Appointment taken for hearing test. **Teme**. Senior Adult Services, BJC.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club afternoon tea at historic Helen Gardner Whelan House at University of Toronto, courtesy of Jewish Students Union, Thursday, Nov. 21, leaving Bloor JCC 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

WORLD OF WOMEN'S HEALTH

Weizmann Woman & Science and the Woman's Health Planning Committee, University of Toronto, recently held a half-day scientific program entitled The World of Women — Implications for Our Health. From left, Prof. Rebecca Cook, speaker; Dr. Heather Maclean, moderator; Carol Gordon, chair, Women & Science; Dr. Niva Piran, speaker; Dr. Brenda Toner, speaker.



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Tzedek celebrates Jewish activism in support of rally

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Tzedek, the Jewish campaign for social and economic justice recently held an evening to celebrate Jewish activism and Jewish music.

Speakers Ester Reiter, the coordinator of the women's studies program at Atkinson College of York University; Bess Shockett, a veteran union organizer; and Karen Charnow Lior, a founding member of Tzedek all gave historic and personal perspectives on Jewish activism and labor organizing.

Tzedek's Charnow Lior spoke about the early roots of Jewish activism in Canada, citing the activities of Isaac Matenko, a Russian Jewish secularist — he immigrated to Canada in 1905 — who organized the garment workers' union as a means of increasing literacy among the Jewish working class.

The Radical School, which Metenko founded to promote Yiddish culture was renamed the Peretz School in 1916, Charnow Lior said. "Jewish activism was a combination of cultural struggle, a fortification of the use of Yiddish, theatre, storytelling, dance and music."

She mentioned several Toronto Jewish leaders who were active in the labor movement, including former MPP J.B. Salsberg, Ben Sheck, stage and screen star Lou Jacobi, Pearl Wedro, Molly Fineberg and Leah Stern.

The Montreal-born Shockett, who was involved with the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO), organized workers in Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. She recalled that when she began organizing labor in the mid '40s, workers were resistant to the idea of becoming unionized because they were afraid after "they had gone through the hungry '30s."

She stressed that Jewish labor organizers spanned all the trade unions, not just the needle trade, noting that Salsberg had organized both auto and steel workers.

Reiter spoke about camp Naivelt, the summer camp founded by the UJPO 70 years ago. The camp was established by members of the Jewish Women's Labor League, who needed a place to send their children in the summer, she said.

Although other Jewish summer camps existed, the women were reluctant to send their children to camps funded by the charity of their employers, she explained.

Raised in a left-wing home in New York she spent many summers at Kinderland, an American UJPO camp. The camp's emphasis on Yiddish and social justice shaped her values as an adult, she said. "I can't separate my Jewishness from my activism."

The women's speeches were interspersed with musical performances by Batsheva, David Wall, Emma's Triangle, Marcia Beck and Friends, Lisa, and David Buchbinder. The music ranged from feminist folk rock to klezmer and Ladino.

The evening, held at The Bloor Jewish Community Centre, was planned in support of the Days of Action, the recent mass rallies in Toronto protesting the budget cuts of the Ontario Conservative government.

Tzedek founding members say the organization, which has now been in existence for a year, was established, "in the tradition of Jewish activism," as a Jewish response to the policies of the Mike Harris government.

Batsheva performed at the Tzedek program. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Musical performances

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Sunday, 17 November 1996, 8:00 p.m.
Arthur M. Kruger Hall, Woodsworth College
119 St. George Street
Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

Greater Toronto Area

Russian prisoner joins family in Israel

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Semyon Livshitz, 37, a Russian Jewish prisoner of conscience adopted by Beth Tzedec synagogue, has finally joined his family in Kiryat Shmonah, Israel, after several harrowing years in a Russian jail.

"You saved the life of our son," Vladilen Livshitz wrote to the synagogue's Soviet Jewry chair Genya Intrator.

Once accused of a plan to hijack a Russian submarine and deliver it to Israel, Livshitz is now living in Kiryat Shmonah with his parents Vladilen and Eva, and his sister, Janna.

The Beth Tzedec committee, and two Canadian MPs, Barry Campbell and Bill Graham, were among those who campaigned over many years to free the former Russian navy officer.

Livshitz was convicted of robbing 11 prostitutes, despite evidence presented to the Russian Sureme Court that he was then in Vladivostok, thousands of miles away from the robbery scene.

A petition with 10,000 names advocating on Livshitz' behalf was collected by Beth Tzedec member Herb Landis.

As a result of protests from B'nai Brith and other human rights groups, and from Andre Ouellet, former Canadian minister of external affairs, and Hart Kaminker, the Russian's Canadian lawyer and Beth Tzedec member, Livshitz' term of 10 years was reduced by four years.

After the reduction of the sentence, Livshitz, in poor health, was sent by prisoner's transport to a penal village in the region of Krasnoyarski in Siberia where the temperature drops to -46 centigrade in winter.

Further appeals on his behalf resulted in Livshitz' being released into the custody of the Israeli Embassy in Moscow. From the embassy, he asked Instrator to convey his gratitude to the people who fought for his release.

Semyon Livshitz

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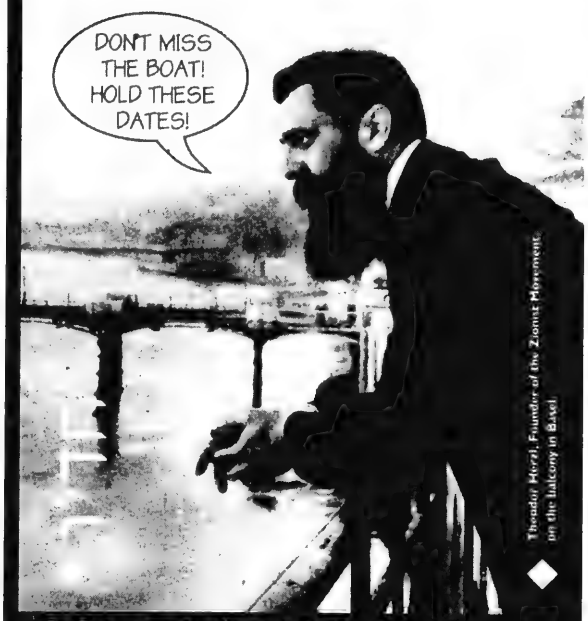

Theodor Herzl, Founder of the Zionist Movement, on the balcony in Basel.

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In the rest of Canada call 1-800-567-4772.

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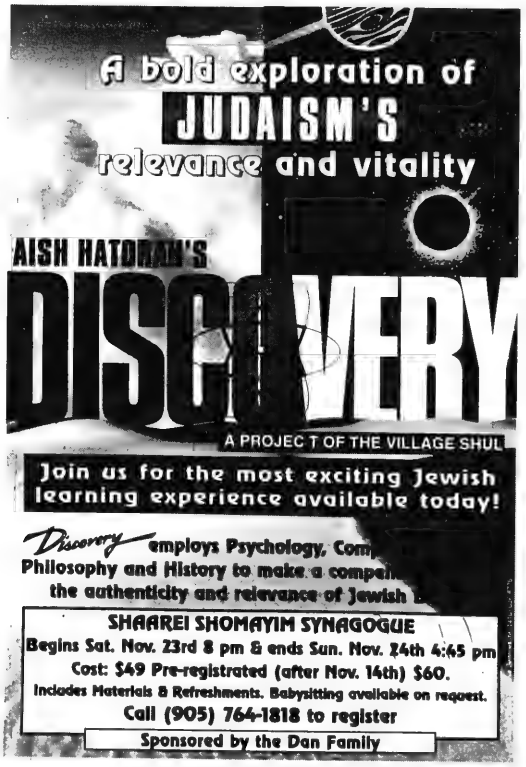
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Beloved matriach dies at 101

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – In the 1920s, Goldie Grafstein was one of the first women in Toronto to acquire a driver's licence. In later years, until well into her nineties, she campaigned for grandson Robert Kaplan (former solicitor general of Canada) in every election in which he ran.

The beloved matriarch of a large extended family, Grafstein died recently at Baycrest Hospital, two months shy of her 102nd birthday, while convalescing from a hip replacement operation.

Despite her age and recent surgery, Grafstein's death was unexpected. Even the day before she died, the only indication of something wrong was that Grafstein said she didn't feel like reading the *Toronto Star*, said daughter Budgie Frieberg.

"For this child she knew about tennis scores; for that one she followed legal education, interest rates, business news; for me there was a continuous debate about Robert Bourassa — was he a patriotic Canadian or not?" said Kaplan in a eulogy.

"Goldie's life was the present and the future. She was completely practical, the complete contemporary," said Kaplan.

Goldina Adelaide Gollom was born Dec. 31, 1894, in London, England. She remembered curtseying before Queen Victoria when the monarch visited her kindergarten class, and hearing that her elders had worried as children about whether Napoleon would invade England.

At age 15, following the death of her mother, she moved to Toronto, where she lived with her grandparents, who had immigrated several years previously, and worked in a coat factory.

Goldie Grafstein had nine children

Polish-born immigrant Moishe Grafstein was smitten with the attractive young blonde from the moment he met her at the dancing school he ran in the evenings. They married in 1914 — she was 19, he was 31.

The Grafsteins had nine children, all of whom played musical instruments. The entire family, including Goldie on accordian, played for local charities, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

Their home was open to a stream of guests including European immigrant relatives and struggling actors who performed at the Jewish theatre around the corner from Moishe's yard goods store on College Street.

About 10 years ago, Goldie, a prolific baker from the time her children were young, wangled a job baking for Just Desserts after telling the owner of the trendy cafe that her banana cakes were much better than theirs.

Widowed in 1968, Grafstein lived on her own until age 99, when she entered Baycrest Hospital. She wrote a book of reminiscences for her family while in her late nineties and at her 100th birthday party, wearing a sequined gown and having prepared a speech weeks in advance, took the microphone to address her 150 guests.

Until her death, she corresponded regularly with at least a dozen family members outside of Toronto.

She leaves two sisters, Rose Wolfe of Reno, Nev., and Mae Zaretsky; daughters Pearl Kaplan, Sarah Solomon, Rose Dolgy, Molly Brown, Rickey Hoff, Tilley Levine of Vancouver, Chippie Feldman of St. Catharines and Budgie Frieberg (Sonny, her only son, died in 1984 of cancer); 24 grandchildren (among them Robert Solomon, assistant dean of the law school at the University of Western Ontario), 41 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

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Greater Toronto Area

Hadassah-WIZO to hold national convention

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – This weekend some 600 members of Hadassah-WIZO will meet at the Sheraton Centre for the organization's 36th national convention.

The three-day event, held every three years, will kick off on Sunday with a tribute to 11 Women of Achievement: Judge Rosalie Abella, Ontario Court of Appeals; Isabel Bassett, MPP; Judy. Feld Carr, chair, national task force for Syrian Jewry, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC); Wendy Eisen, chair, Canadian committee for Soviet Jewry, CJC; Sheila Finestone, Liberal MP, Mt. Royal riding, Quebec; Diane Francis, editor, *Financial Post*, Anne Golden, president, United Way of Greater Toronto; Taylor Hogge, "volunteer extraordinaire" at Hofim; Sheila Kussner, founder of Hope and Cope, a support program for cancer patients and their families; Priscilla de Villiers, president, CAVEAT (Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating its Termination); and Elaine Todres, deputy solicitor general and deputy minister of correctional services, Ontario.

Michal Modai

Keynote speaker for the tribute will be Michal Modai, president, World WIZO. A number of the honorees will speak on panels. Topics will include Social Issues/Women for Women (de Villiers and Todres), Changing Role of Women Affecting Volunteerism (Kussner, Hogge and Feld Carr) and Political and Economic Issues (Finestone, Francis and Bassett).

"They're all wonderful women and I think they will inspire us. The issues, the concerns and the topics affect all of us," said convention chair Pat Alpert, who is to be installed as national president.

Also being honored at the convention are Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress and Madame Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Speakers will include former Soviet refusenik Yuli Edelstein, now Israel's minister of immigration and absorption; social psychologist Lauren Woodhouse; Gordon Cressy, president of The Learning Partnership; Bernie Farber, national director, community relations, CJC; and author John Loftus.

Alpert anticipates that the conference will be "stimulating, thought-provoking and...will give people some directions and plans for the future. We really are looking towards the 21st century."

To that end, members will be voting on a number of constitutional amendments. "We want to be sure that we are in today's world, that our amendments reflect today and not 10 years ago," Alpert said.

Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada was founded in 1917 to support health, social welfare and educational programs in Israel as well as the enrichment of Jewish life in Canada. With a membership of 17,000 women, Hadassah-WIZO is represented in 43 Canadian communities; in Toronto alone there are 70 chapters. The organization supports Israeli projects such as day care centres, youth clubs and women's clubs as well as Assaf Harofeh Hospital and Hadassah Hospital.

The Canadian organization is affiliated with World WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization, with federations in 52 countries on five continents.

Yuli Edelstein

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Ex-Montrealers chow down on hometown delicacies at their recent reunion. [Ron Csillag photo]

Ex-Montrealers gather over bagels, smoked meat

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – They came. They reminisced. They ate. Mostly they ate. For as most Torontonians know by now, not only do Montrealers talk the talk when it comes to smoked meat, bagels and pickles, they walk the walk.

At least they did on Nov. 2, when some 500 hungry former Montrealers packed the main gym at the Bathurst Jewish Centre for the Maximum Montreal Reunion held by United Jewish Appeal (UJA).

It may have looked like a Wagar-Chomedey High School intermural sock-hop, or a huge game of Jewish geography, but that didn't stop people from chowing down on Levitt's smoked meat, karnatzel, sours, knishes and bagels (real bagels, not that Toronto bread-shaped-like-a-bagel stuff).

Participants, of course, also caught up with old acquaintances and waxed nostalgic about Crescent Street, Mount Royal, Beaver Lake and the Habs (ahh, the Habs...) Everywhere, people commiserated about Quebec politics and language laws, and swapped stories about who left when and who's still left behind.

Those who came strolled down memory lane to recall their beloved, charming, sophisticated, cosmopolitan and thoroughly maddening Montreal.

The bash was put together by the Montrealers' committee of United Jewish Appeal, as part of UJA's ongoing outreach efforts.

"The purpose is to make Montrealers feel part of Toronto," said program chair Judy Engel (nee Jasnoch), 41, who grew up in Chomedey and moved here 13 years ago.

UJA officials estimate 10,000 to 12,000 former Montrealers now call Toronto home.

"I feel sad [about the move to Toronto] because I really love and miss Montreal. But events in Quebec over the past two years have validated my decision," Lynn Kauffman, a 42-year-old lawyer who left Montreal in 1979, told *The CJN*.

She and her husband Aubrey, 43, also from Montreal, came to the reunion "because I'll always be a Montrealer at heart. I tell people that I'm from Montreal, but I live in Toronto."

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Interested applicants may enquire as to eligibility requirements and further information by calling Beth Tzedec at (416) 781-3511, or writing to: Stephen Cooper Award Committee, Beth Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3.
Deadline for applications is February 3, 1997

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Campus news & views

Washington excursion unites young Jews

By ROCHELLE SEGELBAUM
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — *Kol Hastudentim* (voice of the students) is a council of Jewish students from universities across Ontario. The student-operated organization has been funded through the generosity of Sam and Beverley Cohen and various Jewish organizations. The group is for those who are interested in enriching their lives as members of the Jewish community — on or off campus.

The recent weekend excursion to Washington, D.C., the group's first organized program, brought together participants from 10 universities across Ontario.

The focus of the trip was to meet other students from Ontario and to visit the sites in Washington. Each participant had his/her own reason for attending, and the trip took on an individual meaning for each person.

New province-wide programs are already being planned. *Kol Hastudentim* hopes to welcome new participants into the group. Together, we hope to use our unified voice to make a difference.

One aspect of the trip was the journey itself. Many hours were spent on and around the bus.

The tour itself included sightseeing in Washington: the display of names project (AIDS memorial quilts), sampling Baltimore's Saturday night cultural scene, shopping in Towsen Town Centre and seeing the Holocaust museum.

"I don't remember who started it, but it seemed the most natural thing to do. There we were, a small group of 20-something-year-olds, sitting on the floor in the middle of the foyer of this enormous museum in Washington, D.C., singing *Am Yisroel Chai*. Some passers-by stared at us and some people smiled. Some even came and joined us. I listened to the sound of our voices echoing between the hollow walls and cried silently." (Journal excerpt from Oct. 13.)

Through singing or socializing, the shopping experience or the Shabbat experience (the next time I light candles the Baltimore fire department will be notified first), the group came together.

"What was most significant in my mind is that we were able to bring together 28 people of varying religious backgrounds and have them all join together as one and learn from each other as one. That is my basic ideal for the future, the breakdown of all the religious barriers and to be an Am Yisrael again," said Rob Schaumer.

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Rochelle Segelbaum is a student at York University and Centennial College.

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- Arlene Perly Rae, writer
- Morris Zbar, Director of Community Planning & Allocation, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Toronto

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Teen skinheads convicted

WINDSOR — Two 16-year-old skinheads have been convicted of spraypainting racist symbols, including swastikas and SS insignia, on a road and the home of two Holocaust survivors.

The two were placed on probation for 18 months and sentenced to two months of house arrest and 100 hours of community service. They cannot leave their homes unless it is to go to school or in the company of their parents or with permission of their probation officers.

The youths pleaded guilty to three counts each of mischief for spray painting swastikas and the words "burn all Jews" on the side of the house. Assistant Crown Attorney Richard Weatherston said the incident terrorized the elderly owners of the home, the *Windsor Observer* reported.

Karen Mock, national director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, testified at the trial as an expert on racist symbols and their origin. She said the nature of the symbols indicated the youths had been exposed to white supremacist groups.

Weatherston credited Mock's testimony as persuading Judge Deborah Austin to consider the hate impact of the crime and to increase the sentence.

Kristallnacht marked by Victoria Jews

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA – Kristallnacht was commemorated by Victorians with several events this year.

On Nov. 7, a service was arranged by the Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society at Congregation Emanu-El. Mayor Bob Cox read a proclamation by City Council declaring the week as Kristallnacht Days – a Week of Remembrance.

Throughout the city, homes and businesses left a candle or a light in a window facing the street, as a token of remembrance.

A huge banner recalling Kristallnacht was placed across Douglas Street, Victoria's main thoroughfare, at the entrance to the downtown area.

On Nov. 3, at Christ Church Cathedral, there was a program of reflection, poetry and storytelling, organized in conjunction with the Catholic diocese of Victoria.

An exhibit of photos of some 1,406 synagogues and prayer houses destroyed by the Nazis on Kristallnacht was on display at the Hillside Shopping Centre.

God's Country, a play by Steven Dietz is being presented at the University of Victoria from Nov. 14 to 30. It's a docudrama about the growing white supremacist movement in North America.

Dietz says it was extensively researched from public records and personal interviews "and is a powerful commentary on the misguided love of country and the lessons of history."

The Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society "is committed to bringing knowledge of the Holocaust and the message of moral responsibility to the widest possible audience," says Peter Gary, head of the organization. "Our underlying theme is to teach ethical responsibility, to resist hatred and violence with words and deeds, to be critical and self-critical, to build a better world."

Parizeau slammed for public comments

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Ethnic Quebecers' worst fears about Jacques Parizeau seemed only confirmed when he recently used the referendum anniversary to essentially repeat his chilling "money and the ethnic vote" message of Oct. 30, 1995, Jewish community spokespersons said.

In a lengthy article in *Le Devoir* marking his first public comments on the Quebec situation since that night, Parizeau again sought to divide the Yes and No vote along linguistic and ethnic lines.

He cited statistics from the referendum results to show that, "The majority of francophone Quebecers want Quebec to become a country.

"They chose their identity and their country."

Parizeau appeared to allude to the Jewish, Greek and Italian federalist coalition by blaming the massive No vote by minorities on "their leaders and associations."

He also called on the Quebec government not to waste time building bridges with anglophones or pandering to their economic fears. He said minorities would eventually learn to "adapt" to sovereignty and that Quebec's economic development no longer depends on the "reactions of a few hundred [anglophone] people living in the Golden Square Mile or Westmount."

Jewish community spokespersons characterized the comments, as they did a year ago, as spiteful, intolerant and as revealing Parizeau in his true colors.

Robert Libman, executive director for the Quebec region of Bnai Brith, characterized Parizeau's analysis as "mean and spiteful."

"It looked like he was trying to rationalize his comments [of a year ago] by presenting it as a statistical analysis, but the underlying sentiment was still there.

"He speaks for one person and for one person only — Jacques Parizeau."

By no coincidence, the coalition used the same issue of *Le Devoir* to publish an open letter again deploring Parizeau's comments from a year ago.

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From coast to coast

Large number of Jews in financial need: study

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER – Demographic studies indicate that as many as 5,000 people in the Jewish community (about 18 percent) may be in financial need, says Mannie Druker, president, of the Hebrew Assistance Association of Vancouver, referring to the organization's just released annual report.

The task of giving aid to those in need is being shifted from government to community organizations such as the Jewish federation and United Way, says Druker.

"Our association," he says, "has never been a beneficiary of either of these agencies and thus we are able to play an independent role in providing financial assistance and advice, without demand on the allocations of these agencies' resources."

The report says a record 116 applications for loans were received this year (compared to 103 last year) and 80 interest-free loans were granted (68 last year). The total value of loans given this year was $214,360 ($187,000 last year).

At the financial year-end, loans receivable totalled $360,784, consisting of 186 loans in all. The incidence of bad debts has been kept to a minimum of $1,000. Two-thirds of all loan applications were approved "and this ratio has not changed much in the years," Druker says.

Membership, at $25 per person, increased in 1996 from 175 to 266 members. A goal of the association is to increase membership to 500 "so future operating expenses are covered entirely by dues, with capital funds being fully available for loans."

The report says operating costs are "modest," as the organization employs only one part-time administrator. Druker says the association is believed to have the lowest "cost to loan" ratio of any similar organization in British Columbia.

"We help those in the community who are unable to borrow from a bank or credit union," Druker says, and the association directs those who may be able to qualify to a small credit union "which has helped a number of our former borrowers."

This association also has a link with VanCity, the largest Canadian credit union. Druker says VanCity has modelled its new Community Loan Fund on the association's operation "and continues to assist us with large donations to various projects and activities."

The Hebrew Assistance Association was created in 1979, as the successor to the Vancouver Free Loan Association, founded in 1915. The annual meeting of the association is set for Nov. 27, at the Jewish Community Centre.

Human rights body launch delayed

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA – The attorney general's department has announced that the amendment to the British Columbia Human Rights Act creating a human rights commission and tribunal will be effective Jan. 1, instead of Nov 1, as scheduled originally.

"The new act is designed to remedy discrimination more effectively, address systematic discrimination and other patterns of inequality and actively promote human rights in the province," Mariann Burka, director of the B.C. Council of Human Rights, told *The CJN*.

After conducting a nationwide search, the Ministry of the Attorney General has developed a short list of candidates for the positions of chief commissioner of the Human Rights Commission and for the chair of the new Human Rights tribunal. Successful candidates for both positions will be in place before the new year, said Burka.

The name of the existing Human Rights Act will be changed to the Human Rights Code, she said, "to better reflect the quasi-constitutional status and comprehensive nature."

The Human Rights Commission is responsible for informing the public of its rights and responsibilities under the code, and to conduct research in relation to human rights issues. The tribunal is an adjudicative body which will hold hearings and make determinations on discrimination complaints.

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Jerusalem's Olmert indicted on multiple charges

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – An indictment was issued against Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert in Tel Aviv District Court last Thursday after a High Court decision rejected his appeal not to be charged with fraud offenses pertaining to the 1988 Knesset elections.

Olmert has been indicted on charges of fraud, forgery, breach of trust and other counts arising from the 1988 elections when he was treasurer of the Likud party and was responsible for obtaining donations from businesspeople, companies and other bodies to finance the party's election campaign.

Olmert has been charged with fraudulently issuing false invoices, fraud and breach of trust and deliberately issuing to State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat false declarations regarding donations. Others involved in the case were convicted and sentenced recently.

The indictment read that in his capacity as treasurer, Olmert opened a fictitious advertising agency, B.M.Y., and a non-profit organization, Nitzachon Le'Likud, solely for the purpose of listing donations as advertising and consultation fees in order to issue false invoices to donors.

The law of political party financing, forbids a party to receive donations from organizations here or abroad. According to the charges, Olmert used the advertising agency to disguise the fact that money donated to the Likud campaign by such organizations were processed illegally via B.M.Y. and false invoices were issued, stating that sums were paid for advertising fees.

Olmert is also accused of declaring to Ben-Porat that donations to the Likud amounted to around NIS 250,000, when in fact sums processed through B.M.Y. amounted to nearly NIS 1 million.

As a result, following Ben-Porat's report to the Knesset, the Likud received an election campaign budget of over NIS 2 million from the government. According to the indictment, Olmert therefore misled Ben-Porat, the Knesset and the public.

The district attorney has listed some 100 prosecution witnesses who will be summoned to testify against Olmert.

Iran offers to help in search for Arad

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Iran's deputy foreign minister has promised that his country would help in locating captured Israeli air navigator Ron Arad.

Speaking in Paris last weekend, the minister said the matter was humanitarian, not political.

Arad's fighter plane was shot down over Lebanon in 1986 and Israeli officials have repeatedly claimed that Iran is holding him.

The promise from the Iranian deputy foreign minister Mahmoud Waize came against the backdrop of talks he held in France on an economic deal that included the purchase from France of 10 Airbus planes, a $500-million purchase of communications satellites and cooperation in the area of oil production.

Israeli observers said the promise to help locate Arad was a precondition for the economic deal Iran concluded with France.

But commentator Aluf Ben wrote in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* that the promise of help might have resulted from changes in the Israeli-Iranian relationship since the election of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Ben wrote that Israel had toned down its criticism of Tehran since the election.

Former prime ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres had frequently referred to Iran as the primary threat to Israel in the Middle East.

Levy tries to defuse tensions

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Foreign Minister David Levy travelled to Cairo last week in an effort to defuse recent Israeli-Egyptian tensions.

Despite the recent critical statements emanating from Cairo about the pace of the peace process, Levy described his meetings with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Amre Moussa as positive.

"Relations between Egypt and Israel are very important and peace between the two states can be a model for the rest of the parties," Levy said at a joint news conference with Moussa, adding that the two sides had discussed ways to push the peace process forward.

Moussa, for his part, had an implied criticism of the Israeli stance in the ongoing negotiations with the Palestinians about implementing a turnover of most of Hebron to self-rule.

Peace "has to be balanced between the Israelis and the Palestinians, not to be imposed but to be agreed upon," he said.

"Balance, agreement and fairness were the points stressed by the president," Moussa said, describing the talks between Levy and Mubarak.

The talks between Israel and the Palestinians have been held up over disagreements on the security aspects of a long-delayed Israeli troop redeployment from Hebron.

Each side has blamed the other for stalling on the agreement.

Levy's visit was just days before the scheduled opening in Cairo of the third annual Middle East-North African regional economic summit.

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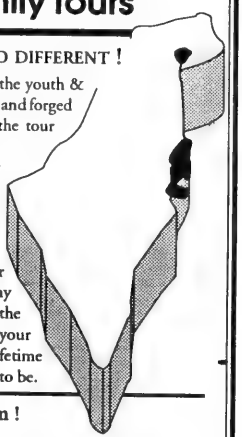

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Government, IDF tensions

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Officers are supposed to request permission to meet with non-military personnel, but casual meetings between politicians and top military figures have become routine in Israel. However, as chief negotiator, Shahor was in an especially sensitive position.

Right-wing critics say Shahor should have been fired from the army, while left-wing critics accused the government of acting like a "paranoid dictator."

"Shahor should have been reprimanded," says Maoz. "But to suspend him was a very severe message to the military echelon. It not only failed to thaw the ice but hardened it."

The incident was the latest in a series of crises between the security establishment and government that have led to growing mistrust. Likud MK Uzi Landau, who heads the Knesset's powerful Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, sparked an outcry recently when he accused the IDF General Staff of sporting a left-wing bias. Landau said the military had been "tainted" by its involvement in negotiations with the Palestinians under the Labor government and implied that it could no longer be counted on for objective assessments.

"This is a different type of crisis than anything we have ever seen before," said Maoz. "There have been many disagreements between the Israeli military and government in the past, but they were based on differences of substance. I don't remember a situation in which the political echelon accused the entire military of serving the opposition. There is a danger that this could lead to a self-fulfilling prophecy," he warned.

"The Shahor affair has intensified the crisis and further eroded trust between the political and military echelons," he added. "The General Staff is fearful and the political echelon even more suspicious than before."

In an interview with the Hebrew daily *Ha'Aretz* earlier this month, Maoz even posited the possibility of a military coup.

"I don't see tanks surrounding the Prime Minister's office," he said. "But I could see the military presenting the government with an ultimatum demanding a change in policy. It's a remote possibility, but not impossible under certain circumstances."

One such scenario is a right-wing government that leads Israel into a violent confrontation with the Arab world — a confrontation which is opposed by half the population, he said.

"The IDF would feel itself obliged to carry out government policy, but would find it difficult to do so because of a drastic decline in motivation and widespread draft-dodging. In such a situation, the army might present the prime minister with an ultimatum to change its policy."

Maoz admits that such a scenario is not around the corner. But he says the rift between the government and defence establishment has already extracted a very real price.

"The flare-up in the territories in September was a direct result of the refusal of the political echelon to accept the assessment of the military," he charges. "Security experts warned of a pressure cooker building up in the territories in the absence of negotiations. The violence could have been avoided had the government heeded that advice."

Maoz adds that this is the first time a government has rejected military assessments on the grounds that they are believed to be politically-motivated. "That's a new rule in the game and a very dangerous one. There is a sense that military experts are not being credited with professional judgment."

The fallout from the Shahor affair could include a series of mass firings or mass resignations in the army within the next few months, he said.

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FTA goes to Senate

[Cont'd. from page 1]

She told *The CJN* the deal "isn't that controversial. If we can trade with China, we can have free trade with Israel."

Prior to the bill's passage, Reform MP Keith Martin introduced a motion calling for deferring implementation of the deal as a way of "expressing displeasure" with the pace of the Netanyahu government's peace plans.

"It was intended to illustrate our wish for Mr. Netanyahu to take an approach more in line with Mr. Rabin and Mr. [Shimon] Peres, and with the Oslo accords. It was a clear statement that [Netanyahu's] policies are not looked upon favorably by Reform," Martin told *The CJN*.

The motion "was in no way against Israel but [a reflection] that we are extremely disturbed by events [that have taken place] since last May."

Martin said his motion had the support of his party. But it was defeated by the Liberal majority in the House, and moments later, it was Reform party whip Chuck Strahl who introduced the motion calling for the passage of Bill C-61.

The bill passed "on division," meaning there was no vote taken and that while some MPs had reservations, they weren't serious enough to delay passage.

Israel & the Jewish World

Soldiers wounded in security zone

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Three soldiers were wounded last Sunday – one seriously and two lightly – when their tank was hit by a Sagger missile in the same area of the security zone where a similar incident occurred last Saturday, in which Sgt. Erez Yitzhak was killed and three members of his tank crew were hurt.

Yitzhak, 19, was buried Sunday afternoon in the military cemetery of his hometown, Netanya. Hundreds of people attended the funeral.

While the service was taking place in Netanya, doctors and nurses at Haifa's Rambam Hospital and the Nahariya Government Hospital continued treating the injured. Rambam Hospital deputy director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said that the soldier wounded in the neck in Saturday's attack was still in serious condition and was in the intensive care unit of the neurosurgery department.

The second soldier wounded in Saturday's attack is being treated in the Nahariya hospital for light-to-moderate injuries. The third soldier was very lightly injured in the attack and received treatment in the field.

Ben-Ishai said Cpl. Yishai Ben-Eli, of Jerusalem, who was wounded Sunday, underwent prolonged surgery Sunday and was afterwards expected to be transferred to the orthopedic department. Ben-Ishai said his condition was serious, but stable.

The two other soldiers hurt in yesterday's incident - Lt. Barak Ronen, of Haifa, and Cpl. David Fahima, of Ashdod - both suffered light wounds. Fahima, despite suffering from smoke inhalation, managed to rescue Ben-Eli from the damaged tank.

President Ezer Weizman visited the wounded in Rambam and Nahariya hospitals Sunday.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for both attacks in a statement saying that the attacks were launched to mark memorial day for all the "martyrs" of the Islamic Resistance, Hezbollah's fighting arm.

IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners pounded Hezbollah targets in the Jabal Batzil region, in south Lebanon's western sector, where the shooting originated. Reports from Lebanon said virtually all 400 residents of Yatar, north of the zone, fled their homes. There were no reports of any civilian casualties.

A number of the small villages in the area, including Yatar and Kafra, are known to be Hezbollah strongholds. IDF and SLA gunners did not fire into the villages to avoid harming civilians.

Later, in the afternoon, IAF planes struck another Hezbollah stronghold - the Jabal Saffi region, in the eastern sector of south Lebanon.

The IDF spokesperson said the pilots reported accurate hits and all the planes returned safely to their bases.

Yesterday's incident occurred early in the morning while troops backed by armored vehicles were searching the area for the Hezbollah squads that carried out the attacks the previous day. Two Hezbollah squads were involved in Saturday's incident. One of the units approached within relatively close range of the Karkum post and opened fire with mortars and light weapons. A tank positioned alongside the outpost pulled out of the compound to return fire and was hit by a Sagger missile fired by the second squad from about three kilometres away.

Yitzhak was killed in the attack and his three comrades were wounded, including the tank commander who was blown out of the vehicle. He returned to the blazing tank, however, and directed operations to get it out of the line of fire and back to the position.

Troops were conducting searches in the Jabal Batzil area, not far from the Karkum position, when they came under mortar fire. At the same time, a Sagger missile scored a direct hit on the tank supporting the soldiers, wounding three members of its crew.

Both of the tanks that were hit were of the updated and reinforced Patton type, which are still in service in south Lebanon, though the more modern Merkava is considered to give better protection against anti-tank missiles.

Planes returned to bases

The Week in Israel

Nov. 4

• Israeli police called off their emergency deployment of security forces around Israeli cities but remained on alert for possible terrorist attacks.

• The headquarters building of the IDF general staff in Tel Aviv was named after Yitzhak Rabin.

Nov. 5

• The Israeli army and the Palestinian police renewed joint patrols in the West Bank for the first time since the violent clashes of last September when Palestinian police fired on Israeli security forces. The joint patrols were renewed in Jenin and Jericho.

Nov. 6

• A group of 16 Knesset members met representatives of the Palestinian legislative council in Ramallah, in the first meeting of an Israel-Palestinian friendship council aimed at organizing meetings between the two sides. Only two members of the group belonged to the government coalition.

• The state prosecutor decided to indict former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman for alleged obstruction of justice in the trial of Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri. Ne'eman is accused of interfering with the testimony of a witness.

Nov. 7

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu extended to President Bill Clinton his "warmest congratulations" on the latter's re-election.

• Four Arabs were slightly wounded after a bomb exploded outside an eastern Jerusalem branch office of the Israeli Interior Ministry.

Nov. 8

• Alex Eyal, formerly responsible for Israeli navy purchases in the United States, was questioned at National Fraud Squad headquarters in Jaffa, in connection with the investigation into alleged bribery and fraud in a purchase of U.S.-made helicopters by the IDF.

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Israel & the Jewish World

U.S. Conservative rabbi wants to convert non-Jews

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES – A leading Conservative rabbi has challenged American Jews to embark on a mission to convert unaffiliated Christians to Judaism.

The time has come, says Rabbi Harold Schulweis, for Jews to emulate the missionary practice of their ancient forebearers through "a national or international Jewish movement to educate, invite and embrace non-Jews into the fold."

The message is not new. Alexander Schindler, president emeritus of the Reform movement, advocated three years ago to offer Judaism to unchurched Christians.

But the stature of the new messenger has engendered renewed debate among Jewish and Christian theologians.

It also comes amid controversy over a Southern Baptist Convention resolution encouraging evangelizing of Jews.

Rabbi Schulweis cited the attraction of Judaism as a world religion, its ancient tradition of proselytizing and the argument that conversion of non-Jewish spouses in mixed marriages is the surest guarantor of producing children and grandchildren with strong Jewish identities.

Many non-Jews "hunger for an authentic, moving and relevant faith," Rabbi Schulweis said.

Orthodox and Conservative rabbis took issue with Rabbi Schulweis, saying that the Jews must first focus on the indifferent and unaffiliated in their own ranks before trying to attract non-Jews.

Rabbi Nachum Sauer, head of graduate Judaic studies at the Yeshiva of Los Angeles, said Jewish law requires that would-be converts be discouraged and "pushed away," rather than courted.

Conservative Rabbi William Lebeau, dean of the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, termed an active conversion outreach a complicated issue, widely discussed in Conservative circles.

Rabbi Lebeau said most Conservative leaders would favor meeting the religious and spiritual needs within the Jewish community first.

Rabbi Schulweis says the concept of Judaism as a missionary faith is deeply rooted in Jewish tradition and theology.

The prophet Isaiah declared that God had "created and appointed you a covenant people, a light for the nations," and the Talmud states that "God exiled the Jews from their homeland for one reason: to increase the number of converts," he said.

Jews were extremely active and successful proselytizers throughout the Roman Empire, until such activities were made a capital crime and forcibly suppressed when Christianity became the state religion.

Among those supporting Rabbi Schulweis is Rabbi David Wolpe, assistant to the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

"As the originators of monotheism, we have a lot to say to the world," said Rabbi Wolpe, whose latest book appropriately bears the title, *Why Be Jewish?*

"People increasingly see [conversionary outreach] as a worthy mission, especially when you see how much thoughtfulness and devotion has been brought to Judaism by those who have converted," he added.

Addressing the "lack of resources" argument, Rabbi Wolpe said, "The more you expand the Jewish base, the more you expand the resources."

Conversions may have the biggest impact in mixed marriages. When a non-Jewish spouse does not convert, the couple's children are almost sure to marry non-Jews, assuring assimilation in a couple of generations, according to surveys.

In contrast, when the gentile spouse converts, those marriages score higher in almost every aspect of Jewish identity and religious practice than couples made up of two people who were born Jews, says Rabbi Schulweis.

But Steven Bayme, director of the American Jewish Committee's Jewish communal affairs department, says he doubts that conversionary outreach will have any effect on communal demographics.

Only one of every 14 non-Jews in mixed marriages becomes a convert, said Bayme.

One reason for this phenomenon, he said, may be that mixed marriages, with both spouses retaining their original religions, are now so common and accepted that there is no pressure on either side to convert.

Rabbi Schulweis warns against seeking converts for the sake of replacing demographic losses.

"Those who come to us must not be seen as surrogates of our Holocaustal losses or as replacements for those who have left us. They must not be used as means to ends, but as ends in themselves," Rabbi Schulweis says.

He is not too sanguine that this advice will be heeded.

Chirac reassures French Jews

BY LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS – French Jewish leaders emerged from a meeting with President Jacques Chirac with reassurances that Franco-Israeli relations were on a positive track.

The leaders requested last week's meeting to voice their concerns that Chirac's Middle East tour in late October had created a chill between France and Israel.

Chirac, who took a pro-Arab stance during his trip, called for the creation of a Palestinian state and said that Israel should return the Golan Heights to Syria, positions that have been rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The trip upset French Jews, who feared a repeat of the tense period in Franco-Israeli relations after President Charles de Gaulle imposed an anti-Israeli embargo after the 1967 Six Day War.

Jean Kahn, president of the Consisitoire, which tends to the religious needs of French Jews, quoted Chirac as telling the Jewish officials that he considered Netanyahu a "true personal friend."

Kahn said the French leader pledged that his "friendship for Israel would continue to exist."

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Organ transplants considered a mitzvah

'Pikuach nefesh takes precedence'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Contrary to what many Jews believe, organ transplants are not just permitted according to Jewish law, but are considered a mitzvah.

The controversy arises, explained Rabbi Howard Sacknowitz and Dr. Bernard Goldman, with the rabbinical definition of death.

Rabbi Sacknowitz, guidance counsellor at CHAT and a frequent speaker on the subject of transplants, and Goldman, chief of cardiac surgery at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, were speaking to a public health forum organized by Baycrest Centre's Women's Auxiliary.

While all accept the notion of brain death, there is controversy about whether that constitutes complete cessation of brain activity, which means that body functions are completely shut down as well, or brain stem death, in which, they explained, respiration continues.

The difference is that in the first situation, the organs will be too damaged to be used for transplantation.

Rabbi Sacknowitz explained that while Jews are not permitted to mutilate a dead body, to derive benefit from it, or to refrain from burying the whole body, the rabbis have decided that the mitzvah of *pikuach nefesh*, saving a life, takes precedence over all three injunctions.

While donor cards are considered acceptable religiously, the rabbi said, care should be taken to involve a rabbi, since there are halachic aspects to how organs should be removed.

"The Halachah has not changed," Rabbi Sacknowitz insisted. "It is just that medicine has developed the technology and knowledge to save lives. That is what has changed."

"During the 1970s," Goldman said, "patients receiving heart transplants didn't do so well, and so fewer and fewer were done."

Then, in 1980, cyclosporine, a drug originally developed as an anti-fungal agent, was found to be effective in preventing organ rejection.

"Now, we are the victim of our success," Goldman said, noting that, for instance, there can be a five-year waiting list for heart transplants.

There are many ethical issues involved in transplants, Goldman said. "With greater success because of better matching, surgery and preservation techniques, the resources needed increase tremendously and money is diverted from less dramatic causes, such as drug education and highway safety.

Loma Linda Medical Centre in the United States was using organs from babies born without brains, he said, "but there was such an outcry, that that line of research was stopped."

Similarly, Goldman said, fetal tissue appears to be helpful in treating Parkinson's disease – but that comes from aborted fetuses.

There are other ethical issues surrounding transplants, he said, citing as examples protecting unwilling family members from undue pressure to donate organs, and deciding who gets priority for this treatment at a time of fiscal restraint.

During an emotional question period, several people who are waiting for transplants urged members of the audience to sign donor cards and urged rabbis to give sermons encouraging this practice.

Solly Fox, who received a heart transplant 14 months ago, told of his experiences while waiting for the transplant, and the relief at being able to breathe easily after it was done.

The evening was moderated by Rabbi Nachum Berlat, director of pastoral care at Baycrest.

Drug shows promising results

NEW YORK — The new drug Doxil, approved earlier this year for the treatment of Kaposi Sarcoma for AIDS patients, is showing promising results for other cancers.

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Winter Fashion

Beauty SHOP

By CAROL WISE

What's New for Winter

The color purple says winter in the city. A multitude of shades for your eyes, lips and cheeks. It's exciting, fun and there is something for everyone.

Blend soft shades of mauve on your eyelids, dust a hint of purple blush on your cheeks and color your lips with the softest shade of mauve or the most vivid shade of violet. Have fun and step into a fashion-forward mode.

Keeping your skin looking soft and radiant can be a difficult task during the winter months. Cold winds and heating vents definitely play havoc with the texture and color tone of your skin. Its important to replace the lost moisture by treating yourself to a treatment cream at least once a week and use a nourishing day, night and eye cream daily. Don't forget about your lips. Dry cracked lips can be uncomfortable and unsightly.

Carol's Tips

Skin care is clearly more time consuming during the winter months, but, certainly worth the effort. A skin analysis will help you choose the right cleansing and moisturizing creams for your individual skin type.

Treat your skin with Lift Serum Extreme from Chanel, this breakthrough formula has been designed to improve the density of your skin and correct and smooth the appearance of all wrinkles, however deep. This fabulous cream is packaged in an "airless" bottle that delivers a pre-measured dosage that is perfect every time.

Vichy brings us Thermal S1 (a light cream for normal to dry skin) and Thermal S2 (a rich cream for very dry skin). Both these creams contain thermal spa water which is an active form of water that has a soothing effect and a unique power to revive enzyme activity. It enables the skin to regain its own hydration cycle while becoming soft, supple and radiant.

Lancome's Primordiale Yeux, Visibly Revitalizing Eye Treatment, is a luxurious creme-gel that insulates the fragile eye area from premature aging factors. The spectacular results are credited to the original active ingredient transport system: the Nanocapsule containing pure vitamin E.

Foundation literally smoothes out your skin tones, making it look soft and silky while protecting it from the environment. Be sure to use cover-creme under your eyes to camouflage dark circles. This season full coverage or simply sheer is your choice, both are current.

Clinique brings us New City Base that is good for any skin type, even oily skin during the winter months. It is an oil free, soft matte, creme-to-powder foundation, designed for extra long-wearing with an SPF 15 for sunscreen protection. Available at all counters January 1997.

Excellent coverage can be obtained with Derma Blend concealer and compact cover creme. These products are waterproof, non-greasy and easy to apply. Dust your face with Derma Blend setting powder for a long lasting effect.

Blush this winter is refined and elegant. Dust colors of plum, violet or soft mauve high on your cheekbones to give you an added lift.

Chanel brings us the perfect travel brush collection. It includes four all-natural hair brushes for all your needs. The brushes are enveloped in a gorgeous black quilted casing that is small enough to fit in almost any purse.

Estee Lauder gently colors cheeks with the lightest sweep in three new colors: Violette Dream, Tawny Desire or Port Passion.

Eyes are colorful with every shade of purple. There is a plethora of shades available, from purple popsicle to the softest lilac. If purple tones are just not for you, browns still work. Choose rich hues of coffee and taupe. Colors that work are deep and bold. Enhance your eyes with soft kohl pencils. Smudge for a smoky effect.

Clinique's new Shadowliner is easy to apply and has its own blending nib to give you a soft, sultry look. It comes in six fabulous new shades.

The Purple Reigns palette from Estee Lauder offers four gorgeous new eye shadows ranging from subtle beige neutrals, to smoky, sexy heathers.

Lips are intense and creamy looking. Colors are warm and natural. Shades range from soft mauve to deep hues of wine and plum. Browns are still great, for a twist, outline your lips with a plum pencil and use a brown lipstick and visa-versa. For best mouth effects keep your lips moist and soft. Use a lip treatment daily.

If your lips are really weather burned, try Elizabeth Arden's Eight Hour Cream. This cream will help heal any mild irritation and can be used on your face, lips or hands.

Lipstick feathering is no laughing matter. LipZone Anti-Feathering Complex, from Estee Lauder, not only diminishes the appearance of lines around the mouth, but, acts a barrier around the lips to stop feathering instantly.

Hair this season is slim, sleek and shiny, says hair designer Daniel Fiorio. Winter months seem to be the most stressful time of the year. Fiorio says many women complain about hair loss and lack of shine and lustre. He believes this is due to stress. The designer suggests deep breathing and setting aside at least 15 minutes a day for relaxation.

Lundstrom designs by inspiration

By CAROL WISE
Special to The CJN

Designer Linda Lundstrom has long been considered a master of classic yet comfortable styling.

"For years I've been telling women why wait until you get home to put on your comfortable clothes when you can wear them all day long," she explains.

Lundstrom's collections have always offered a wide range of comfortable, casual styles that are suitable for the workplace. She also incorporates a patented instant alteration feature in her clothing and uses machine washable fabrics. Her knitwear is made of a special yarn called piltrol which resists pilling.

I recently spoke to Lundstrom about her unique fashion ideas.

Q. Your stores are known as "one stop shopping," how so?

A. Our stores are fully stocked with a family of products that will answer your every need — and even your every whim. As a busy career woman, wife and mother of two, I certainly do not have the time to shop. I'd much rather spend my personal time with my family. I know I'm not alone in this way of thinking so we've put it all in one place and called it "one-stop shopping."

Q. How do you see fashion in the workplace changing?

A. Women are finding out that they don't need to dress like men to be taken seriously. Women have a lot to celebrate, a lot to express and one of the easiest ways to do this is to make a lasting impression. Clothing should represent your individual choice, confidence in your convictions and pride in who you are.

Q. What inspired you to design your signature "La Parka" coat?

A. "Inspired is exactly the right word because that's exactly what La Parka is — an inspiration. About 10 years ago I had a vision, I know this might sound a bit ec-

[Cont'd. on Page 35]

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Winter Fashion

The tie: is it useless or a signature accessory?

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN
Special to the CJN

At a recent dinner party, I was introduced to someone who had been described as an intelligent, assertive, "with-it" type of guy – the promising newest addition to my friend's law practice.

After the introductions were made, my eyes became locked with those of Bugs Bunny somewhere in the middle of this man's chest. Now I'm quite sure my attention was diverted for a mere few seconds, but by the time I looked up to see this man's face, I had already put him on the liability side of my balance sheet.

Sometimes referred to as "that useless piece of material" around a man's neck, a tie is often a man's signature piece of clothing, the one with which he can express his individuality in his otherwise routine professional dress.

Tie choices tell us where a man places himself socially, in business and politically – even if he wishes to be noticed or simply to blend in with the crowd. Carefully chosen neckwear is, therefore, important in creating a first impression. In this case, Bugs was screaming: "Fashion faux pas, Doc!" And I heard it loud and clear.

Ties have the ability to cordon off certain men into the VIP (very impressively picked) neckwear group or keep them bound together indefinitely in the purgatory of "the tastefully challenged."

As well as tasteful and interesting, ties should be in balance with a man's build. Large men need boldness in pattern, knot and tie width. Slightly built men should avoid exceptionally large patterns, but not be intimated into the mini-stripes or solids routine. My favorites are endangered species, unusual scenes and interesting faces. I think these look great on just about everyone.

Silk ties seem to hold their shape best. Try to avoid wide gaps between the tie knot and the apex of the shirt collar, which can give the impression of novice, not to be confused with the intentional "I loosened my tie" look, which I, personally, find very appealing.

What do women generally think about ties? Are they euphemistically used as symbols of masculinity — another way for men to publicly strut their stuff? Well, what can I say, except when I see one hanging just right, firmly knotted and slightly arched — I definitely take a second look.

Tying One On...

1. Unless you are a pediatrician or children's performer, avoid wearing cartoon characters or superheroes around your neck. (You just might attract the underage crowd.)

2. Make a statement — tie a thicker knot. This involves a series of strategic manoeuvres; the technique is best acquired by attending a demonstration at your local men's clothier.

3. Never wear pre-matched tie and handkerchief sets; it looks like your mother dressed you...Unless, of course, I happen to be your mother!

Phyllis Feldman is an image consultant at Face to Face Image Consulting 905-737-7960.

Linda Lundstrom

An inspirational designer

[Cont'd. from Page 34]

centric, but I actually saw a silhouette walking across a horizon, a flowing garment in soft, pastel color that picked up the hues of the sunset. From that first moment I envisioned the coat in my mind.

Q. What about travel, do you have any special tips?

A. I start by bringing only one carry-on suitcase. I design a line called "Sun Goddess Gear" that is perfect for this type of packing because the fabrics, such as voile, are completely crushable, lightweight and will not wrinkle. I roll all my garments up (leaving them on the hangers) and when I arrive I just have to hang them up.

Q. How does a woman who doesn't have a perfect figure choose a dress?

A. Ah, the perfect figure dilemma! First of all, who defines the perfect figure? Probably the same guy who designed six-inch stiletto heels! I feel strongly that real women have real curves. Period. So, working within this definition, I set out to design clothing that women of all sizes can enjoy. Our sizes range from a petite 3L or from size 2 to 24.

[Linda Lundstrom's newest location is at the Bayview Village Mall.]

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TAB news

Travel Arts & Business

Theresa Tova musical a masterful work of art

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The musical *Still the Night* is not just a Holocaust story. It is a story about the strength of women's relationships.

Starring Theresa Tova and Liza Balkan, the play follows the lives of two Jewish girls from their prepubescent years in World War II Poland to their lives roughly 20 years later in Canada and Israel.

Tova, who also wrote the script, opens the play as Bryna, a cynical middle-aged survivor and mother of a young woman, Tybele, also played by Tova. The actor bounces back and forth between two characters and accents with such ease that there seem to be two separate characters on the stage.

The story of Bryna's wartime struggle unfolds through her memories and flashbacks, and Tova gives further evidence of her talent by also playing Bryna as a young girl in the war.

Balkan plays Little Bryna, Bryna's cousin named after the same grandmother. During the war, the two girls had hidden and run away together and the dynamics between the aggressive Bryna and passive Little Bryna are real. Both Balkan and Tova successfully convey the tenderness and impatience the characters feel for one another.

Advertised as a music play, *Still the Night* features traditional Yiddish folk songs, American theatre tunes and original works written by Tova and John Alcorn. Tova and Balkan have rich voices, which convey both the melancholy tones of the lullabies and the more jazzy, upbeat theatre numbers. They use simple harmonies, letting the music and the words carry the emotions of the songs.

Tova and Balkan are accompanied by a trio of violin, piano and percussion, played by Anne Lederman, David Restivo and David Tomlinson respectively. The music, while subtle, complements the actors' emotions.

The multilevel stage, set like a jungle gym with ladders and box-like compartments, proves practical for presenting the many different settings the girls found themselves in during the war.

Theresa Tova (left) and Liza Balkan star in Still the Night.

While at times confusing because of the constant switch in time frame, the play succeeds as a survivior's story being passed down from generation to generation.

The scenes between Bryna and her daughter are at times hilarious, at times heart wrenching, as Tybele struggles to understand her mother's pain. Their relationship is dynamic and Tybele's patience is endearing as she unconditionally cares for her mother.

But the heart of the play lies in the relationship between Bryna and Little Bryna. Tova and Balkan have a chemistry like the one often found in adolescent sisters.

Forced to grow up before their time, the two characters handle their trauma within the limits of their youthful ignorance. The complexities of the Holocaust are brought to a basic level that clearly shows the devastating effect of loss of childhood.

This play's strength lies in its ability to have sentiment without being sentimental. Tova has produced a masterful piece of art, managing to tell a wealth of stories in just two hours. She has preserved the belief in human strength and the importance of care during all times of struggle.

Still the Night continues at Théâtre Passe Muraille through to Nov. 24.

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TAB news

Peace offers opportunities

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The Middle East peace process, in spite of and even because of attendant difficulties, still offers prime opportunities for Canadian businesses, according to a panel of four Israeli experts on business and industry.

With the approach of the scheduled implementation date of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (Jan. 1, 1997), new opportunities for international joint ventures are opening, said Yael Varsano-Barzilay, Israel's consul for economic affairs to Canada, at a recent media roundtable panel on Israeli business and industry hosted by the Israel Economic Mission to Canada at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Varsano-Barzilay chaired the session, which featured speakers Dan Propper, president of the Manufacturers' Association of Israel and managing director and CEO of the Osem Group of Companies; Dan Gillerman, chair of the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce; Joseph Vardi, special adviser to Israel's minister of foreign affairs and minster of finance for the peace process and regional economic development; and Raffi Sadeh, vice-president of the Israeli Hotel Association.

The four panelists had been brought in by State of Israel Bonds to speak at another panel the previous day.

"There is a very major role to be played by foreign companies, not only because financially or technology-wise we cannot do it on our own, but because of the animosity, suspicions and hatred that have been part of our coexistence for so many years. I think most projects will not be bilateral and will need a foreign or international sponsor or facilitator," said Gillerman.

"For a project to be viable, it should be led, facilitated and packaged by an international company. That's where Canadian companies with expertise can become the major shareholders and the leaders in many of these projects. You'll be part of making peace in a volatile area and at the same time making money."

Vardi encouraged Canadians to invest, not only in Israel, but also in Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority because "peace-seeking people in these countries are entitled to see that peace carries dividends and that the Western world is interested in what's going on."

Cooperation within the Middle East, combining Israel's technical know-how with the employment needs of neighboring countries, could help "cement the peace process," Propper said.

"You need vision to see the fruit of peace. The first ones to be there will be the best ones to enjoy it."

There will be a real need for foreign investment to fund $50 billion (US) worth of projects, both local and regional, in areas such as tourism and telecommunications, over the next decade, said Gillerman.

Tourism has almost doubled in the last decade, from 1.4 million visitors in 1985 to 2.5 million in 1995, noted Sadeh. Although there was a decline earlier this year, the situation is stabilizing now, he said.

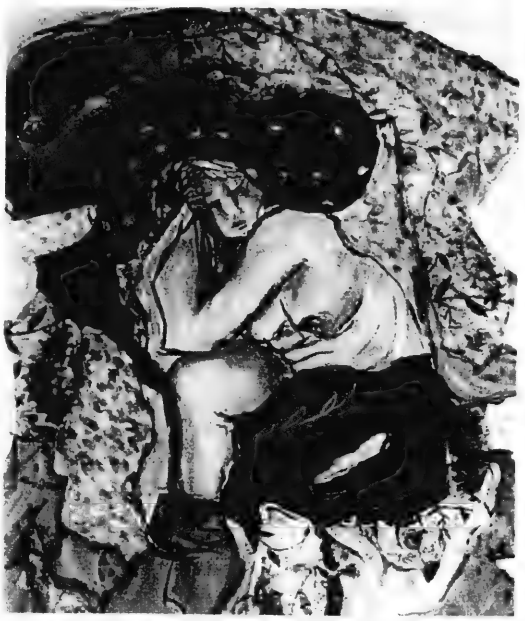
Tourism is expected to grow at a yearly rate of 10 percent until the year 2000, and another 5 percent a year until 2010, he added, noting that the projections are considered "realistic" rather than optimistic.

Plans are in the works for 10,000 new hotel rooms in Jerusalem, 1,500 in Tel Aviv, and 3,000 in Eilat over the next few years, he said.

A widespread privatization plan for 1997 will affect the Israeli banking, airline and telecommunications industries, among others, Gillerman noted.

Among the major Canadian

{Cont'd. on Page 38}



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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Upcoming Events

Music & Drama

• **Lenka Lichtenberg**, mezzo-soprano and ethnomusicologist, performs *Spiritual Resistance: Music of the Holocaust*, songs of courage, defiance and strength in Yiddish, English and Czech, accompanied by Michael Khinkis. Nov. 17, 2:30 p.m. Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St., North York. 416-636-6665.

• *The Wedding Project* (a *chassene*), written and performed by **Allan Merovitz**, recreates a traditional East European Jewish wedding with a modern twist. Merovitz leads the festivities, offering here a folk tune, there some folk wisdom, and recruiting audience members to play glowing brides, hapless grooms, weeping aunts and so on. With clarinetist **Martin Van de Ven** and accordionist **Alexandr (Sasha) Luminsky**.

Like any good Jewish wedding, it will be have food and drink galore and plenty of music and dancing. Three performances only. Adults $10. Nov. 15 at 8 p.m., Nov. 17 at 4 and 8 p.m. Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. North York.

Play Openings

• Factory Theatre presents *Reading Hebron*, by **Jason Sherman**, "a comedic quest for truth." Disputing Israel's official explanation that **Baruch Goldstein** acted alone, Torontonian **Nathan Abromovitz** conducts his own investigation into the Hebron massacre. **Brian Quirt** directs. Previews Nov. 15 to 19, runs Nov. 20 to Dec. 8. $17 & $22.50; Sunday matinees $10. 416-504-9971.

• Tribal Productions Inc. presents **Neil Simon's** semi-autobiographical play *Jake's Women*, Nov. 13 to 30 8p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Sundays. Adults $15. 142 George St. Toronto. 416-489-7217.

• The Holy Blossom Temple's Stagecraft Company presents *Crossing Delancey*, by **Susan Sandler** Nov. 21, 23 & 24 7:30 p.m. Holy Blossom Eisendrath Auditorium. (Bathurst Street, south of Eglinton.) Tickets $12 in advance, $14 at the door. 416-789-3291, ext 511.

Classical Concerts

• **Alexander Tselyakov,** acclaimed concert pianist, plays Bach, Chopin, Prokofiev, Brahms and Liszt at the North York Central Library Auditorium, 5120 Yonge St. Nov. 17, 2:30 p.m. $12-$16. 416-636-8498.

• **Aviva Aranovich,** young Israeli pianist, makes her Toronto debut Nov. 14 1:30 p.m. in Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Building, 80 Queen's Park. $22. Presented by Women's Musical Club of Toronto. 416-487-3697.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• Friends of Yiddish presents **Selma Sage** in *The Life & times of Sholem Asch*. Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. Earl Bales Community Centre. Non-members, $5.

• Friends of Yiddish offers an Introduction to Five Montreal Yiddish Writers, starting with Ryerson Prof. **Adam Fuerstenberg**, discussing Yudica: Her Life & Poetry, Nov. 24, 3rd floor staff lounge, Lipa Green Building., 4600 Bathurst St. Breakfast 10 a.m., lecture 10:30. At later days, **Shari Friedman, Gerry Kane, Henie Reinhartz & Ellie Moidel** discuss, respectively, J.J. Segal, Meylekh Ravitch, Rokhl Korn & Moyshe Shafir. Registration $35. FOY members only.

News & Reviews

Jewish Choirs

• *Keeping the Flame Alive*, a 40-minute video documentary uses contemporary and archival footage to recount the colorful history of the 70-year-old Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, from its early days on Spadina Avenue to a recent concert with the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.**

Produced by Nova Productions' **Alan Collins**, the video pays homage to the late conductor **Emil Gartner**, who brought the choir to its zenith with a performance with Paul Robeson at Massey Hall in 1949. It also shows the present-day choir singing under the sensitive baton of conductor **Milton Barnes.** Available from School Services of Canada, 416-703-0900.

• **The Shalom Singers**, formerly the JCC Singers, are celebrating 15 years of making music. Under the direction of **Esther Ghan-Firestone** and choir president **Dolly Brown**, the choir has won numerous awards and performs regularly in festivals, hospitals and homes for seniors.

The choir has more than 40 members who meet Thursdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. New members welcome. Dolly, 416-636-9468.

Competitions & Prizes

• Submissions are invited to the province's tenth Trillium Book Awards, which recognizes writing excellence in English and French with a $12,000 prize in each category and a $2,500 prize to each publisher. Deadline Dec.13. Jim Polk, 416-314-7745.

• Deadline for entries in the Hot Docs! '97 National Documentary Film Awards is Dec. 30. CIFC, 344 Dupont St., Suite 206, Toronto M5R 2V9. 416-975-3977.

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Peace talks open the door for investments

[Cont'd. from page 37]

companies already involved in Israel are Newbridge of Canada, which together with Tadiran Telecom has been awarded a tender by Bezeq; Northern Telecom, which purchased 20 percent of Telrad's shares for $45 million US; and the Canada Highway International Corporation, which is bidding for the first portion of a cross-Israel highway, said Varsano-Barzilay.

Israel's GDP of close to $90 billion US exceeds that of all neighboring countries put together, said Propper. The country's growth in both private consumption and industrial exports in recent years is due to the peace process, which opened doors to the Far East, as well as massive immigration from the former Soviet Union, he added.

Despite the influx, unemployment fell to 6.5 percent after an initial rise, Propper said.

Although the country has a relatively small population, Gillerman said it is a large market because of its dearth of natural resources.

Important industries in Israel today include the computer field and the chemical industry, as well as the more traditional food and clothing industries, Propper said.

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St. John's Brand hopes for call up to NHL

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Aaron Brand grew up in Toronto watching Maple Leafs hockey on TV, so it shouldn't come as much of a surprise that in addition to being a Leafs fan, he's adopted many of the codewords and cliches of today's young hockey player.

"I just have to prove myself in St. John's, play good and put up some good stats," he said in a telephone interview from his new home in Newfoundland. "You never know if you'll get a call back."

At 21, Brand is optimistic that he'll impress the Maple Leafs, parent club of the American League's St. John's Maple Leafs, and get a call up to the NHL.

If he does, it could be historic — at least as far as Jewish athletes are concerned. It will probably mark the first time ever that two Jewish skaters have laced 'em up for the Maple Leafs — perhaps the first time ever that one NHL team had two Jews on the roster.

Although Brand is conscious of his Jewish heritage and he admires Leafs' defenceman Mathieu Schneider for his open pride in being Jewish, his concerns right now are more immediate — scoring goals, setting up plays and impressing the Leafs' brass.

Leafs management believes Brand has what it takes to make it to the big league, and they're willing to give him two years to prove them right. Assistant general manager Bill Watters says Brand has that length of time to show he can step it up to the next level. If not, at the tender age of 23, he'll likely be cast adrift as the Buds try to develop other prospects.

But so far, Watters likes what he sees. "Aaron's played particularly well in four of the last five games," he said recently. "He's come on and we're pleased. He's got to continue his learning curve."

The Leafs value Brand's offensive creativity, his work ethic, his ability to take faceoffs and his versatility in being able to play centre or wing, Watters said. "He's a talented hockey player" who should continue to develop if he get lots of ice time, he added.

Last year at 20, an age when many junior players have already been selected by NHL clubs, Brand was undrafted and unsigned. As an overage junior, he attracted the notice of Leafs' scouts thanks to the impressive numbers he put up in the Ontario Hockey League.

Playing for the Sarnia Sting, the six-foot, 190-lb. centre led the league in scoring with 46 goals and 73 assists in 66 games. Midway through the season, he was joined by David Nemirovsky, a Florida prospect who played nine games in the NHL last season before being returned to junior.

The two used to kibbitz about their Jewish backgrounds, aware of how rare it was for two Jewish Torontonians to play on the same major junior hockey club.

Although their paths have diverged, both are now one step below the NHL. Nemirovsky is playing for the Panthers' affiliate, the Carolina Monarchs. (His brother, Mikhail, is playing for the IHL's Fort Wayne Komets after spending last year with Flint Generals of the Colonial Hockey League.)

After being signed last March as a free agent, Brand admits he was "ecstatic." As a Toronto native, the possibility of playing for the Leafs "was a dream come true."

Brand participated in the team's main training camp "so I got to play with Wendel [Clark], [Matts] Sundin and Dougie [Gilmour]. I got the chance to compare myself to the big boys."

Playing on one of four teams in an intrasquad training camp tournament, Brand averaged about one point per game. He also played in games versus other teams' rookies.

When he was sent down to St. John's, he resolved to improve his game and get himself noticed. Although the lines get juggled, early in the season he was teamed with Jason Cipolla and Shayne Toporowski. In five games, he scored two goals and added two assists.

In addition to adjusting to professional hockey, Brand's had to make other adjustments as well. In junior, he was billetted with a family in Sarnia but on "The Rock," he's living with teammates Doug Bonner (a goalie) and defenceman Yannick Tremblay. "Yannick's out best cooker," Brand says, though it's more likely he'll get called up by the Leafs than by Bistro 990.

When he's not helping clean up the house, Brand is at the rink for five hours a day, practising and working out.

His parents are behind him 100 percent as he pursues his dream of an NHL career. Although both his parents are American-born — his father, Allan, is from Brooklyn, N.Y., while his mother, Merrilee, is from East Lansing, Mich. — both adjusted to life as Canadian hockey parents.

Allan Brand serves as *shammas* at the Beaches Hebrew Institute and Aaron grew up attending Sunday classes there as well as being bar mitzvahed at the shul. His mother teaches ESL workshops and he has two sisters, Micaela and Naomi.

His father "is always the first to point out there's a Jewish guy in some sport, so he wants me to be proud of that," Aaron said.

While he works hard to get to the NHL and give his father some special pride, Brand continues to hone his craft and patiently wait.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I don't know if I should go for training to help me in my next job. What do you think?

Dear Reader,

You should always aim to be as highly trained as possible in whatever line of work you do. Employers usually like their employees to stay current in their skills.

If you have lost your job, training may be useful. Today most jobs require computer competence. You should know a word processing package like WordPerfect or Works, a spreadsheet program and a database program. Learning a graphics program may be useful if you think you could be producing fancy reports or brochures. In addition, many companies ask for the ability to use e-mail and the Internet.

Before you start any course, check to see which programs are most popular in your line of work. Read Help Wanted ads in the newspaper. Speak to your colleagues and co-workers and listen to their opinions. You may even try to contact graduates from the program to which you want to apply and see how they are using their new skills

Courses are available at community colleges, community centres, libraries and high schools. Before you sign up for a course, find out how much time is spent studying about the programs and how much time is spent on a computer practising what you are learning. Also, make sure the equipment you will use is recent – you don't want to learn on outdated equipment that you'll never see in a workplace.

Other courses to consider include time management, stress management, communication, conflict resolution and goal setting. Learning these skills will make you feel better about yourself and will keep you in a positive frame of mind. They'll also offer opportunities for you to network. The Learning Annex in Toronto is one place to look for these types of courses. Other locations to check include hotels, convention centres and libraries.

Many skills can be developed through volunteer work. Opportunities exist in different areas and you may develop a wide variety of skills including leadership skills, customer service skills or public speaking skills. Contact the Volunteer Centre in your community.

Many jobs that have become common today were not around 10 years ago. So it's important to stay on top of the trends in preparation for what you might find yourself doing 10 years from now.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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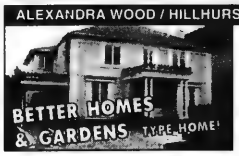

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Charming 3 + 2 bdrms. on 62 ft. lot, new kit., new vinyl windows, fin. basement. Only $269,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!

4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, dream kit., stone fireplace. An architectural masterpiece — MUST SEE! Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION BUILDERS! LOTS FOR SALE
AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN
• 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.
• 50 x 134 foot, only $369,000.

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES – NEW LISTING!

CHOICE OF 2 UNITS
1. Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $209,000.
2. 2 bdrm., approx. 1,100 sq. ft., mint, freshly painted, only $162,900. **Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.**

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

FAYWOOD / SHEPPARD – MAKE AN OFFER!
Detached bungalow on 50x159 ft. lot. Quiet street, close to all amenities, only $204,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – HOME RENTAL – REDUCED!
Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., gorgeous 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rooms, finished basement, reduced to $1795 / month. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – HOT LOCATION, HOT PRICE!

Renovated 4 bdrm. 2 storey, new windows, upgraded mechanical & heating, a must see at only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

2 ACRES OF BREATHTAKING RAVINE
Exquisite custom finest finishings. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FOREST HILL LW. VILL. JUST REDUCED!
Totally reno'd. 5 bdrms. Mn. flr. den & fam. rm. E. Lewis* 488-2875

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ARMOUR HEIGHTS RARITY $499,000
Very spacious, ensuite, family rm + pool. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN AREA
Custom built! 3 bdrm, 2-stry, fin. bsmt. Y. W. Viner * 226-1987

CEDARVALE TUDOR! $339,000!!!
Wonderful family home! Richard Pizale* 488-2875

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Incredibly renovated! ...ms! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

ARMOUR HTS. 6 RMS 51x157 $299,800
New roof + furn + CAC fin/bsmt. Goldie Kay* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/EGL SOLD $279K 25'x198'
3 bdrm + fin lower level. L... garage. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

YONGE/EGLINTON — JUST REDUCED!
Totally reno'd 3 bdrm semi. J. Wagman**/F. Sversky** 488-2875

DON M SOLD WRENCE
Lovely 3 bdrm townhome, ...bdrms. F. Sversky** 488-2875

OFFICE SPACE— MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON
Freestanding bldg w/7 car parking. F. Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

36 THE BRIDLE PATH — LISTED & SOLD
3 bdrm bungalow!! Call Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/STEELES, 142'x250' PRIVACY
Cus. bungalow, 4 br+fin lower. O. Guvenal*/D. Maglietta * 226-1987

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Custom home to be built. 110'x200'. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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6 top quality custom homes by Destiny Rose. F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW GLEN, PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION
2 storey, 4 br+fin. lower. Double gar. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

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Magnificent 4095 sq. ft. home. J. Gofman*/F. Sversky** 488-2875

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3 br on cres near park! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK — SOUTHWEST EXP! 2200 SQ. FT.
$379,000 2 bd, 3 baths done! J. Bleiweis* 226-1987

YONGE/FINCH CORNER PENTHOUSE 2+1
Steps to subway, Tandem Park, security. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Clark & Centre, 1800 sq. ft., backing onto park, TTC, Mall, comm. centre, library, synagogue, Hebrew school. $252,500. 905-889-9301.

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Bevshire Circle, 5 bdrms., beautifully decorated. No Agents. 416-540-9271.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
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Power of Sale - $208,900. Potential for 4 units. Danforth/Birchmount., Must Sell!

Bath. Manor - $289,000. Lg. triplex. 2-3 bd., 1-1 bd. Gd. income.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

We love it here at **Bath./Clark,** but 3 bdrms. is getting too small for our growing family. Our home is spotless & bright, and the white kitchen gleans. Our lot is extra deep so the kids can run around while we relax on the large cedar deck. We invite you to call & arrange a visit. Claire or Howard, 416-743-1908 days, or 905-881-0340, evgs.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Lawr., 4 bdrm. bungalow, in-law suite, close to shuls, heat pump & a/c, appl's. 783-4005.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR RENT

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST
STEELES

CONDOS
JUST LISTED
2 BR, 1173' - $165,000
2 BR, 1173' - $163,000

JUST SOLDS
PRIMROSE
1131 Steeles W., #507

HEMISPHERES
133 Torresdale, #1208

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Paul Hegarty
NORMAN HILL REALTY INC.
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CLASSIC: Unique open concept 2 br. + balc. 2,325 sq. ft.

ELEGANCE: One of a kind. 1,889 sq. ft. - 2 br. + fam. Don't wait.

SKYMARK II: Estate sale. Corner 2 br. + fam. Approx. 1,700 sq. ft., 2 1/2 baths.

ZENITH: 2 br. or 2 br. + fam., 2 baths & sun. Priced well.

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(24 hrs.)

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Luxury Condo
"PRIMROSE II"

Bathurst/Steeles - 2+1 bdrm. condo, approx 1260 sq. ft. Marble foyer, mirrored closet drs, ensuite laundry & storage, upgraded broadloom, ceramic floors in kitchen & baths, 24 hr sec. Steps to all amenities. Move in condition. A MUST SEE!!

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2 BEAUTIFUL CORNER UNITS!

*2 bdrm + den, lrge white kit. 2 w/o balc. model rarely available! 1400 sq. ft. $218,000

*1 bdrm + den - 3 w/o balc. Fab. view! $169,900

*Estate SOLD bdrm + 2 bath $17...

All 3 units include 2 prk + locker + appls.

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BATHURST & CLARK

*$158,800 PH, 2 bdrm, 5 appl.

*Torresdale $171,900, 2 bdrm + sol., 5 appl.

*Luxury Bldgs., Sec, pkg.

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500 Glencairn Ave. 1-2 Bdrm + Den, Over 1380 Sq Ft, Security, Marble Entrance, Shabat Elev. From $139,000 to $164,000.

Glencairn W. Subway - Choice of 1-2-3 Bdrms, Fab View, Pool, Sauna, Shabat Elev. From $94,000 to $139,000.

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$129,900 Spacious 1 bdrm + sol. Eat-in kit hdwd flrs. 5 appls. 24 hr security. Pkng. Locker. Vacant!
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40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

BATHURST/ANTIBES
Lux. 1-bdrm condo. Large balcony, magnificent view. Only $96,900.
TRANSWORLD 100% Inc.
Leyla Kansun
(905) 881-5551

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

CONDO OWNERS
Urgently needed 3 Bed. unit on Antibes Dr.
Rima Yev – Re/Max Realtron
(905) 764-6000

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles, 3 bdrm. house, your own bdrm., nr. TTC, prefer female, minimal babysitting. $400./mo.+. 481-3323 or 650-0082.

Bath./Lawr., elderly widow wishes to share 2 bdrm. condo. with kind female, in exchange for light housekeeping & companionship. Must be avail. every evening. Ideal for someone with day job. Refs., 789-2991.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST
Bathurst & Steeles

RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS
REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS

Call for appointment
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BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Aventura, 2 bdrm., 2 bath,CAC, overlooks pool & golf course. Minutes from beach & Aventura Mall. 416-733-9767.

HALLANDALE, on the ocean, spac., beautiful 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath apt., fully equip., perfect cond., immed. poss. 497-0639.

Sands Pt., nr. Miami Beach, new, luxurious, 3 bdrms., 3 bath condo., 2120', balc., exc. view of sea, 2 pkg., a/c, appl's. $585K U.S. Priv. Sale. Call 416-449-0072.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Delray Beach, Leisureville, beautiful condo, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, season. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Get away from the Snow!!! Disney World/Epcot, fully furn. condos w/kitchen, 2 bath, etc. 1 bdrm (4 ppl) from $600./wk. U.S., 2 bdrm (6-8 ppl) from $750./wk. U.S. For info./res. call Rebecca Coen (310) 551-1510.

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hollywood, Fla., Alexander Towers, newly renov. ocean-side apt., 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, avail. in March & April. Call 305 559-2449.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

South Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700.U.S. 416-783-3288

Bal Harbour, 2 bdrms., 2 bath condo., close to all amen., pool, on the ocean, must be Kosher, fully furn., new upgrades. $3,000./mo. U.S.Call 785-5626.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Palm Aire, Pompano Beach, 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., fully furn., avail. Jan., Feb., Mar., April, 1997. Min. 2 mos. rental. Contact Bob (602) 948-3705.

Hallandale condo., 5th flr., new ocean front bldg, fully equip., tastefully furn., 2 bdrms., 2 3-pce. baths, 2 balcs., washer/dryer on premises, pkg. incl., n/smoking, Dec. or Apr. 416-782-3867 or 782-9898.

Hallandale, ocean view, 1 bdrm. condo., 1 1/2 baths. $1700./mo. U.S. For Rent/Sale. Avail. Jan. 1. 416-638-7257.

West Palm Beach, Lands of the President, 2 bdrms. 2 bath, with or without golf, Jan. 3 - April 22. Call 905-731-5626.

Hallandale, Inter-coastal, large 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, available immediately (514) 931-9622 Monday to Friday.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrms., 2 bath condo. for sale/rent, options open, 416-223-7147.

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

Immaculate, beautifully furnished 3 bed (1 converted to a den) 2 bath 2nd floor villa in Quail Hollow in fabulous Boca West C.C. $179,000 furnished or rent for season @ $4000.00 per month; Corner, 7th floor Lakewood mid-rise apt. furnished, overlooking golf course, $99,000.00 or $3000.00 per month for season. Both require equity purchase in Boca West C.C.

Call
David Greenblatt, *Realtor,*
(former Canadian Attorney)
Coldwell Banker Real Estate,
561-997-7300; eves. 561-988-9030.

The Inside Back

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, For Sale/Lease, near Temple, lge. 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo in active adult community, free transportation to supermarket/shopping mall, 24 hr. secur., pool, tennis, more! $34,900.00 U.S. (954) 564-4210.

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

2 bdrms., 2 baths, between **Pompano & Singer Island**, on A1A, from Dec. 15 - Feb. 15. 636-1781.

In Three Islands, 1 bdrm. or bach. apt., from Feb. 15 - end of March. 733-1209.

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Miami Beach, 2 bdrms., 1 bath condo,fully equip.,a/c.248-2054.

Senior woman looking for same to share room in superior kosher hotel in Miami, min. stay, 2 mos., will consider assuming cost of hotel for compatible companion. 633-6339.

165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Do you have property in Israel? Would you like to own real estate in Israel? Alan Epstein, Franchise Holder of Anglo Saxon Realty, the largest leading realtor in Israel will be in Toronto from Nov. 14 - Nov. 22, 1996. He will be happy to meet & discuss any buying, selling & rental or mgmt. of property in Israel. Call 391-5252.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
Seasonal rentals. We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos. Nicely furnished in super location. From $850 - $3500 per month.
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
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Condo. for rent in Acapulco, Las Gemelas,right on the beach,905-889-2266,after 7 pm

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HUMBOLD PROPERTIES LIMITED
UNIQUE RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

1118 - 1126 FINCH AVE. WEST

GREAT LOCATION - 1090 - 6060 SQ. FT.
JUST WEST OF THE ALLEN EXPRESSWAY. HI-TECH, MODERN PLAZA - RETAIL OR RESTAURANT.

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THIS IS A THRIVING VIBRANT AREA.
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IDEAL FOR PRINTER, COMPUTER OR ELECTRONICS STORE.

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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Exper. sales staff, PT, for Judaica Book/Gift Store, must have Jewish book knowledge & able to read Hebrew. Call Joyce, 256-1010.

Summer Staff Wanted for 1st Rate Jewish Camp in Pocono Mtns. in U.S. Cabin Counselors, Unit Heads, Lifeguards, Instructors, Office, Kitchen & Admin. Staff. 516-355-2267 or fax resumé to 516-355-2283.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Two 19 yr. old Auperes from Israel to work for religious families. Available immediately. Please call Bracha in Israel, 011-972-6-782-996.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

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• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

All Purpose Cleaning, avail. for Holidays, dinners, parties, open houses, guests, waiters & renovation. Call **Toronto Home Care,** 416-620-9240, Manola.

Cleaning lady avail., exper., refs. Call Wieslawa, 290-6659.

Elderly care or cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Fri., exper., refs., Call 656-8818.

European cleaning lady w/Canadian experience., 247-9690

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Lady seeking work cleaning & some cooking. Call Hana at 416-244-9178.

Lady seeks job cleaning, refs., exper. Call 663-6724.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Nurse/companion and cleaning lady. Car. Ref. 656-6695.

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Polish female is looking for any cleaning job. 905-832-6747.

Polish woman with 3 yrs. exp. in cleaning is looking for houses to clean. 783-7067, Dagmara.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS **KitchenAid** FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

CRISPY CHICKEN AND POTATOES

4 med. potatoes
1 egg
3 tblsp water
1 cup corn flake crumbs
8 skinned chicken thighs
1 tsp dried sage or tarragon leaves
1 tsp each salt and pepper
Honey-BBQ Dipping Sauce (recipe follows)

Heat oven to 375°F. Pierce potatoes. Micro-bake on High 8 mins. Beat egg with water in shallow dish; place corn flake crumbs in another shallow dish. Dip chicken pieces in egg, then crumbs to coat completely. Place chicken in 10 1/2"x15 1/2" pan coated with vegetable cooking spray. Cut potatoes into 1" chunks; place in pan with chicken. Coat potatoes with cooking spray; toss with sage. Season chicken and potatoes with salt and pepper. Bake 40 mins. until chicken juices run clear and potatoes are crisp and golden brown. Serve with Honey-BBQ Dipping Sauce. Makes 4 servings.

Honey BBQ Dipping Sauce: in bowl mix 1/2 cup prepared bbq sauce, 1/4 cup honey and 1/4 cup yellow mustard. Makes 1 cup.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Certified nurses aide seeks job as caregiver for the elderly, in and around the Mississauga area. Call 905-507-3057.

Grad Nurse seeks position with elderly or handicapped in their home, live-out. 754-2808.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Exper. young man, avail. to be a companion to senior gentleman, PT, refs. avail. upon request. 416-636-0828.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***SOULMATES** Do you sometimes feel Toronto's too small? Do you see the same people everywhere you go? Now you can meet fabulous, interesting Jewish people from all over Canada, the U.S & Europe by joining **SOULMATES!** What's wrong with a Dr. from NY? Evelyn, 905-709-3868.

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FINDERS, KEEPERS. From all continents, serious men & women wanting to meet with you for casual & serious relationships. Call 663-1029.

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Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1170** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Desperate, need two witnesses for Mathausen & liberated in Gunskirchen, for the German compensation. Please help, will pay travel expenses. Zeev Fried, Toronto, 416-445-3038.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Female, 32, n/smoker, blue green eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male, 32-42. CJN Box 6843.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Lady would like to meet a gentleman (70-75) for relationship. Please call 630-9610.

Dynamic, independent, prof. woman, mid 50's, seeks Soulmate. Must care about humanity & have a sense of humour. Pref. a lover of theatre, music & sports. Traditionally Jewish. Would like to share companionship in a caring, relationship with mutual respect & fulfillment for both of us. CJN Box 6848.

European educated lady wishes to meet a nice Jewish gentleman, 60-65 for companionship. Reply to CJN Box 6849.

SJF, 31, very attr., petite, quiet, warm, seeks attr., rugged, Prince Charming, 32-41, with a big heart & warm personality for serious relationship, photo apprec. CJN Box 6845.

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

Widow, 50's, traditional values, strong family person, financially independent, career prof., loves theatre, sports, tennis & walking, would like to meet a widower, 50+. CJN Box 6847.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
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M3B 3K4

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Cigar Humidors, Exotic woods, Spanish cedar interiors, high gloss finish, one of a kind, hand made, **wholesale prices**. Call Jordan, 905-881-9848.

Ultramatic twin size 39 x 80, electric adjustable bed with massage units, reversable mattress, 2 side rails (optional), exc. cond., retail value $2,500., selling for $750.00. **Twin bed,** new, hardly used, with Simmons Beautyrest mattress, headboard & metal frame, retail value $550., selling for $275. **Fortress custom wheelchair**, 4 yrs. old, retail value $2,900., good cond., selling for $900. Please contact Ida 224-8360.

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Yiddish Music Rolls
for Player Pianos.
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Your help will find a cure for cancer!
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This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

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Prices Effective from
Sun. Nov. 10, 1996 until
Sat. Nov. 16, 1996

WHOLE CHICKENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Fresh
1.99 LB
4.39 kg

MAPLE LEAF
ALL BEEF SALAMI
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
4.99 LB
11.00 kg

HUNT'S
- TOMATO SAUCE, 725 ml Tin
- THICK 'N RICH PASTA SAUCE, 725 ml Tin
- TOMATO PASTE, 369 ml Tin

99 EA

HUNT'S
SNACK PACK
PUDDING CUPS
Assorted Flavours
4 x 113 g Pkg
1.49 EA

RIB STEAKS
Cut from Canada
AA/AAA Grades
Beef, Fresh
4.49 LB
9.90 kg

CABBAGE
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Extra Large Size
79 EA

BRUSSEL SPROUTS
Product of Ontario
Fresh
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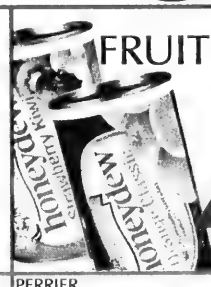

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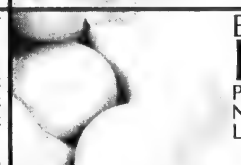

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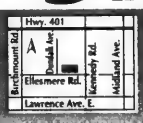

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This Week

Coast to Coast

Max Bernard, CJC national unity chair, gets rough ride on separation issue. ***Page 3***

Party Planner

Be a clown: See inside for our twice-annual party supplement. ***Pages B1-B40***

Greater Toronto Area

Allies briefly considered systematic execution of Nazis, group told. *Holocast Education Week.* ***Page 6***

David Frum and Hugh Segal battle over conservatism. *Jewish Book Fair.* ***Page 17***

TAB news

Ben Wicks: Lovable cartoonist to write book on 50th anniversary of Israel. ***Page 37***

Travel Talk: Meet the Pied Piper of Hamelin. ***Page 39***

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Havdalah: 5:32

Syria has chemical weapons

Israel defence minister warns Assad against use

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Plans for a devastating attack on Syria that could topple the regime of President Hafez al-Assad would be implemented if Damascus used non-conventional weapons against Israel, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said last Sunday.

He accused Syria of developing a particularly lethal type of nerve gas with Russia's help, and vowed to retaliate severely if such a weapon were turned on Israel.

"We are not threatening anyone, and certainly not the Syrians," Mordechai said in an interview on Israel Radio, repeating his call for the Syrians to resume peace talks.

"But if someone dares carry out a threat against us, a missile threat, and certainly a threat of chemical weapons, they need to know that we have all the forces and capabilities to reply with a devastating war," he added.

"If someone dares to use [chemical] weapons of this kind against us, it is clear that we will respond with all means at our disposal and we will inflict a hard blow on Syria, whose regime would probably be at risk. They would do well not to do this and to find other ways to resolve the conflict," Mordechai said.

Speaking to reporters during a visit to the Negev later in the day, Mordechai said the *Sunday Times of London* had quoted him out of context as threatening to topple Assad's rule if a war broke out with Syria.

Continued on page 34

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THEIR MOTHERS

Women from Hebron accompanied by their young children pray and protest against the government's recent decision to detain dozens of settlers who might actively oppose an IDF troop deployment from the city. ***[Reuter/RNS photo]***

Religious pluralism dominant theme at CJF General Assembly

By MORDECHAI BEN-DAT
CJN Editor

SEATTLE — The 1996 General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) concluded last Saturday night in Seattle, Wash., with an assurance to North American Jewry by Israel's Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky that there was "absolutely no chance that the attempts to change the status quo will succeed."

Sharansky was referring to the agreement worked out by Israel's first prime minister David Ben-Gurion nearly 50 years ago with the Orthodox establishment in Israel regarding the legal and social accommodation between Halachah, or religious law, and secular law in the then nascent state.

Please see Editorial Page 8

The possibility of changes to the status quo has recently returned to the centre of the political stage in Israel and thus, also to the centre of Israel-Diaspora relations. Two events have brought it there: the recent tabling of a bill in the Knesset by the government's religious coalition parties that would invalidate non-Orthodox conversions in Israel; and a directive by the Supreme Court to the Netanyahu government to resolve by the end of February the issue of group prayer by women at the Western Wall.

Any attempt to legally invalidate non-Orthodox conversions would be regarded by the majority of affiliated North American Jewry, most of whom are either Conservative or Reform, as nothing less than relegation to second class religious status.

Despite the fact that the ostensible theme of the assembly was planning for the next 100 years of the federation movement, the issue of religious pluralism within the Jewish people, and within Israel specifically, dominated the five-day conference. It was addressed every day from the podium during plenary sessions by keynote speakers and discussed around the tables in forums, workshops and even lounges by delegates and participants.

Continued on page 34

INSIDE

A photo montage of North African Sephardi life. Please see page 9.

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Talks underway for Ron Arad — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Holocaust Heroine

KITCHENER – Faye Schulman, a heroine of the Holocaust, a decorated resistance fighter, photographer and author of *A Partisan's Memoirs*, presented her personal story at the eighth annual Holocaust Education Program in honor of Remembrance Day at the Kitchener City Hall. She spoke of her experiences as a teenager in the resistance movement against the Nazi domination of Europe.

BBC Web Site

TORONTO – B'nai Brith Canada has launched a new Internet Web Site at http://www/bnaibrith.ca.

ISRAEL

Aid to Zaire

JERUSALEM – Israel has allocated an immediate sum of $30,000 towards medicine for the tens of thousands of sick refugees in Zaire. At the same time, the government is also exploring ways of joining in multinational efforts, including the multinational force expected to be set up by the UN Security Council.

Women and Poverty

JERUSALEM – The feminization of poverty is becoming increasingly acute, said social welfare experts this week at a Council of Women's Organizations in Israel seminar on Women in Poverty.

Notwithstanding legislation against gender discrimination in the job market, women continue to be victimized, said Mina Westman, chair of the Small Business Authority's committee for female entrepreneurship.

Arab Teen Arrested

JERUSALEM – Israeli police have arrested a 16-year-old Palestinian from Bethlehem on suspicion of planning a terrorist attack.

The teenager was arrested near the home of Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem's Old City. He was armed with two knives, a Koran and a note stating that he wanted to be a martyr.

Women's Group Attacked

JERUSALEM – The Women of the Wall were the object of haredi violence at the Western Wall last week and were forcibly ejected from the area by police, though they have prayed regularly at the Wall without incident over the past six years, according to a spokesperson for the group.

Goldstein's Grave

JERUSALEM – A discussion on the beautification of Baruch Goldstein's grave descended into a left-right exchange in the Knesset interior committee last week. It was eventually decided to ask state comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat to investigate how the area around the grave of the man who murdered 29 Muslim worshippers in Hebron in 1994 has been turned into a garden site serving visitors.

WORLD

Irving's Bid Rejected

SYDNEY, Australia – Australia's immigration minister has turned down a visa request from Holocaust denier David Irving.

Announcing his decision at a news conference, Philip Ruddock, immigration and multicultural affairs minister, said, "All applicants for visas to Australia must be assessed for good character."

Jewish Publisher Dies

BALTIMORE – Charles "Chuck" Buerger, a publishing iconoclast who built a mom-and-pop community newspaper in Baltimore into a North American Jewish publishing chain, has died. He was 58 years old.

At the time of his death, Buerger oversaw operations for six Jewish weeklies across North America, including the *Western Jewish Bulletin* in Vancouver, as well as three glossy lifestyle magazines.

Talmud Study Cycle

NEW YORK – More than 20,000 haredi Jews are expected to pack Madison Square Garden here next September for a *Siyum Hashas*, a celebration completing the cycle of studying the entire Talmud.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday July 9, 1971

HIGH PRIESTS' GATE UNCOVERED AT WALL

One of the major discoveries of the current excavations at the Western Wall is the massive gateway through which the High Priest used to pass beyond the wall and into the Temple compound and the Holy of Holies.

The excavations run beneath the streets of the Moslem quarter of the Old City. What one can see when standing in the public compound thrown open for worship at the southern end of the Western Wall is but a small fraction of the 525 yards of the Wall. Above ground, the Wall has either disappeared or been incorporated into existing buildings.

******

TORONTO JDL MAY SECEDE

The Toronto branch of the Jewish Defence League (JDL) is "entertaining the prospect of disaffiliation" with the international organization, according to JDL co-chairman Milton Eugene. If this happens, he said, "a new militant organization would be formed which we hope would attract more support."

Eugene worries that many people have not been associated with the JDL because of "bad publicity" it received elsewhere.

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CJC chair gets rough ride on separation issue

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Westen Correspondent

VANCOUVER – Max Bernard of Montreal, national unity chair of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) was given somewhat of a rough ride when he was interviewed on radio here on the subject of Quebec separation.

Bernard, who spoke at a public meeting in the Jewish Community Centre, was interviewed earlier in the day on CKNW by Rafe Mair, a former British Columbia MLA, who has the top-rated talk show in Vancouver.

Mair asked what CJC is doing about the Quebec situation and Bernard replied that over the past five years, CJC representives have travelled across the country, speaking to politicians and to the media in an effort to promote federalism and to emphasize the distinction between what Quebec politicians want and what most Quebecers want.

He said CJC has been trying to explain that the average Quebecer wants a place as a francophone in Canada. The French want to retain their language and traditions and should have more recognition, but not necessarily the distinct society label.

"I don't understand what in the world the Quebecers are concerned about," Mair said. "They were granted language rights in 1763. In preserving their language, they've discriminated against the English. They passed a language law which could have been disallowed by the federal government. If British Columbia passed a discriminatory law like the Quebec law on English on signs, the feds would likely disallow it immediately. That's not fair."

Mair claimed the federal government didn't act because "it needed those Quebec MPs."

Bernard said he was doubtful about this and contended that there was no reason why Quebec federalists could not meet with other Canadians to find a reasonable accommodation to the whole problem.

Mair complained that a 50 percent plus one vote in the House of Commons gives Quebec and Ontario 100 percent power over Parliament's agenda. British Columbia, he said, has no connection with Ottawa policy except for a few minor cabinet posts.

"If we tried to settle our complaints with Ottawa, we would be vetoed by Quebec," he claimed.

Bernard agreed that the feeling of "powerlessness" of western MPs is not satisfactory and he called for a change in the system. He said he was certain Quebec would "be on your side."

At the meeting, Bernard admitted that at the start of the referendum campaign, there was "a certain degree of complacency" on the part of non-separatists and as the campaign ended, federalists assumed they had a monopoly on the political pact that exists between Canadians, but "the separatists appealed to the heart and cleverly proposed a new partnership in the aftermath of secession. You know the results too well."

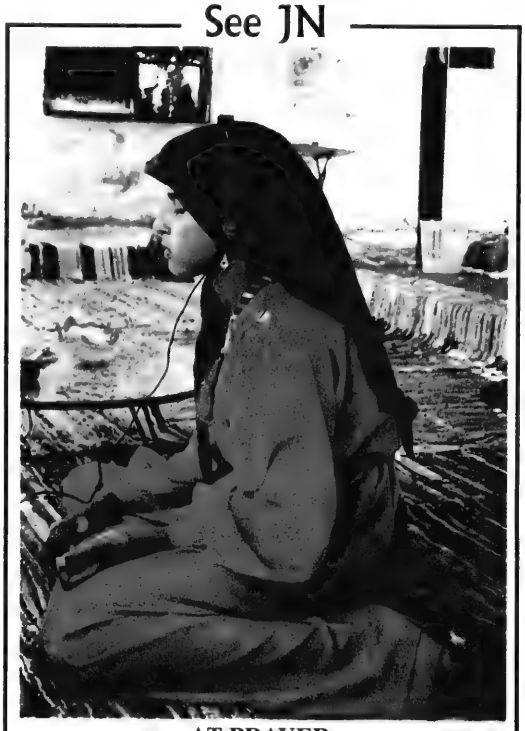
Bernard said there was "tremendous anger and frustration amongst federalists after the vote, because many Quebecers believed the transition to independence would be relatively problem-free and they had been less hesitant about supporting separation.

"The result of this is talk of Plan B, which outlines the complications in defining terms for the breakup of the country."

Plan B is not the answer, Bernard said. What must develop is a solution that promotes harmony between Canadians "and most notably between English Canadians, French Canadians, ethnic minorities and native communities."

Bernard appealed to all Canadians to show "a spirit of openness, harmony and cooperation of which we are so rightly proud by giving such recognition for what is simply a demographic reality of Canada."

See JN



AT PRAYER
An honorable mention from *The CJN's* photo contest: A young Arab girl seemingly at prayer. [Yoella Teplitsky photo]

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CJC stays out of debate on Israeli conversions

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A motion to ask the Israeli government to delay any action disallowing non-Orthodox conversions was recently defeated by the Ontario region executive of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC). The vote, about two to one against, included a number of abstentions.

The motion made by Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, founding rabbi of Temple Sinai, asked that the CJC national executive request that the Knesset communicate further with the Diaspora before taking action.

"This has a divisive potential," said region chair Moshe Ronen. "You could achieve no less by writing a letter to the CJC."

Rabbi Pearlson declined Ronen's offer to withdraw the motion before it went to a vote.

The rabbi expresssed apprehension that the Knesset is about to act on the matter. "There should be further investigation before another blunder is made," he said.

The new law being considered affects only conversions in Israel, not those made by non-Orthodox rabbis elsewhere, said delegate Kurt Rothschild expressing opposition to the motion.

Ronen agreed with Rabbi Pearlson that the minutes of the region meeting when forwarded to the CJC will get his point across.

Prior to this motion, the executive heard that Jewish students at Ryerson Polytechnic University are still experiencing some forms of anti-Semitism.

The admission came from President Claude Lajeunesse.

"The situation is getting better," said Lajeunesse, explaining that the anti-Semitism of which he spoke referred to graffiti or comments by writers or speakers on campus, rather than difficulties in any particular discipline or area of the university.

There is a large active Jewish student body among its 13,000 full-time students, said Lajeunesse, paying tribute to Hillel and Jewish Student Services.

Students themselves are the leading force for changing attitudes on the campus, he said. As an example, he noted that for the first time observant Muslim women are being given use of the swimming pool for a certain period and they have extended an invitation to Jewish women to join the group.

On another community matter, delegate Dr. Naim Dallal objected that a letter circulated by Shalom Achshav (Peace Now) contravened a motion at the plenary CJC convention calling for support of the Israeli government.

"This is a democratic, umbrella group [the region] and I don't expect the left and right to say the same thing," said Ronen. However, he said the matter would be discussed by the region's officers.

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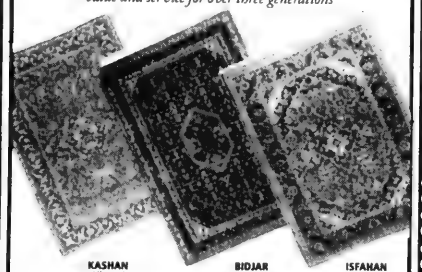
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Mideast undergoing 'stunning' regression, says Israeli editor

BY CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – The past four months have seen a "stunning" regression in the Middle East, says the editor-in-chief of the *Jerusalem Report*.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

"This reminds me of how fragile the Middle East situation is," Hirsh Goodman told a sold-out crowd at the 20th annual Jewish Book Fair.

Goodman, who wrote the prologue for *Shalom Friend: Life and Legacy of Yitzhak Rabin*, written by the *Jerusalem Report* staff and edited by David Horovitz, said he is unsure if Israel learned a proper lesson from Rabin's death.

"The date of his death should have been made a memorial day in order to teach the horrors of political assassination. We have to inculcate that murder is not a part of political dialogue. The ultra-Orthodox adamantly refuse to honor the day and many rabbis still believe that Rabin was leading Israel on the road to disaster," Goodman said.

Shimon Peres took over without a mandate from the people, and "instead of calling an election right away, he stayed in power. And then when he did call an election, he ran a terrible campaign. He thought that it was not up to him to campaign because he was already the prime minister. [Benjamin] Netanyahu understood the new electoral system while Peres did not. Netanyahu knew that he needed only one vote to become prime minister," said Goodman.

Netanyahu may have won, he said, but the Likud party lost one-third of its seats and that put the prime minister in a difficult position.

"He had to bring in a plethora of small parties from [Natan] Sharansky's party to the National Religious Party to Shas. He won, but he had to pay a huge price in terms of promises to these factions. He came into power having to make political deals.

"My deepest hope is that I will vote for Netanyahu in four years because I also want an open western economy and peace – everything he does – but my optimism has a cloud over it. Here is a prime minister who is committed to disparate parties and who has no professional advice. Secret polls show that if an election were held tomorrow, he would lose. He has time to correct however, and I hope he does."

Goodman praised Netanyahu for being intelligent and articulate with a clear understanding of economics. "I know he will grow into the job, but the question is, at what price...A learning curve is involved and he is under a microscope, but we do not have a margin of error.

"Israel is a fragile place; however it is resiliant and living there is like being on a roller coaster," said Goodman, who made aliyah 32 years ago. "We all share one concern, though, and that is Israel's welfare. Perhaps this is the end of a bad period and the dawn of a new one with a prime minister who has gone through the learning curve and will lead us to a new future."

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Greater Toronto Area

Militant Islamic fundamentalism seen as top threat

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Militant Islamic-fundamentalism is the greatest threat to Western interests today, says an expert on Middle East terrorism.

Operating under the guise of legally-based religious, educational and charitable organizations, militant groups such as Islamic Jihad and Hamas have established command and control headquarters in Western countries, Steven Emerson, an American journalist, told the Canadian Club last week.

Emerson recalled the case of the current leader of Islamic Jihad, who, until his appointment last year, was a professor at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Emerson, the producer of the TV documentary *Jihad in America,* declared that millions of dollars were raised in Tampa to disseminate propaganda and to "carry out operations."

Claiming that the rise of radical Islam poses a serious national security problem to the United States and Canada, Emerson said the objectives of these groups are threefold: to establish Islamic regimes in the Arab world, to destroy Israel and to ensure that Islam "reigns supreme" beyond the borders of the Middle East.

These groups regard the West, with its capitalist system and its division between religion and state, as the enemy of Islam.

Wherever they operate, be it North America, Europe or the Middle East, they pass themselves off as religious and civil rights organizations, he said.

As a result, law enforcement agencies are unable or unwilling "to go after" them.

And the Western media, he added, have served as their " willing or unwilling dupes."

Some Islamic fundamentalist leaders portray themselves as moderate Muslims and the media "fall for it," he claimed.

Emerson, whose articles have appeared in the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal,* charged that the media have been unwilling to investigate or expose these groups.

Pointing out that Canada is not immune to the allure of Islamic fundamentalism, Emerson disclosed that one of the most politically extreme Islamic newspapers is published in Toronto.

Describing it as an anti-Semitic publication, Emerson said it celebrated the series of suicide bombings which rocked Israel last February and March.

Drawing a distinction between Islam and Islamic fundamentalism, Emerson said there had never been a Reformation in Islam and, thus, it lacked a "central moderating force" capable of rejecting violence unequivocably.

Emerson said that, in addition to the West and Israel, radical Islamic organizations wage war against "moderate Islam."

He warned that unless the West confronts the issue of Islamic fundamentalism, the 1993 World Trade Centre bombing in Manhattan, which was masterminded by an Egyptian Muslim cleric, will be seen as "the opening shot" of a protracted battle.

Taking a question from the floor, one of only two, Emerson said there has been a coalescence between Islamic fundamentalism and neo-Nazism. As an example, he cited the case of a neo-Nazi who had converted to Islam and had become a radical Muslim.

Turning to Iran, Emerson said it was definitely a source of terrorism in ideological, financial and military terms.

Economic sanctions imposed on Iran by the United States won't work because of a lack of cooperation on the part of other countries, he observed.

But even if the U.S. succeeds in isolating Iran, terrorism will not be nipped in the bud, warned Emerson. With the advent of the Internet, he suggested, terrorists can easily communicate with each other on a wide-ranging basis.

UJA Federation committee wins award

TORONTO – The chair of the UJA Federation action committee on Jewish continuity has won the 1995 World Habitat Award.

Les Klein and his associate Sheldon Levitt were in Budapest recently to receive the architectural award for their non-profit housing project in Mississauga, Ont.

Klein and Levitt of Quadrangle Architects Limited of Toronto are the first Canadians to win the award that recognizes human settlement projects which offer sustainable futures to residents and which provide practical and imaginative solutions to current housing problems in developed and developing countries.

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This was the first time Hungarian-born Klein returned to his home town of Jyor after fleeing the country with his family in 1956. He visited places where he grew up, including his old apartment, now used as a music school, and the synagogue where his father used to pray, but he was deeply saddened by the deterioration of the city's nearly non-existent Jewish community.

"Budapest used to be known as one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe," Klein said. Today it is a skeleton community beyond the throws of crisis."

As chair of the action committee which supports a variety of initiatives aimed at ensuring the future of Toronto's Jewish community, Klein was especially moved by the stark contrast between the communities.

"Here in Toronto, says Klein, "we often lose sight of the luxury we have and the diversity, vibrancy and strength of our Jewish community. Here, we're always building for the future."

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Nuremberg trials chosen over execution to record crimes, says former prosecutor

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – At the end of World War II, the Allies briefly considered executing Nazi war criminals without trial, but opted to try them for their crimes in a court of justice, an American lawyer who served as a prosecuting counsel at Nuremberg told a Toronto audience recently.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

Speaking to a lunch gathering of the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation during Holocaust Education Week, Whitney Harris explained that the prevalent attitude among the Allied forces in 1945 was that trials for Nazi war criminals "would command maximum public support, receive the respect of history, and cause a full record to be made of Nazi crimes…It was not an arbitrary exercise of power on the part of the victorious nations but the expression of international law."

The 22 Nazi defendants at Nuremberg included Hermann Goering, commander-in-chief of the German Air Force and Hitler's designated successor; Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy and second in command; Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Reich minister for foreign affairs; Julius Streicher, editor of the anti-Semitic newspaper *Der Stuermer*; and Martin Bormann, head of the Party Chancery, who was tried in absentia.

As the trial approached, the prosecution team assembled masses of documents and took hundreds of affidavids as evidence. Not quite sure of the activities of the Einsatzgruppen killing units, Harris recalled that he asked one former unit member, Otto Ohlendorf, how many men, women and children he had killed – and was stunned to hear the response: "About 90,000."

Harris was also present at the interrogation of Rudolf Hess, the commandant of Auschwitz, who confessed that he had overseen the gassing and burning of 2.5 million people.

Harris reported that in his closing speech, Justice "Robert Jackson said...'If you would say that this man is not guilty, it would be as true to say there had been no war and no people murdered.'"

While almost all of the defendants had pleaded not guilty, most were found guilty; only three were acquitted. Goering, Ribbentrop and nine other defendants including the absent Bormann were sentenced to death by hanging. Hess received a sentence of imprisonment for life, and the others received sentences of varying degrees of imprisonment.

"I was present at the Palace of Justice on the fateful night in 1946 when Goering had cheated the hangman while lying in his cell," said Harris. "Death came to Goering by his own hand as it had come to Hitler before him."

Rudolf Hess committed suicide in 1987 after 41 years of imprisonment "and with his death the Hitler tyranny ended," Harris said. "They had intended to establish a new order in Europe but they built on pillars of hate and what they built could not stand."

Harris spoke proudly of his role in establishing the precedents of international law at Nuremberg, which the United Nations approved in 1946.

"These laws send a strong signal to those who would use the cover of war to commit atrocities," he said.

The author of *Tyranny On Trial: The Evidence At Nuremberg*, Harris summed up what he considered the most important precedents established at Nuremberg:

- The initiating and waging of aggressive war, the violation of the laws or customs of war, and any inhumane acts committed upon civilians during such a war, are crimes.
- Persons may be held accountable for crimes committed by them as heads of state or pursuant to superior orders.
- A person charged with crime under international law is entitled to a fair trial.

Although Harris noted ruefully that "force is displacing the rule of law in the conduct between nations" in the latter half of this century, he observed that some Nuremberg precedents have been applied to situations in Yugoslavia, Rwanda and elsewhere.

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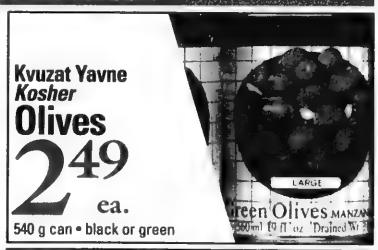
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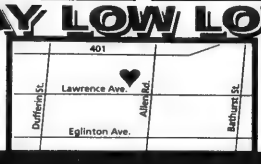

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Greater Toronto Area

Zundel, neo-Nazis thrive on falsehoods

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The only way Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel and the neo-Nazi Heritage Front can claim legitimacy is if they can prove to the world that the Holocaust did not happen, a Remembrance Day service at Richmond Hill United Church was told recently."

Steven Shulman

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

"If the Holocaust didn't happen, their message is 'Why not be friends with the Nazis?'" said Steven Shulman, national associate director of community relations, Canadian Jewish Congress.

About 150 church members heard stirring organ music and youth and adult choirs commemorating those who died in World Wars prior to Shulman's address. A workshop on Neo-Nazism Roots and Present Challenges followed the church service led by the minister, Abigail Johnson.

One of Congress' concerns is that neo-Nazis today are attracting young people to their meetings (average age, 17 to 25), while in the 1980s the average age was 60 to 70, Shulman said. "This demographic shift is of great concern. Why are young people attracted to the movement?"

While systemic anti-Semitism with its quotas on professions is no longer a problem, there are still concerns about racism, particularly in Toronto, which has the greatest proportion of Holocaust survivors anywhere in the world, outside of Israel, Shulman said.

Jews, blacks and immigrants are blamed by the Heritage Front for economic hardships in Canada, he said. "They've watered down their message: instead of sheets over their heads they call themselves white."

Anti-Semitism and all forms of racism are facts of life in Canada today, the CJC official said. "I'm not suggesting that we face an impending Holocaust in Canada. Anti-Semitism is no longer acceptable in public discourse."

Ideological problems now plague Israel

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The post-Zionist debate in Israel has reached such an "alarming" stage that "some leaders of Jewry are against the idea of a Jewish state," according to the director of the Jerusalem think-tank Shalem Centre.

It's an issue that cuts across party lines, "with some people in the Likud saying we don't need a state," said Yoram Hazony, speaking to the executive of the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

"A tremendous majority of Israelis have difficulty with the concept of a Jewish state no matter how you define it," he said.

The 32-year-old resident of a town in the territories assisted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in writing his two most recent books. On the whole, he was given rapt attention by the Ontario region executive, but some members walked out, disagreeing with his statement that Zionism is dead in the water in Israel.

The Holocaust ended the argument about whether there should be a Jewish state, but after 50 years of consensus, the debate has broken out anew in what Israeli editors say is a struggle between Zionists and post-Zionists.

The "de-Zionization" of the Jewish state started during the Labor party tenure with an attempt to amend Hatikvah, opposition to high school trips to Auschwitz, ruling Masada off-limits for VIP itineraries and a watering down of the patriotic codes of IDF forces, Hazony said.

"There are rising calls for amendment of the Law of Return, essentially to revoke it, and instead Israel would become a state of all its citizens. This is aimed at Diaspora Jews, not at Arabs."

He added: "Israel is in an advanced stage of ideological disintegration."

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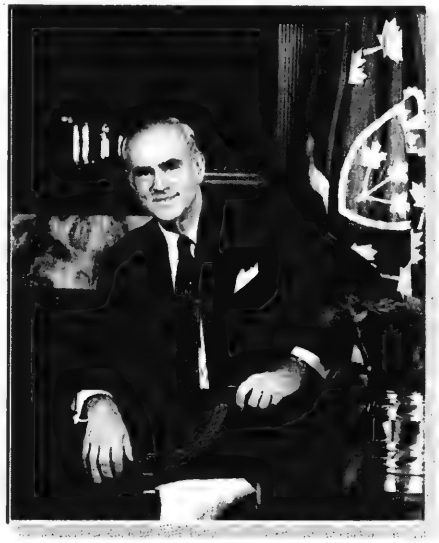

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Pleas for pluralism

The majority of the Jews affiliated to organized, "denominational" Jewish life in North America are understandably concerned with the state of religious pluralism in Israel. Essentially, there is none. There is what is known as the "historic status quo," a legal and social *modus vivendi* between the religious and the secular worlds which was brokered by David Ben-Gurion at the time of Israel's founding.

But now certain forces in Israel are trying to alter the status quo. Recently, religious members of the governing coalition introduced legislation in the Knesset to prohibit non-Orthodox conversions. The implications of such a change are far-reaching for non-Orthodox Jewish movements, by far the majority in North America.

Religious pluralism in Israel, or more accurately, its lack, was the chief topic of concern among most of the participants at the recently concluded 65th General Assembly (GA) of the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) in Seattle. The board of governors of the CJF even felt it necessary to pass a strongly-worded resolution at the beginning of the assembly to convey the body's clear, but forceful views to the leaders of Israel: "To abstain from amending legislation or passing any new legislation that would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions...

"We the Board of Delegates assembled at this 65th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations, meeting at a critical moment concerning this issue, urge the leaders of Israel not to underestimate the strength of feeling on this matter, and its detrimental effect on Jewish unity and Israel-Diaspora relations."

For his part, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attempted to defuse the ticking bomb before the Seattle conference began by clarifying his government's position in a letter to the American leadership. He wrote: "It has come to my attention that a misunderstanding has caused a controversy over [a bill] that has been interpreted as affecting conversions in the Diaspora. I want to make clear that I shall oppose legislation which will change the status quo regarding conversions outside of Israel."

The prime minister repeated his position directly to the participants at the assembly by satellite from his office in Jerusalem: "We are not going to change anything regarding conversions in the United States or anywhere else in the Diaspora. We will adamantly refuse to affect any changes regarding this."

Natan Sharansky, minister of Industry and Trade, and leader of Yisrael b'Aliyah, also emphasized his party's objection to a change in the conversion law telling GA delegates there was "absolutely no chance that these attempts to change the satus quo will succeed."

Despite these top-level assurances, many of the delegates still remained sceptical, noting that even a "compromise" form of the bill would still be an insult to the religious legitimacy of the non-Orthodox movements, both inside and outside Israel. Referring to the impending bill, Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America told the *Jewish Week* "It's an absolute affront to world Jewry." Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, echoed the same sentiments. He told the *Jewish Week,* that such a law could "distance Israel from the Diaspora."

For their part, the proponents of the bill expect the prime minister to allow the bill to go forward to fulfil his coalition obligations. Netanyahu is in a bind. His parliamentary majority depends upon his satisfying the religious parties who have put the bill forward and for whom it is an important matter of principle. But his "Diaspora majority" depends upon his resisting the bill's passage in any form. Pleading for pluralism, they urge him to encourage suasion not coercion, dialogue not disassociation, mutuality not exclusivity. The prime minister must decide the issue without dividing the two "majorities."

IN AMERICA, THE ELECTORATE IS TURNED OFF..
BY NEGATIVE CAMPAIGNS AND NAME-CALLING...
WHILE HERE IN ISRAEL, THE ELECTORATE...
DEMANDS IT!

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Nov. 21, 1832 Emanual Hyman Benjamin was born. Benjamin was the first Jewish federal civil servant. He was appointed to the Post Office in Ottawa on Jan. 1, 1857. (Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

A Remembrance Day memoir

I was a young man, an ordinary immigrant. Luckily, I got a job in the Laurentians, at the Hotel Castle des Monts. We had just survived the Holocaust, happy to be in this country. We were busboys, then waiters, and one day after we had finished our day's work, we took a walk in the neigborhood. The next hotel was the Laurentide Inn, and a large sign at the door indicated that "Dogs and Jews are not welcome."

What a feeling came over us! It seems hatred knew no borders. Can you imagine, if our heroes had not given their lives, you and I would not have a country where one has the opportunity to live in freedom and dignity.Could those hateful people comprehend that their present life would be slightly different? But history has shown that this sort of unfortunate layer of society exists all over the world. I pity them.

God bless our heroes and our country Canada forever.

Alexander Jakab
Montreal

Smoking in Mea Shearim and Thornhill

Today I watched a yeshiva boy committing suicide...slowly, His friend helped by offering him a light. Are cigarettes kosher? I was alarmed to see young boys smoking in Mea Shearim and equally concerned to witness the trend in Thornhill.

Grape products are subject to restriction because they were once (and still may be) used in avoda-zara (idol-worship or paganism). Tobacco was and still is used in religious rites in some cultures as well. So, why does tobacco not have the same restrictions as wine?

Some rebbes are hooked on the weed. They can't give it up. And not only that – their students see them smoking, and as the song goes, "*Un, az de rebbe tanzt, tanzen alleh Chassidim.*"

My case is of course augmented by the fact that the Ribono-Shel-Olam would not be at all amused to see us willfully harming our bodies by pulling toxic smoke into our lungs and then exhaling it into the air to poison others.

Sarah Hartt-Snowbell
Toronto

Will Roux affair soften Bouchard and Parizeau

The revelations that Quebec Lt.-Gov. Jean-Louis Roux wore a swastika and took part in anti-conscription rallies, 50 years ago are shocking and disturbing. His expression of regret is inadequate.

One would have thought that before recommending his appointment to the Queen, Prime Minister Chrétien would have meticulously researched Roux's background. Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps' comment that the incidents should be dismissed as youthful actions is unacceptable, inappropriate and totally insentive.

The protestations of the Bloc Québécois and the premier of Quebec are insincere and totally self-serving. They take delight in the fact that they can embarrass Roux because he is a federalist.

Instead of resigning, the lieutenant-governor should have issued an unqualified apology for his actions and an affirmative condemnation of all forms of anti-Semitism and racism. That would have satisfied all right-thinking Canadians and perhaps might have had a sobering effect on Lucien Bouchard and Jacques Parizeau and their fellow travellers and might have impressed upon them that there is no place anywhere in Canada for attacks and abuses of minorities.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Avinu Malkeinu answer to Harrris cuts

Perhaps it is time for our Jewish leaders to appeal to our community, young and old to do something more than protesting "government cuts." I am convinced that the Ontario government can learn a great deal from our Jewish determination to put into practice our Avinu Malkeinu prayers. We must always protest against governments that treat Jews differently from other citizens. A case in point would be Jewish education. Government cuts is not the issue now.

I do not want to say either – *Chas vechalila* – that this current situation is coming as a blessing to our community, so that we could start to take care of our own needs, and our own Jews.

Perhaps this current situation is a strong reminder to all Jews all over the world that we survived in spite of "government cuts" – cuts that go deeper than Mike Harris cuts.

Our challenge today, I believe, is how not to get lost as a people. Let's embrace this challenge of caring one for each other with honor.

Simha S. Mendelsohn
Toronto

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Either you succeed, or you theorize."
(Anonymous kibbutznik)

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A deeply cherished way of life

The first Jewish immigrants to Canada, in the 18th century, were Sephardim. The oldest synagogue in Canada is the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, Shearith Israel of Montreal, founded in 1768.

The Communauté Sépharade du Québec (CSQ), the "inheritor" of the Association sépharade francophone (ASF) that was founded in 1966, to represent the Sephardi community in Quebec, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

The CJN has compiled the accompanying photo essay to commemorate the anniversary. It celebrates the heritage, the history, the costume, the splendor and the poignancy of a deeply cherished way of life that succeeding generations can behold, and in so doing, perhaps see their parents and their grandparents more clearly, in ways more tender, as when we look into the eyes of our own children.

All photos courtesy of the CSQ.

1. The inauguration of the Synagogue Ohel Mohel in Meknes in 1940; 2. Rabbi Amram Abessera, *dayan* of Casablanca, 1918; 3. A three-generational Jewish family in Taroundent in south Morocco; 4. A teacher and his students in a *cheder* in a city in south Morocco; 5. A committee of community notables in Hamadan, Iran, 1895; 6. Esther Assaraf, wife of David Sisso in Fès, Morocco, 1925; 7. The kashrut committee Fès, Morocco, 1950 (from left to right) Rabbi Haim Serrero, Rabbi Yossef Messas, Rabbi Haim Bensoussan, Rabbi Yedidia Monsonego and Rabbi Meir Israel; 8. An unidentified *sofer*, date and place unknown; 9. The wedding of Reina Charbit to Joseph Rebibo, Fès, Morocco, 1929.

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Opinions

Time to settle outstanding claims

Recently, Syrian President Assad was on TV, waxing eloquent about Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and elsewhere, about the injustice of it all, implying if not actually spelling out the need to repatriate them to Israel. Nobody talked recently about Jews from Arab countries in Israel, the property they had to leave behind, and the injustice of *that*. And Russian Jews keep arriving minus their paid-for pensions.

By Emil Fackenheim

For once Assad showed his mind, if given the Golan before negotiations even start: The "Right of [the Palestinian refugees'] Return" refers to Haifa, Jerusalem, even Tel Aviv, not to the West Bank, and is a recipe for Israel's destruction. Assad's "peace" is permanent strife and – if, to "save the peace process" Israel keeps giving in – the eventual end of the Jewish state.

But for peace to be just and durable, Palestinian refugees do deserve financial restitution, provided it settles all claims, permanently. But then, Jews from Arab countries deserve restitution also, and bills might be sent to Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, Iran, the biggest, probably, to Iraq. But Saddam Hussein paying? Or even Egypt? *That* would be a "New Middle East". And for Russia to pay – a sponsor of the peace process, who does not fancy herself in the dock – it would have to be a "New World."

But an alternative exists, realistic because of a precedent, of long standing, well-tested, and which works. The Federal Republic of Germany is paying restitution to Holocaust survivors or their heirs and – if there are neither – to the "Claims Conference," a Jewish organization, which then disburses the funds to Jewish communal needs. Why not expand this policy to Nazi-occupied Europe and, then – in a grand, Marshall-Plan-type Jewish action – have the Claims Conference transfer the owner-less sums to a Palestinian counterpart? From recent reports from Switzerland, these sums are considerable, much larger than the bankers would have us believe, and Switzerland (like Sweden and Portugal) though never Nazi-occupied, is part of Europe and its Nazi-related problems.

The Swiss have said that to sort out gold takes many years, if a "dangerous confusion" with gold "stolen from European central banks." is to be avoided. But this is hardly serious–the heads of these banks will submit their claims, for they are still alive. This cannot be said of Jews who had gold taken from the teeth of their corpses.

But now, with a "deepening alarm among the Swiss authorities that their credibility may be in tatters", Swiss Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti wants to "clear up this important and painful matter as quickly as possible."

It should be "cleared up" elsewhere in Europe also, and World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman wants the books of France, Belgium and Sweden. Norway and Portugal which came up after his statement; Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia are another story; and Italy has just ruled that to get persecution related old age pensions, Jews must prove they were victims of "fascism."

They want bygones to be bygones," comments an Italian Jewish leader, about Italy, but applicable to most of Europe – taking property of Jews safely dead, and keeping it.

But France heads the list. It took her 50 years to admit that Jews were handed to Nazi murderers by French policemen. Of the 330,000 Jews then living in France about 80,000 were victims, and of 76,000 sent to "the East" only 2,500 or three percent returned. These are figures by Germans, always precise in their book-keeping.

And restitution? From the French, to this day, *nothing*. Yet Jacques Chirac wants a "greater role" in the Mideast peace process, and – an expert on peace, after his Far East nuclear venture – he has just brought the recipe to the Middle East: for Israel to give everything – to Syria, the Golan, to the Palestinians a state, Jerusalem as capital, the refugees – and receive nothing, not even a PLO cancellation of its "Covenant" for Israel's destruction. (Arafat keeps promising it; but he has not done it, and the latest deadline has just passed.)

Solve the refugee problem – justly, permanently – and there is reason to believe that all other peace-related issues will eventually fall into place. But my "Marshall plan" has one flaw, and France gives little hope of mending it: it requires, not a "New Middle East," let alone a "New World" but a Europe "rid of Hitler's shadow" (Churchill) – a "New Europe."

Opposites can work together

Someone sent me an offprint of an article by Gary Rosenblatt which appeared in *The Jewish Week*, New York's medium for Jewish communication.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

The article headline is A Rare Exception to Communal Discord and it reports on a memorial service held in Buenos Aires last July..

The service commemorated the bombing of Argentina's Jewish communal headquarters in which 86 people lost their lives and over 300 were injured – a tragedy which remains unsolved. No perpetrators have so far been arrested.

But the emphasis of this report is not on what happened then, but what has recently occurred. At the service, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, formerly the president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform), recited the Kaddish, followed by Rabbi Menachem Porush, a leader of the Agudath Israel (Orthodox) in Jerusalem, who offered the *K'El Maleh Rachamim* prayer.

Asks Rosenblatt: "Is it only through grieving for murdered brethren that Jews of various beliefs can be joined?"

Representatives of very different organizations do, in fact, work regularly together in the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture. I was once a board member of that group and I am happy to hear that it has become a place where opposites can peaceably meet. Rabbi Schindler was quoted as saying: "It's the only place where I can sit with a Rabbi Porush with mutual respect, because we are working together on issues of common concern – to preserve and revive Jewish culture." It is noteworthy that Rabbi Schindler recently was elected president of the foundation and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg (Conservative) was elected vice-president.

It is also worth taking a look at the foundation of which Dr. Jerome Hochbaum is the executive director. The group was founded exactly 30 years ago when Konrad Adenauer, chancellor of West Germany, met with Nachum Goldmann, then one of the leading Jews in the Diaspora. Germany agreed to establish a fund of $35 million, US, the interest of which would go toward reviving and sustaining Jewish culture. The Jews in the former Soviet Union were amongst the recipients as well as scholars of the Holocaust, and others whose contributions helped to reenforce the foundations of Jewish life.

Among the participants in the foundation is Menachem Elon, the former chief justice of Israel's Supreme Court. He explains his interest by the fact that this foundation is "unique" in its non-ideological commitment to deal with Jewish, social and humanitarian problems.

The organization is convinced that its low-key approach is part of its success, while in this respect high profile and large amounts of money are often counter-productive Rosenblatt ends his article by saying that the foundation "teaches a lesson we need to learn, as communal concerns increase and conduits for cooperation decline, and as the Holocaust – the tragic event whose memory continues to unite Jews through memory and guilt – fades into history."

Little stories tell tale of real Israel

The real news about the real Israel is to be found not in the reports about Benjamin Netanyahu or Yasser Arafat or economics or such other minor matters as make the headlines, but in the little stories that editors tuck away on the inside pages. For example:

By Carl Alpert

Ideas Pay Off. Not long ago the Ministry of Science and the Arts published ads in the Hebrew press which read in effect as follows: Israel requires creative scientific ideas. Wanted — original ideas in the fields of industrial research, the life sciences and the exact sciences. Good ideas will get grants of $50,000 each.

Local Arab Farmers Need Help Too. Limitations on the number of Arab laborers permitted to cross into Israel from the territories have affected local Arab farmers as well, and they have applied to the government for permission to hire workers from Thailand.

Cutting the Army Down to Size. Following a number of applications from female Israeli soldiers, the Medical Corps considered whether to approve cosmetic surgery to reduce the size of large breasts of women serving in the regular army. After careful and sympathetic study, a decision was rendered in the negative.

Successful Formula. Israeli businesspeople who want to know how to succeed in the American market, are now turning to Lloyd Shefsky's book, *Entrepreneurs are Made, Not Born*, which has recently appeared in a Hebrew translation. A test of Shefsky's formula is to be found in the fact that his secretary quit and went into business for herself.

Appropriate Name. They may not realize it, but the Hamas have chosen an appropriate name for themselves, right out of the book of Genesis. Chapter 6, verse 13 reads: "And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with Hamas through them; and behold I will destroy them." In this context, the accepted translation of Hamas from the Hebrew is "violence."

All Kosher. Some 40,000 tons of frozen meat are imported into Israel annually, primarily from South America, while local production of meat is only 20,000 tons.

Pupil Strikes Back. Aviv Gefen, pop singer idol of Israeli teenagers, increased his popularity among the youth when, addressing a high school group, he told them that educational counsellors had been of no help to him when he was at school. Most of them are frustrated old ladies who are starved for sex, he maintained.

Tea Without Lemon. Former Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef has handed down a halachic ruling to the effect that it is forbidden to add a slice of lemon to a glass of hot tea on the Sabbath. The action of the hot water on the lemon is tantamount to a cooking process, he declared.

Expertise. A local cartoonist features a culinary expert who, by smelling the breath of another, can identify which brand of pastry he has eaten, and in which cafe.

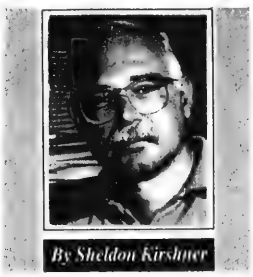
Taking Her at Her Word. When news of the Netanyahu victory was confirmed, Leah Rabin blurted out that she looked at her suitcases and considered leaving the country. An enterprising Haifa merchant purchased two pages in a local paper and headed his ad: "If Leah leaves the country, why should we not help her. All that needs to be done is to choose the right suitcase." And then follow two pages of pictures and descriptions of a long line of various suitcases, with prices.

Each One Has a Name. On Israel's Memorial Day, government TV Channel 33 broadcast during a 26-hour period, the name of each of the 19,792 men and women who have fallen in all of Israel's wars.

Advice From a Child. When a major terrorist attack took place on the eve of Purim, many of the festivities scheduled for that day were cancelled. One child objected. "Purim comes only once a year," he said, "while terrorist attacks take place every week."

The Kirshner File

Israel disappoints British novelist



By Sheldon Kirshner

Lynne Reid Banks, the British novelist who has portrayed Israel in fiction and non-fiction, is disillusioned with the country she called home for nearly a decade.

"I'm very unhappy about Israel these days," she said in a remarkably frank interview. "My whole relationship with Israel has been painful in recent years. My Zionism is crumbling."

Reid Banks, who was in Toronto recently as the guest of the International Festival of Authors, is an accomplished writer, having burst upon the literary scene in 1960 with a feminist novel entitled *The L-Shaped Room*, which was adapted into a movie.

Married to a Jewish sculptor who fought in the 1948 War of Independence, Reid Banks has written 30 adult and children's novels, several of which are set in Israel, most notably *Children at the Gate* and *One More River.* As well, she has produced two historical volumes, *Letters To My Israeli Sons: Story of Jewish Survival* and *Torn Country,* an oral history of the first Arab-Israeli war.

Reid Banks, who spent nine years on a kibbutz affiliated with the left-wing Hashomer Hazair movement, is so disappointed with recent political developments that she does not plan to write another novel with an Israeli setting. Her last novel which unfolded in Israel, *Broken Bridge,* was published in 1995.

"Israel has gone back to the dark ages," she declared vehemently, referring to the ascendancy of Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister.

The last Likud government, she claimed, polarized Israeli society and brought Israel "very low" in its moral and international standing in the world.

And now she fears that Netanyahu, whom she loathes, will again isolate Israel.

Reid Banks, whose novels have been translated into Hebrew, was buoyed by the election of a Labor party government in 1992 . " I had the illusory hope that things would get better with the peace process," she observed. And while she never idealized Netanyahu's predecessors – Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres – they were at least committed to reaching an equitable agreement with the Palestinians and Israel's Arab neighbors, she said.

Netanyahu, she warned, is diverging from this course, and will cause "terrible harm" to Israel, a country she intially visited in 1960, when she was 31.

" I was completely in love with Israel," said Reid Banks, a former actress and television journalist who was born in London, England, the daughter of an Irish actress and a Scottish doctor. "What made Israel so wonderful, for me, was that it was a dream fulfilled. I had been passionately interested in Israel since the end of World War II."

Reid Banks and her mother spent the war years as evacuees in Saskatoon, Sask.When she returned to England at the age of 15, shocked and repelled by the enormity of the Holocaust, she was utterly convinced that the Jewish people deserved a state in what was then Palestine.

The Holocaust not only inculcated in her a sympathy for Zionism, but a keener appreciation of anti-Semitism, a mild strain of which ran in her family (her mother , for example, cautioned her against marrying a Jew.)

She disregarded her bigoted advice. After returning to England from her first trip to Israel, she met Chaim Stephenson, a British Jew of Russian origin who had immigrated to Israel and was now in England studying sculpture. They fell in love, and in December 1962, against her mother's express wishes, she followed him back to Israel, to Yas'ur, a kibbutz in the western Galilee which he had helped establish in 1949.

Reid Banks did not convert to Judaism when she married Stephenson, to whom she bore three boys, Omri, Gillon and Adiel. " I am completely a non-believer," she explained. " There is something basically dishonest about adopting a religion to make your life easier." And yet Reid Banks feels a special affinity with Jews. As she put it: "I'm not a Jew, but I'm Jewish."

On Yas'ur, which stood on land which had been expropriated from the Arab village of al-Burwa, Reid Banks worked in the chicken house and in the vineyard, cooked breakfasts and, ultimately, taught English. She was "madly happy" there, despite her disagreement with the kibbutz's child-rearing methods.

Reid Banks learned a modicum of Hebrew, words and phrases of which appear in her "Israeli" novels. "My Hebrew is very poor. I speak a nursery-level Hebrew. I can chat, but I can't understand the news, which is terrible. I never attended an ulpan. I plunged straight into kibbutz life."

In nine years on Yas'ur, Reid Banks wrote only one novel. "I was completely absorbed by kibbutz life," she said. "I felt my life was full. And after the birth of my first son, there wasn't a lot of time for writing."

On the eve of the Six Day War, she was pregnant with her second son. And in the nerve-wracking weeks before hostilities broke out, she rarely thought of the existential dangers which confronted Israel. "It should have been a very scary period for me, but all I could think of was whether I would have my baby before the school play." Only after the war did she imagine what could have happened had Israel lost the war.

Like the Israelis in her midst, Reid Banks was euphoric over Israel's historic military victory. But the euphoria wore off when she concluded that the land Israel had conquered would not be returned. "The territories," she said, " have been a curse."

In 1971, she and her family left Yas'ur on a one year sabbatical. Reid Banks and her husband, a gardener on the kibbutz, hoped to develop their careers . Reid Banks herself wanted to tend to her children (who had been raised in children's houses) and to spend more time with her aging mother.

Reid Banks spent years on a kibbutz

When they asked for an extension, the kibbutz refused. Reid Banks and her husband decided not return to Yas'ur, a decision they do not regret. "It's just not the country I knew."

Reid Banks, however, has often gone back to visit friends. During the 1991 Gulf War, when Israel was hit by 39 Iraqi Scud missiles, she flew to Israel in an expression of solidarity with the country and her friends.

Israel's future remains a source of concern to her. She fears there will be a war if the peace process collapses, but she is not sanguine about the Oslo accords , which, in her opinion, are as good as dead.

In assessing her mercurial connection with Israel, Reid Banks is philosophic but bitter.

"I'm not sorry for a day of it," she said of her sojourn in Israel. "I'm not sorry that I was a part of. I'm just sorry it has gone so sour," she mused, referring to Israel's drift to the right.

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JWI gives top honors to TD's chief economist

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Ruth Getter, senior vice-president and chief economist of the Toronto Dominion Bank (TD), recently received Jewish Women International (JWI) of Toronto's Woman of the Year Award at its annual Covenant Breakfast.

The mandate of the Woman of the Year committee is to select a Canadian woman who has reached a high level of excellence in her career, volunteer work or who has made an outstanding contribution in her chosen field, Woman of the Year chair Leah Shilling said.

Previous honorees include Gerda Frieberg, Dr. Nehama Baum, Dorothy Reitman, Honey Agar, Chaviva Hosek, Bea Wolfe, Margaret Laurence and June Callwood.

Getter was honored, said Shilling, not only because of her career excellence but because she has helped to create a better environment for the career advancement of women.

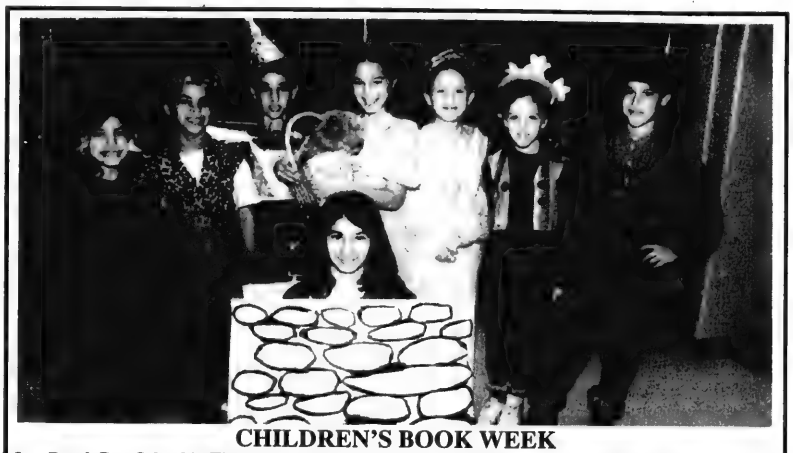
"Ruth is in a career where traditionally only men reach the top and she is the top...As a senior women executive, Ruth was a key member of a group of senior women who initiated the Task Force for the Advancement of Women at TD. In speaking with Ruth, you can instantly tell how proud she is of this work."

Today, said Shilling, "Ruth sits on one of the Task Force subcommittees, most recently focusing on a pilot mentoring program. She also acts as a mentor to several women and men. She has received much recognition and has even been described as having cracked the glass ceiling in a male-dominated field. She has been hailed a renegade by some and is frequently asked to share her experience with outside groups."

Mitzi Dickstein, president JWI of Canada, commended the organization for choosing Getter as an award recipient.

"Ruth, you have served as a role model to all of us concerned with advancing women's effectiveness, with the aims of developing leadership and expertise to enhance our careers, communities and home lives. Through your sheer determination, self-confidence, your refusal to give up and you willingness to fight when the going got tough, you achieved tremendous academic success and broke the glass ceiling in the banking industry."

In accepting the award, Getter said that "my position at TD has allowed me to be in a position to help other women. I am glad to be in that position to listen and help."

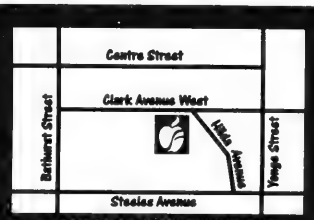


CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Leo Baeck Day School in Thornhill celebrated Children's Book Week this year with a week of visits by authors, book donations to Plaut Manor, and a Dress-up Day. Among the visitors were illustrator Heather Collins, and authors Sheryl McFarlane and Bernice Thurman Hunter. Enjoying Dress-up Day are [front row] Alana Bobet and [second row from left] Jamie Bregman, Matthew Sherman, Jamie Weksberg, Lisa Mark, Adina Mann, Mindy Perimutter and Robbie Faibish. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

IGA Kosher

IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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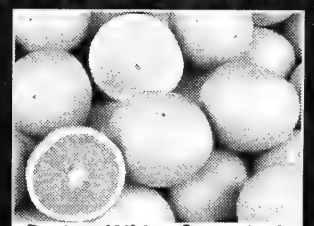

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UJA Federation

CAMPAIGN HEADS FOR THIRTY

The 1997 UJA Federation campaign is on its way to the $30 million mark, with 21,000 donors.

The amount of money raised to date is ahead of last year at this time, but particularly pleasing to campaign leaders is UJA Federation's success with new contributors. More than 1,000 gifts are in from people who have never before donated.

Gary Grundman, who is chairing the new gifts effort with Rosanne Ain, believes the organization is making excellent progress toward its objective of 3,000 first-time contributors. "Acquiring over 1,000 new gifts is a great accomplishment," he says. "We're especially proud of the tremendous inroads we've made in York Region through enthusiastic outreach and fabulous programs."

UJA Federation will be continuing its appeal to new donors with a Chanuka telethon, December 8, at the Lipa Green Building. Anyone interested in participating should call Silvia Astrug at (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

University students on campuses across Toronto are more actively involved than ever before in UJA Federation activities.

The efforts of UJA Federation's Jewish Campus Services (JCS) at York University, University of Toronto, Seneca College and Ryerson Polyechnic University are responsible for the increased participation.

Over 40 students made campaign calls on Super Sunday and a special student telethon is being planned for November 24 at the Lipa Green Building.

Jewish students at York organized a month long charity drive in September and the sale of colourful Love UR Roots T-shirts, which are also being sold on the other three campuses.

Debbie Elfassy (left), with Johanna Levitt, was one of twelve students on UJA Federation's Washington Fly-In.

A city-wide dance, held in October, raised $3,000 and drew more than 1,000 students to the York Underground.

Jewish students at Ryerson and Seneca have also rallied behind UJA Federation by donating money raised from campus barbecues and pizza sales.

"UJA on Campus is a great way to get unaffiliated students connected to the Jewish community," observes Johanna Levitt, city-wide program director for JCS. "It's also a great way for Jewish students to network with each other."

Tammy Nisimov, President of Hillel at Seneca College, says UJA on Campus "is an important way to raise awareness about students' Jewish identity and the community."

In addition to fundraising, Jewish students have also participated in UJA Federation's Washington Fly-In and the Arts & Entertainment Division's *Business of Entertainment* event.

Anthony leaves legacy of tzedaka

Charles Anthony was a man who chose his direction early in life and stuck to it until his death.

Anthony, who died recently at age 79 after battling cancer, was a strong supporter of UJA Federation and the Jewish community - a man who cared deeply about others and always stood up for his beliefs.

Born and raised in London, England, at age 22, Anthony helped locate sponsors to bring Jewish children out of Germany and find them homes in London before WW II broke out. One of those children would later become his wife.

"When he met my mother, Lotte, it was love at first sight," said Anthony's youngest daughter, Karen.

Upon arriving in Canada, Anthony found work in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia where he became very involved with its small Jewish community, helping to build the synagogue's Holy Ark (Aron Kodesh).

He returned to England during the war and shortly after his marriage, moved to a new Toronto on near Shaarei Shomayim synagogue, then located on St. Clair Avenue.

Charles Anthony

According to his daughter, Anthony chose his home using a compass to determine a location within walking distance of the synagogue. When the synagogue, with which he became very involved, moved north, Anthony again selected a house over two miles away.

"He had a definite stride that everyone could recognize when he walked to shul every Shabbat," recalled Shaarei Shomayim Rabbi Mark Dratch, who praised Anthony's service on the Board of Governors and as Executive Director. "He was a man of great integrity."

Anthony, who became successful in the real estate business, also backed the Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds and many other charities.

"He was a very dedicated campaigner for UJA Federation," noted co-campaigner David Green. "You could always rely on Charles."

"My father always taught us that one had to give of oneself and fight for what he or she believes in," said Karen.

Anthony is survived by his wife Lotte, son John and daughters Marilyn, Debra and Karen.

Royal sponsor

Charles S. Coffey (left), Executive Vice-President of Business Banking, Royal Bank presents UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein with a cheque for sponsorship of UJA Federation's Major Gift's Gala on behalf of Royal Bank Real Estate Markets and Corporate Accounts.

LION CONFERENCE INSPIRES SOLIDARITY

A delegation of UJA Women's Campaign supporters recently returned from Jerusalem, with many new international friendships.

They joined some 500 women representing 35 countries, including 23 emerging Jewish nations, for the first ever, 5 day International Lion of Judah Conference.

Reuma Weizman, wife of Israeli President Ezer Weizman and Honourary Conference Chair, called the participants "women of valour," for their dedication to "providing a brighter future for Jews all over the world."

Leah Rabin praised the women for coming to Jerusalem in "less than ideal times" and said "you have shown your solidarity with Israel in the most precious way."

For the Canadian delegation, the highlight of the conference, "*Beyond Boundaries*," was the chance to meet women from developing countries such as Azerbaijan, Belarus, Slovakia, Bosnia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, India and Cuba.

One woman, Zaga, who travelled on foot from Ethiopia before boarding a plane to Sudan ten years ago, has spent her life since then helping fellow immigrants find their way.

Sara, originally from Sarajevo, whose mother hid Jews during World War II, was forced along with her family into hiding as a result of the Bosnian civil war. Jews who had been saved by Sara's mother years before, rescued the entire family and brought them to Israel where Sara converted to Judaism.

Sara, who remarried in a Jewish ceremony and celebrated her daughter's bat mitzva, now works at Yad Vashem.

"These women are the real heroes," said Vicki Campbell, Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign. "Their stories about how they almost lost their Jewishness because they were not allowed to practice Judaism had a tremendous impact on us."

"To witness the Jewish commitment of these women, under the most dire circumstances was profoundly inspirational," said Karen Morton, Chair of the Canadian delegation. "We all walked away with a renewed sense of enthusiasm and commitment."

Karen Morton, Chair of the Canadian delegation shakes hands with Sara Netanyahu as the Prime Minister looks on.

(below) UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell greets David Berger, Canada's Ambassador to Israel.

IN TOUCH

Women's Campaign adopts personal touch

UJA Federation's Women's Campaign has come up with an innovative way to make involvement with the organization more user friendly.

It's called the mentoring program and it works very much like the buddy system. Seasoned UJA Federation volunteers use their knowledge and experience to help ease newcomers into what is for many an intimidating situation.

"Women arriving at a telethon or an event for the first time often feel very uncomfortable not knowing anyone," explains Agi Mandel, Vice-Chair of Women's Campaign, who along with Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell, helped implement the program.

"Having a familiar face greeting you at the door can make all the difference."

The mentoring teams, made up of two captains, maintain regular contact with the new volunteers before programs, help train campaigners and from time to time, get together for informal meetings at someone's home.

Suzie Epelbaum at UJA Federation's Super Sunday.

Suzie Epelbaum was thankful for "not having to walk into the room alone" when she arrived to make calls on Super Sunday. "I probably wouldn't have come had my mentor not been there."

Randy Appelby Handler says the mentor program was just the thing to get her back to UJA Federation after not being involved for years, since she graduated from university. "It's really nice to have someone call up and personally invite you to a program. It's nice to see friendly faces."

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UJA FEDERATION

Community Partners

Volunteer feels like she belongs

Although Miri Schneiderman is a full-time mother and nursery school teacher, her active volunteer career with UJA Federation makes the Lipa Green Building seem like her second home.

"I spend a big part of my life at Lipa Green," Schneiderman explains, "because I'm involved with so many different things."

The Israeli-born Schneiderman began her involvement with UJA Federation six years ago, after serving on the executive of the USDS Parents' Association for seven years. "I wanted to branch out into the community and a friend, Judy Engel, showed me the way."

Schneiderman recalls accompanying Engel on her first UJA Federation Community March for Israel and feeling "like I wanted to do more." Since then, she has been a member of the March Festival committee and considers herself "the hotdog person" for the event.

But Schneiderman's commitment doesn't end there. She is also a graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program, a regular telethon campaigner and an active member of Jewish Women's Federation's Shalom Toronto Committee.

"It makes me feel really good to show new arrivals to Toronto the ins and outs of the Jewish community. I remember how lonely and disoriented I was when I first moved to Toronto eight years ago," she says. "Being involved with the community makes me feel like I belong."

Miri Schneiderman

GUR PROVIDES DIRECTION TO OLIM

Miri Gur is a woman with connections. By using them, she has helped thousands of people start a new life in Israel.

Miri Gur

Gur has just begun a two-year term as Regional Director for the Israel Aliya Centre in Toronto, which helps hundreds of Jews make the move each year. She has devoted much of her career to acquainting new olim with life in Israel. "Helping olim," she says, "is one of the most important tasks one can do." Aliya Centre activities are financed, in part, by UJA Federation.

"For many, leaving their country is difficult," she acknowledges, "but settling in a new country requires even more hard work and adjustment."

That's where Gur's native Israeli instinct and diverse connections come into play. "People call me for help with anything from dealing with a neglectful landlord to finding a job."

In fact, many of those she has helped still keep in touch to update Gur on their progress. "To some, I feel like I'm their godmother."

Gur's choice for a mate strengthened her mission. Her husband, Baruch, currently the Jewish Agency's emissary to UJA Federation, is the architect of Operation Exodus, which rescued over 650,000 Jews from the Former Soviet Union.

Miri Gur earned a Masters degree in Education at the American University in Washington, after serving as an officer in the Israel Defence Forces.

Before moving to Toronto with her husband two years ago, Gur supervised ulpanim, where new immigrants learn Hebrew.

But now that she's in Toronto, Gur appreciates the opportunity to see the other side, even though she misses her two children, both studying law in Israel.

Second generation seeks children of survivors

A group of children of Holocaust survivors is asking others to come forward to help educate the public about what their parents suffered more than 50 years ago.

Generation to Generation, a sub-committee of UJA Federation's Holocaust Remembrance Committee, was founded six years ago by Hindy Stegman and Miriam Abbou after returning from Poland where they traced their family roots.

"We are the children that should not have been," says Abbou, who feels children of survivors "must pass on their parents legacy."

Over the years, Generation to Generation has attracted some new members by, among other means, co-sponsoring educational programs, running a telethon on the 50th anniversary of the Holocaust and organizing a successful one day conference last May.

However, Abbou and Stegman are certain there are thousands of second generation survivors who are hesistant to step forward and identify with each other. By doing so, they say, "these people can begin to heal and feel less alone."

Linda Goldman joined Generation to Generation two years ago, after designing a quilt, which now hangs at Beth Tzedec synagogue, in memory of her grandmother. Having been "obsessed" with her family's experience during the war from a young age, Goldman remains very concerned about what she calls general "apathy" toward the subject.

Hindy Stegman

"In ten years survivors will be gone and then it will be our word against theirs. I will continue to spread the truth until I'm 80."

Recruitment for the planning of the second Generation to Generation conference scheduled for next spring is currently underway. Those interested in becoming involved should call the Holocaust Remembrance Committee at (416) 635-2883 ext 144.

Miriam Abbou

CJC Meets with Israeli Foreign Minister

A Canadian Jewish Congress delegation travelled to New York for Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy's address to the U.N. General Assembly. Standing are CJC National President Goldie Hershon and Ontario Region Chair Moshe Ronen. Seated (left to right) are Rachel Levy, the Foreign Minister's wife, David Levy and Jacques Benquesus, President of Toronto's Ohr Haemet Sephardic School.

Ambassador visits UJA Federation

Israel's new Ambassador to Canada David Sultan was in Toronto recently where he met with UJA Federation leaders.

~

Left to right Norman Godfrey, Sandra Brown, President of UJA Federation, David Sultan, UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein and Helen Finder Guttman.

Community Matters

EMOTIONS RUN HIGH ON SPOTLIGHT MISSION

Visits to Yitzhak Rabin's grave and a joint Israeli-Palestinian patrol provided the high drama, but it was the emotional peaks that left a lasting impression on members of UJA Federation's Arts and Entertainment mission to Israel.

The *Spotlight on Israel* Mission, October 23-29, drew some of the leading names in Canada's arts & entertainment industry.

Other mission highlights included a border crossing from Metulla to Lebanon, a visit to the archaeological ruins at Beit She'an, Shabbat services at the kotel (Western Wall) and a visit to Kfar Gvirol, a UJA Federation Project Renewal neighbourhood.

The group also attended a reception at Jerusalem's Cinemateque theatre, visited the Rubin Academy for Music and heard an address by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

"It was a very emotional experience," says Howard Lichtman, who co-chairs UJA Federation's Arts & Entertainment Division with Richard Sadowski. "A real roller coaster from beginning to end."

(above) Howard Lichtman (left), Paul Marcus and Richard Sadowski survey the ruins at Beit She'an.

(left) Allen Karp, president and C.E.O. of Cineplex Odeon Corporation, with his wife Sharon, can't wait to take a bite of this oversized pita they found in Jordan

(far left) Remembering Rabin on Mt. Herzl. (R to L) Gerry Sheff, Joel and Jill Reitman, Ellis and Sharyn Jacob.

UJA Federation
REUNITING EX-MONTREALERS

Old friends and former schoolmates met again recently to relive good times at the first ever *Maximum Montreal Reunion*, sponsored by UJA Federation.

Close to 500 ex-Montrealers, looking for a familiar face from the past, packed the Bathurst Jewish Centre for an evening of nostalgia, schmoozing and, of course, fressing.

The event celebrated the strength and vibrancy of Montreal's Jewish community. "It was also an opportunity to welcome those who have moved to Toronto in recent years," explained event Chair Judy Engel.

These photos taken by Barry Shainbaum captured some memorable Montreal moments.

Members of UJA Federation's Maximum Montreal Reunion committee (left to right) Loretta Levinson, Ron Caplan, Rob Singer, Mindi Klein, Chairperson Judy Engel, Steven Polisuk, Gerry Babins, Joey Holtzman and Sheldon Burstein. Missing committee members: Alan Wainer, Robert Tanner, Cindy Moss, Lori Katz-Wayne, Shawna Goodman and Ellen Bessner.

Montreal Canadiens hockey fan Jack Eigenmacht sampling some deli delights.

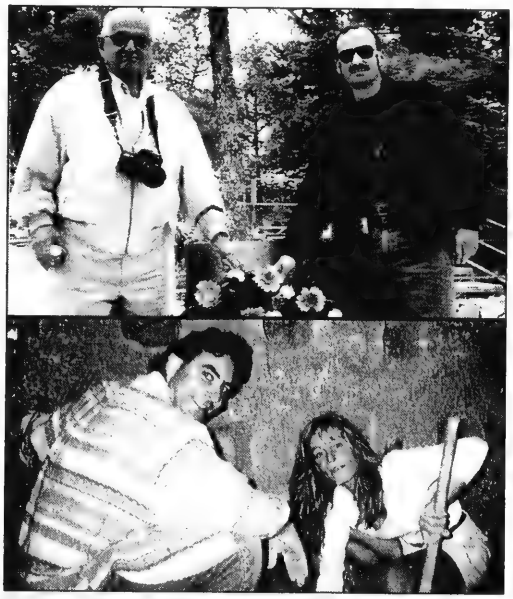
Four former Montrealers share a toast to friendship.

Ellen Bessner and John Friedlan

(above) Paul and Judy Bronfman with Metulla Mayor Yossi Goldberg.

(below) Fred and Michael Goldberg lay a wreath in memory of Yitzhak Rabin.

(bottom) Jeff and Rita Rayman dig in at the Tel Maresha cave site.



Greater Toronto Area

Right is not necessarily wrong, say Segal, Frum

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – So what are two nice Jewish boys doing on Canada's right wing? Partly, trying to convince Jews there's nothing to fear.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

David Frum, considered a conservative even in rightist circles, and Hugh Segal, a self-described "red, Bob Stanfield Tory," offered different visions of what conservatism means for Jews. But their message last week at Jewish Book Fair was that Jewish voters, who tend to lean toward liberalism, should give the right a try.

Speaking to about 200 people at Leah Posluns Theatre ("a large crowd for a federal Tory," Segal quipped) the two offered personal glimpses of what molded their outlooks.

Frum, author of two well-received books on the new right, conceded he did not learn his politics from his parents but from his surroundings. Whereas his parents reaped the rewards of hard work and family life, Frum said, he grew up witnessing the crumbling of the family and "despair, deficits, stagnating standards and the failure of governments to articulate a vision."

Frum feels Jews have "a national vice: a certain tendency to traditional liberalism." But he said he's found that liberalism is usually espoused by those Jews "who drift away from Judaism."

He said it's a good idea for Jews to remember that it's been the right that has been most supportive of Israel, and to look at Jewish migration patterns: "Where Jews want to go is pretty good. Where Jews leave is usually pretty bad," Frum said.

His brand of conservatism, he said, stands for the traditional family and intellectual and cultural standards.

Segal, a long time Tory insider and chief of staff to former prime minister Brian Mulroney, said his conservatism is "about ensuring that the mainstream is broad enough for one more person," a

Long time Tory insider

view likely tempered by his left-leaning father and socialist grandfather, and the "sense of community" he acquired at Montreal's Talmud Torah school.

He said he grew up admiring former prime minister John Diefenbaker because he stood up to Bay Street and checked reactionary elements in his party.

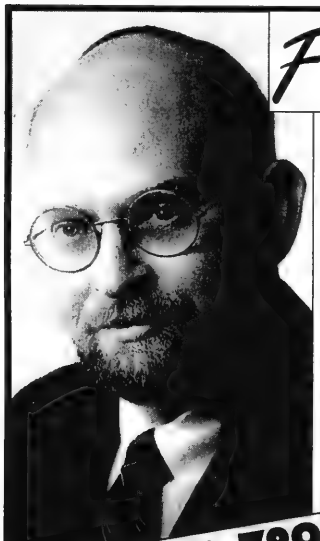
It was a Liberal government that sent shiploads of Jews away from Canadian shores during and after World War II, Segal noted, while a Tory government admitted Sri Lankan and other refugees.

His Tory heroes, he said, are former Alberta premier Peter Lougheed, former Ontario premier Bill Davis and one-time federal PC leader Bob Stanfield – all moderates. It was Davis, he noted, who refused to allow the PLO to attend an international conference in Toronto in 1974.

You tend to be a conservative "when you have a bias toward tradition and values." Segal said his brand of conservatism tends to follow "the European definition: it's more about order than freedom. No one's freedom is safe without order."

While Frum said he supports tax cuts in any circumstance and massive spending cutbacks to virtually all government programs, Segal said conservatives must not lose sight of "civility, respect and responsibility for each other."

The evening was moderated by Elaine Todres, Ontario's deputy soliticor general and deputy minister of correctional services – as she put it, "a nice Jewish girl in charge of police and jails."



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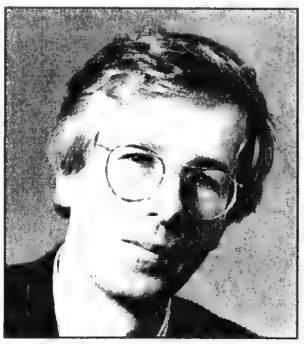

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פון משה קירשענבלאַט

עס איז שוין אַוועק 52 יאָר, זינט די היטלעריש רוצחים האָבן דערמאָרדעט דעם היסטאָריקער, אָרגאַניזאַטאָר און שעפער פונעם חורבן-אַרכיוו, דר. עמנואל רינגעלבלום, זיין פרוי יהודית (הערמאַן) און זייער 14-יאָריקן בן יחיד, אוריה.

דעם 7-טן מערץ 1944, האָבן די דייטשן אַנטדעקט דעם בונקער, וואו עס האָבן זיך אויסבאַהאַלטן דר. רינגעלבלום, זיין פרוי און זון און נאָך אַנדערע 35 יידן, וועמען די דייטשן האָבן, אויף די חורבות פון געטאָ, ברוטאַל דערמאָרדעט.

אין וואַרשע און אין געטאָ, ביזן לעצטן טאָג פון זיין טראַגישן טויט, האָט דר. רינגעלבלום אָנגעפירט אַ פאַרצווייגטע פּאָליטישע טעטיקייט. אַלס אַקטיווער חבר פון דער פּאַרטיי לינקע פּועלי ציון, און אויך ביי די שילער-יוגנט. אומעטום איז ער געווען דער אָרגאַניזאַטאָר, טאָן-געבער, לעקטאָר, און מיט זיין פערזענלעכקייט און ביישפּיל, האָט ער שטאַרק באַוויזקט זיינע תלמידים און צוהערער. עס וואָלט צופיל פּלאַץ פאַרנומען צו אַנאַליזירן און אויסרעכענען אַלע זיינע אַקטיוויטעטן און דערגרייכונגען אויף די אויבנדערמאָנטע און אַנדערע געביטן.

אַ גאַנץ באַזונדער הערא̇איש קאַפּיטל זיינען דר. רינגעלבלומ'ס אַקטיוויטעטן אין געטאָ וואַרשע, הויפּטזעכלעך דאָס אָרגאַניזירן און אָנפירן מיט די הויף-קאָמיטעטן. די קאָמיטעטן זיינען געווען דער פאַרבינדונגס-אָרגאַן פאַר הילף פון אַלע צענטראַלע יידישע אָרגאַניזאַציעס, וואָס האָבן זיך געווידמעט צו פאַרלייכטערן דאָס לעבן פון די איינוואוינער אין די גרויסע וואַרשעווער הייף.

ספּעציעל אין געטאָ וואַרשע איז געווען אַ נויטווענדיקייט צו זאָרגן פאַר יעדער נויטיקער הילף, צ.ב. אַ קיך פאַר הונגערקע; אַ דערציאונגס ווינקל פאַר קינדער; אַ געהיימע קאַמפּס-צייטונג און ענלעכע טעטיקייטן. דאָס אַלץ איז געווען געקניפּט און געבונדן איינס מיטן אַנדערן, און דערהויבן דעם מוט פון די געטאָ-יידן.

דר. רינגעלבלום איז געווען דער נערוו, אָנפירער און אָרגאַניזאַטאָר פון שאַפן דעם געטאָ-אַרכיוו. פאַר דעם צוועק האָט ער אָרגאַניזירט אַ גרעסערע צאָל מיטבאַטייליקטע, אום כדי מיט זייער הילף צו פאַרשרייבן אַלץ, וואָס האָט פּאַסירט אין געטאָ. ער האָט געגעבן אינסטרוקציעס צו אַלע זיינע מיטאַרבעטער צו זאַמלען און פאַרצייכענען אַלץ. אַפילו ווען עס דוכט זיך, אַז דאָס איז אַ מינדערוויכטיקער פּרט, דאַרף עס ווערן פאַרצייכנט פאַר דער געשיכטע און פאַר די צוקונפטיקע דורות. אים האָט געמאַטערט דער געדאַנק, זעענדיק וואָס עס טוט זיך, ווי די דייטשן האָבן זיך פאַרמאָסטן אומצוברענגען אַלע יידן, האָט זיין געזונטער חוש זיך אָפּגעגעבן אַ חשבון, אַז עס קען געשען, אַז ס'זאָל ניט בלייבן קיינער צווישן די לעבנגעבליבענע געראַטעוועטע קרבנות, וואָס זאָל קענען עדות זאָגן וועגן פאַרגאַנגענעם לעבן און פאַרניכטונג פון יידישן פאָלק.

אַלס באַגאַבטער און יונגער היסטאָריקער האָט ער ביזן לעצטן טאָג פון זיין לעבן, אונטער די שווערסטע באַדינגונגען, זיצנדיק אינעם בונקער אויף דער אַרישער זייט, אונטערן פּחד יעדע מינוט אַנטדעקט צו ווערן און באַצאָלן מיטן לעבן, ניט אויפגעהערט זיין הייליקע אַרבעט און זי בשלימות אויסגעפירט.

מיט דעם אויסגעגראָבענעם געטאָ אַרכיוו איז אַנטפּלעקט געוואָרן פאַר דער וועלט עפּנטלעכקייט דער אמת וועגן דעם מאַסן-מאָרד, מיט אַלע פּרטימ'דיקע דערשיינונגען און פּייניקונגען, באַגאַנגען דורך די דייטשע מערדער.

דער נאָמען דר. עמנואל רינגעלבלום איז באַקאַנט איבער דער ברייטער וועלט, צו יידן און ניט-יידן, אַלס דער, וואָס איז געווען דער ערשטער — פון היסטאָרישן שטאַנדפּונקט — מגלה צו זיין פאַר דער וועלט, די כוונה פונעם דייטשן מערדער-פאָלק, זיינע אכזריותן לגבי דער מענטשהייט בכלל און לגבי דעם יידישן פאָלק בפרט.

יעדער איינער, וואָס רירט זיך צו צו דער חורבן-טעמע, צי דאָס זיינען פאָרשער פון דער חורבן-תקופה אָדער שרייבער, ציטירן אָדער פאַרדופן זיך אויף די נאָטיצן פון דר. רינגעלבלומ'ס אַרכיוו. מען קען ניט רעדן און ניט שרייבן וועגן חורבן, אַז מען זאָל ניט דערמאָנען דעם נאָמען דר. רינגעלבלום. זיין לעבן און שאַפן האָט געלערנט און אינספּירירט דעם נאָכן-חורבן דור, בעסער צו פאַרשטיין און פאָרזעצן דעם קאַמף קעגן די פאַשיסטיש-אַנטיסעמיטישע מעשים.

דר. רינגעלבלום און זיינע מיטאַרבעטער האָבן געשריבן הייליקע בלעטער פון דער טראַגישסטער יידישער געשיכטע. ער איז געווען דער אומדערמידלעכער פאַרשרייבער וועגן אומקום פון פּוילישן יידנטום.

Spanish Jews' plight explored

BY CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Simcha Jacobovici

TORONTO – Modern day descendants of Jews forcibly converted during the Spanish inquisition will be the topic of a special event at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue Nov. 30 at 8:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation and Netivot HaTorah Day School, the evening will kick off a year-long celebration of the 13th year since the founding of Netivot HaTorah Day School.

The program will feature Emmy award-winning documentary director and producer Simcha Jacobovici; guitarist Aaron Skitri; and Erna Paris, author of *The End of Days*, a story of the expulsion of Jews from Spain.

Jacobovici's film, *Expulsion & Memory: Descendants of the Hidden Jews*, which has received rave reviews, will be shown on three large screens in the synagogue sanctuary. The film tells the story of the conversos, who were forced to convert during the Spanish Inquisition, and looks at the memories that still haunt their descendants.

Shot on location in Spain, Portugal, Israel, Canada and the United States, the film has extensive interviews with the children of secret believers and features performances by Placido Domingo, Zubin Mehta and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Following the screening, Jacobovici will discuss the film and answer questions, Skitri will perform live and Paris will discuss her book, on which Jacobovici's film is based.

Rabbi Elliott Diamond, vice-principal of Netivot HaTorah, who is co-chair of the evening with his wife Rochelle, said the film "is fascinating. It shows the darker side of Jewish continuity. When you watch it, you sense a mystical quality of the Jewish people."

Tickets are available at the synagogue, Netivot HaTorah Day School and at Judaica stores.

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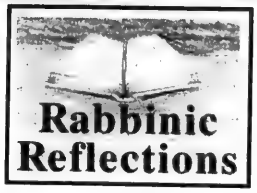


Shalom's more than peace

By RABBI MARK FRIEDMAN

Although the Hebrew word, shalom is generally taken to mean peace, it can, in fact have several shades of meaning. Some of these are only indirectly related to what we think of as peace. Sometimes shalom implies calm, tranquility, the state of being undisturbed. This is the kind of serenity which one detects in people uninvolved with the problems that beset the community and the world. They are apathetic and unconcerned and therefore at peace.

We must decide whether we will imitate the hermit and seek peace only for ourselves. We can claim that we will let government officials alone take care of this and that we will just concern ourselves with our own houses, as Noah did with the ark. Or we can, as our tradition urges, oppose this doctrine of *shalom elayich nafshi*, of pursuing serenity for ourselves only. We can instead involve ourselves and make our voices heard for the sake of our entire world.

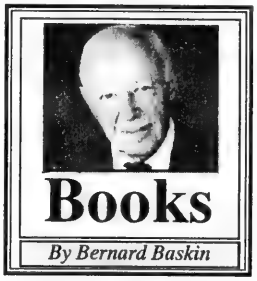
There is another type of peace. This is the peace synonymous with stagnation. This is the kind of peace one finds in the cemetery. The illustration of this kind of peace is the Dead Sea of Israel. If you have been to Israel, you know that the Dead Sea is a tranquil body of water, and due to the minerals it contains, one can float upon it easily. But it has no fish and other living creatures. Its waters cannot be consumed because they are poisoned. In fact, that is why it is known as the Dead Sea. It gets the water from the Jordan but does not share it with other rivers or streams. Since it has no outlets and gives nothing to other bodies of water, it is sterile and without vitality.

Yet, to the north of the Dead Sea is the Sea of Galilee. This sea is fresh. Fish swim in it and splashes of green adorn its banks. Men build their homes near it and every kind of life is happier because it is there. What is the difference between the two seas? The difference is that the Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it, another drop flows out. The giving and receiving is in equal measure.

There is a third type of shalom. It has to do with a related word in Hebrew, *slamut*, which means wholeness and perfection. This word is applied to the patriarch Jacob, of whom we are reading in the Torah in the current series of sedrot. The Torah tells us that after his encounter with his brother Ksau, *Vayavo Yeakov shalem ir Shchem* – "Jacob came shalem to the city of Shohem." The rabbis comment on these words: *Shalem be-qufo, shalem be-mamono, shalem be-Torato* – physically healthy, financially secure and spiritually strong.

The true person of shalom, of peace is not the one who has a powerful roar and frightens others into submission through a show of power and force. Rather it is the person who can bring about a sweet harmony of cooperation. We need to search for that shalom which is shalem – which will create a symphony of goodwill and cooperation for all the inhabitants of our world and for all of their descendants.

Rabbi Friedman is the spiritual leader of Shaare Zedek Congregation in Montreal.



Power of the tongue

Words That Hurt; Words That Heal, by Joseph Telushkin (William Morrow & Co., $26.45).

The Hebrew word *metzora*, often found in the Hebrew scriptures, means "leper." The ancient rabbis read the term as two words, *motzi ra*, "He who spreads evil." Then they proceeded to denounce the sin of slander and malicious gossip as a loathsome moral disease, an evil to be as strenuously avoided as leprosy.

They also maintained that improper speech involving a third person besmirches three people: the one who speaks it, the one who accepts it and the one of whom it is spoken.

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, in this volume that emphasizes the importance of speech in human relationships, asserts that it is easier to give up alcohol than to abandon our daily quota of verbal cruelties. It is no wonder that the Book of Proverbs warns that "life and death are in the power of the tongue."

Bismarck once said of his favorite general, "He can keep his mouth shut in seven different languages." The nicest thing about silence is that it can't be repeated. The worst thing about gossip is that once the harm has been done it is almost impossible to remedy.

A farmer who wanted to teach his son this lesson drove some nails into the side of a barn. Then he asked his son to remove them. After the boy had done so, the marks of the nails still remained. There was no way to get rid of the original impression of the nails. "So it is," said the father, "When we damage the reputation of others."

The tongue is in a very wet place and it is so easy for it to slip. And how often do we inflict with our tongue the kind of blows which burn deeper and hurt so much longer than any physical blows we can inflict.

Why do we gossip? Rabbi Telushkin believes that it is to raise our status through lowering the status of others. Evidently, there is psychological satisfaction in seeing the position or reputation of another suffer or decline.

The press is often guilty of ruining careers and even lives. The author presents the case of Oliver Stipple, who in 1975, saved the life of then president Gerald Ford from a demented gunman. Newspapers trumpeted that Stipple was active in gay causes. As a result his humiliated mother stopped talking to him. The erstwhile hero began to drink heavily and died a few years later at the age of 47. "The Stipple case demonstrates the inadvertant damage that can be done even when people start out talking positively about others. Unless we remain acutely conscious of the direction in which a conversation is heading, such talk is unlikely to remain innocuous."

In a chapter dealing with parents and children, the author suggests that when a child is caught in a lie, the untruth should be recognized but the child should not be branded a liar. Verbal assaults against children, and similar acts of humiliation can leave life long scars.

White lies, uttered for moral reasons are praised. The author points out that when a life is at stake, God not only permits lying, but even mandates it. For example when God commands the prophet Samuel to anoint David as king in place of Saul, Samuel refuses. He asks, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." God then instructs the prophet to tell Saul a lie, that the purpose of his trip is not to anoint a new monarch, but to offer a sacrifice. Says Rabbi Telushkin, "Apparently God wishes to teach Samuel that one does not owe the truth to would-be murderers."

Replete with telling and pertinent illustrations as well as with insights from the well of Jewish tradition, this book is a wise and necessary call to watch our words. It is not a new admonition for, after all, three times a day in the liturgy we pray, "O God, keep my tongue from evil and my lips from speaking deceit."

Jewish Life

E-mail lists, Usenet newsgroups can help you search family's past

BY MARK MIETKIEWICZ

In my previous column, we began to look at how the Internet can help us scale our Jewish family trees by using the World Wide Web's many genealogy sites. Today our hunt into the past continues and gets much more personal by using Usenet news groups and Internet e-mail lists. These tools can give you the ability to narrow your search to find out more about your own family and ancestral home town.

If your family once lived in a shtetl, why not join the ShtetLinks Project Mailing List **[http://www.jewishgen.org/shtetlinks.html]**? "The goal is to develop a kind of grassroots atlas of Jewish life, a resource for those seeking to know the stories of the cities, towns and villages where our ancestors lived."

And if you go to the JewishGen area on Special Interest Groups **[http://www.jewishgen.org/sigs.html],** you'll find links to the Yizkor Memorial Book list, the Russian Era Indexing of Poland Project and the Grodno and Latvia Special Interest Groups. Through mailing lists, you can develop associations, even friendships with people with similar interests around the world. JewishGen will even try to organize mentoring programs which help match novices with more experienced researchers **[http://www.jewishgen.org/mentprog/mentor_p.htm].**

If you have an e-mail account but do not have full Internet access, you can still be part of this Virtual Jewish Genealogical community. To get started, send separate e-mail messages to the following addresses.

(Note: your e-mails DO NOT need any subject or contents, just the address.) Messages to **[faq@jewishgen.org]** and **[intro@jewishgen.org]** will give you answers to the most Frequently Asked Jewish Genealogy Questions.

If you send a message to **[begin@jewishgen.org]** you will receive a 12-step Beginners Guide to Jewish Genealogy. And an e-mail to **[info@jewishgen.org]** will give you an index of all other genealogical documents which are available by e-mail.

Perhaps the most interesting place to browse for genealogical information on the Jewish Highway is at the Usenet newsgroup **[soc.genealogy.jewish].** The contents of the newsgroup changes from day to day with a constant flow of requests, replies and recommendations.

Some recent examples:

• One man was looking for information about how to join the claim against Swiss banks holding money deposited by Jews before World War II.

• Some Israeli members were volunteering their services to look up names in local phone books.

• A success story told of how a daughter was reunited with her mother after being separated for 46 years. Apparently, the search involved over 900 e-mail messages and was aided by genealogical volunteers in the United States, Israel, Canada, Germany, Poland and Russia. Incredibly, the entire search took only four months.

So once you have actually tracked down a vital piece of information and have found names of those long-lost relatives that live somewhere out west, the next question is how do you track them down? There are a few Internet search programs which can be extremely useful helping you find relatives (and acquaintances) who may have e-mail addresses.

Some of these sites will even scour millions of Internet World Wide Web pages for those mention of those names. These programs are all free; so you can try: Okra net.citizen Directory Service **[http://okra.ucr.edu/okra/]**, internet@ddress.finder **[http://www.iaf.net/]**, Four11 **[http://www.four11.com]**, and WhoWhere? **[http://www.whowhere.com]**

Some of these sites are particularly valuable because they will even let you search all U.S. telephone white pages on-line. Since the Internet is growing by the minute, these lists aren't exhaustive but they can be quite handy.

If all this searching has whetted your appetite, and you crave more human (as opposed to virtual) contact, then there's always the 16th Annual Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Paris in the summer of 1997 **[http://www.uniglobedynamic.com/paris97intro.html]**. Who knows who you'll meet there.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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THE FACES OF CONTEMPLATION

As captured in the artist's mind and heart, two different faces of contemplation. On the left is And God Remembered Rachel and She Bore a Son by Abel Pann (1883-1963). On the right is Meditating on the Book of Ecclesiastes by Solomon Alexander Hart (1806-1881). ***The photographs are excerpted from Sotheby's auction catalogues October 11, 1995 and October 8, 1996 respectively.***

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Reissa Bloom, 17, spoke about her experiences as a March of the Living participant during Holocaust Education Week. With her are Roman Ziegler, a March chaperone, left, and Reissa's father Stephen. [Frances Kraft photo]

March of the Living gives students 'hands on' learning

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – As a secondary school teacher for the past 24 years, Stephen Bloom, head of the history department at Westmount Collegiate Institute, has found that students learn best from personal experience.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

His 17-year-old daughter Reissa, a Grade 12 student at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute, discovered that for herself earlier this year as a participant on the March of the Living.

The pair spoke about Teaching the Holocaust through the Experiences of the March of the Living at a Holocaust Education Week program held at Congregation Darchei Noam.

The two-week biennial trip brings together Jewish teens from around the world to visit concentration camps and one-time major Jewish centres in Poland before finishing the trip in Israel. This year's group of over 5,000 included a Canadian contingent of about 300, including 112 from Toronto.

"I wanted to enhance my sense of Jewish identity," said Reissa, who attended Hebrew school at Adath Israel Congregation, and went on to lead youth services at Darchei Noam after her bat mitzvah.

As a student at a school with a predominantly non-Jewish student population, Reissa also wanted to connect with other Jewish teens.

Before going on the March, Reissa, whose mother has cousins who are survivors, didn't know very much about the Holocaust. "I learned through my father [a member of the Holocaust Education sub-committee], I learned a bit at Hebrew school and at school, but I'd never spoken to a survivor about his experience."

Initially a bit apprehensive, Reissa found that even before the trip began "our motto was, 'We are one,' and I think we really did feel that way."

Seeing the concentration camps evoked "an overwhelming sense of sadness. For me it represented the death of my people," Reissa said.

Despite the sadness and anger, there was also a strong sense of comfort and unity among the group, she said.

Roman Ziegler, a 69-year-old survivor and March chaperone, said he derived courage from the young people on the trip. "They went out of their way to prop us up."

The youngest of eight children, Ziegler was the sole survivor of his family. Because he is used to confronting his past as a speaker in local schools, he was unprepared for the emotional impact the trip would have on him.

"We have to challenge [Holocaust deniers]," he insists. "The legacy must be handed over to the younger generation."

The trip includes a life-affirming march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, marred for Reissa and her peers by the taunts of non-Jewish Poles. But "even with all the hatred, we felt really proud to be there."

Going to Israel was like coming home, said Reissa. "As we landed, everyone was incredibly happy. We started singing, dancing, kissing the ground. It was a joyous event.."

Her newly forged links with Jewish youth from around the world and with Israel have made Reissa "a very different person," said her father. "I know she will carry her experience with her the rest of her life and the story will be repeated so the event will never be forgotten.

"My own experience with Holocaust education over the last 18 years, fills me with a need to teach more, to make this generation more aware of the events that happened.. The outstanding part of the classroom experience for my students has always been the survivor speaker, but in the next 10 to 15 years, there will be very few left."

Kaplan Foundation scholarships awarded to four Jewish teens

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Four Jewish teens who last year attended schools in the riding of York Centre were among eight exceptional students presented with scholarships in the amount of $350.

Art Eggleton, member of Parliament for York Centre, presented Meny Grauman, Natan Kapustin, Leah Prusznowski and Neta Safirstein with Kaplan Foundation scholarships to recognize their academic achievement and community service.

The scholarships were provided by the Robert P. Kaplan Foundation, which was created out of the proceeds of a tribute dinner held in honor of Bob Kaplan, former MP for York Centre.

Grauman, 18, a recent graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) has enrolled in the University of Toronto's history program. A founding member of a youth program at Beth Avraham Yosef of Toronto Congregation, he also served as a news editor for CHAT's school paper and captain of the school trivia team for three years.

Kapustin, 18, a graduate of Yeshivat Or Chaim, is now studying at Yeshivat Sha'alvim in Israel. He plans to return to Toronto next year and study at York University.

Kapustin was head of the Bnei Akiva group at B'nai Torah Congregation and read Torah regularly at Kehillat Shaarei Torah. He also served as president of his school's student council last year.

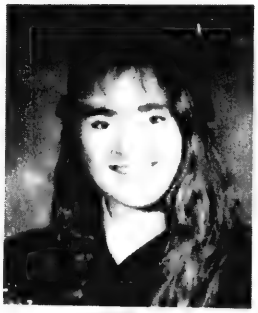
Meny Grauman

Natan Kapustin

Ulpanat Orot. A past president of Yachad, the arm of National Conference of Synagogue Youth that serves the mentally and physically challenged, Safirstein volunteered weekly at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care over a six-year period and organized a crew to work daily with a child who needed several months of intensive physical therapy.

"These young people have done a great deal in their young lives. Their skills and talents are examples that we can all follow," said Eggleton. "They are our future leaders."

Leah Prusznowski



Neta Safirstein

Known for singing in school assembles

Prusznowski, 18, is now in her first year at York University. While serving as treasurer and vice-president of the student council at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute, she helped the school raise about $1,400 for charities including the Children's Wish Foundation and a fund established by her parents at the Hospital for Sick Children in memory of her brother Adam.

Prusznowski was also known at Mackenzie for her singing in school shows and assemblies. She would like to pursue a career as a child psychologist.

Safirstein, 17, is studying in Israel, having graduated from

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Women share experiences on how Holocaust has shaped their lives

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – An intensive day-long workshop during Holocaust Education Week provided an opportunity for women to share their personal Holocaust experiences.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

The Daughters of Holocaust Survivors Workshop, held at the Bloor JCC, was organized by Helena Feinstadt and Sandra Finkelman, both psychotherapists in private practice and daughters of Holocaust survivors.

The event was attended by 12 women, who were divided into groups and/or pairs. Participants then discussed how being raised in a Holocaust family has affected their history, present-day relationships, partnerships, friendships, parenting skills and identity as women.

"Our main agenda was to create an opportunity for women to share and connect with each other and to have a validation of their experiences," said Finkelman.

In addition to providing a forum for daughters of Holocaust survivors to share experiences, the workshop addressed the complex issues unique to these women and their situations.

"We have found women raised in a Holocaust family tend to have or feel the major responsibility of care taking, especially for aging parents," Feinstadt said. They also tend to place others' needs before their own, to have unreasonably high expectations of themselves and to question how to bestow the legacy of the Holocaust upon their children, she added.

"I think for some women, there's been a real struggle around how much to share, what to share and in what way to share because they don't want their kids to be traumatized," Finkelman said.

To alleviate those concerns, Feinstadt and Finkelman tried to ensure that the workshop's open dialogue and writing exercises equipped women with the tools necessary for self-empowerment.

"We wanted it to be a combination of looking at some of the difficulties and the struggles, and also to focus on the positive, on what we've gained, the strengths of ourselves, the strengths of our parents," Feinstadt said.

In fact, many children of Holocaust survivors invest their strengths in social activism, a commitment she said can be attributed to a highly-developed sense of compassion for others. And it was their own capacity for empathy that contributed to Feinstadt and Finkelman's decision to practise psychotherapy.

"Our ability to have compassion, as daughters of Holocaust survivors, is so heightened that I think that's a real asset in terms of working as therapists," Finkelman said.

The Family of
LINDA SILVERBERG ז"ל
wish to extend our heartfelt thanks
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Traci, Harold, Hayley, Jamie and Sydney Seidel
Dana Silverberg and John Gillespie
Harvey and Goldie Kestenberg and Family
Art and Joyce Epstein and Family

Weisfeld was a leading philanthropist

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Louis Weisfeld, a businessman and philanthropist known for his support of Jewish education, died last week at the age of 90.

Weisfeld, a sportswear manufacturer who branched out into building and development, was a member of the board of Associated Hebrew Schools for more than 50 years, serving in almost every capacity. He was chairman of the board for 18 years and chaired the scholarship committee until his death.

He joined the board in 1944, the year his son, Moshe Yosef (now deceased) began attending the school. When Associated paid tribute to Weisfeld on his 90th birthday in September for a lifetime of dedication to the school, he said in an interview that he initially became involved to make a contribution as parent.

"I felt that if I sent my son, then I should be giving all the help I could. It was really an honor to be a member of the board," he said at that time.

"He helped to create and develop Associated to what it is today," said Sheldon Goodman, the president of the school, noting that Weisfeld played an instrumental role in its growth from one campus to four.

"He gave freely of his time and of his money to the school on behalf of the entire community. He was always a staunch supporter of Jewish education for everyone regardless of their means," Goodman said.

"Louis was dedicated to Jewish education. He believed that the future of Judaism lay with the children and he devoted himself to their education," said Harold Dessen, a past president of Associated.

Known for his generosity, Weisfeld supported a broad spectrum of Jewish institutions, including Bar-Ilan and Hebrew universities, Beth Tzedec Congregation, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Lubavitch and UJA. He also funded the translation of several volumes of Steinsaltz Talmud.

Weisfeld is survived by Gabi, his wife of 25 years; daughter and son-in-law Tracey and Gilad Abrahami, and their three children, Reuven, Devin and Alissa Miriam.

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Greater Toronto Area

Cupid plays matchmaker for Bernard Betel volunteers

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Cupid's arrow has struck two volunteers at Bernard Betel Centre, Jean Cooper, 71, and Morris Bader, 82. They are leaving for Florida together Nov. 28.

"My wife Sue [Cohen] died last December and I became terribly depressed ," said Bader. "We had a good life together for 56 years."

He decided to seek help at the Bernard Betel Centre, and staffer Anna Halber referred him to Cooper, a volunteer who had also gone through a difficult period when she lost her husband, Louis, 91, three years ago.

Cooper visits five elderly women twice a week, sometimes taking them out for coffee. One of the women, though blind, has become a telephone volunteer herself.

Cooper and Halber helped Bader with his first visits as a volunteer, and after two or three cases which did not work out, Bader is now regularly visiting George Gluckschneider, 82, a Holocaust survivor.

But, just as important, Cooper and Bader found they were attracted to each other.

"She literally saved my life," said Bader of his new friend. "She took over, does the shopping and handles my mail."

Cooper and her husband were married for 40 years and were both members of Bernard Betel.

"He asked me to be a volunteer at the centre because he knew I would be lonely. I was terribly depressed, but the centre got me busy and volunteering has saved my life," she says.

At one time a milkman for Alliance Dairy who used a horse and wagon on his route, Bader is a native of Poland who came to Canada at a young age. Later he was one of the organizers of a union for Alliance drivers, winning them rubber boots in a new contract. He operated a confectionery store at Bloor and Havelock streets before going into the building business.

"Thank goodness I'm in a solid position financially," he said.

On one of his first visits to Gluckschneider, Bader went to a pharmacy to replenish the former's supply of heart pills. When Gluckschneider, who lost his wife nine years ago, is up to it, he takes him for a drive.

With many of their volunteers heading south, the centre is seeking new people of all ages who will visit housebound seniors or have regular telephone chats with them.

"Winter is a tough time for many seniors and it is often just as beneficial for the volunteer as for the person visited, said Ruth Cohen of the centre's volunteer outreach services.

For information on becoming a volunteer, or if you know of a senior who could benefit from outreach services, call Halber at 416-225-2112.

Morris Bader and Jean Cooper

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From coast to coast

Swastika drawn on court order

OAKVILLE, Ont. – New charges are being considered against a man for scrawling a swastika beside his signature on a court order after he was convicted of attacking a black shopkeeper.

Last month, Craig Harrison, 30, was sentenced to two years less a day in jail for beating up a Georgetown merchant. Following his sentencing, Harrison yelled racial epithets as he was being escorted from court, and later drew a small swastika next to his name on a probation form.

Halton Crown attorney Brian O'Malley told *The CJN* that a contempt of court charge against Harrison is being weighed.

"We're exploring our options. We want to take our time. The last thing we want to do is pick the wrong charge."

The Crown is considering a contempt charge against Harrison for conduct that "scandalizes" the court, O'Malley said, adding he was "shocked" by the swastika's appearance on the document.

Evidence showed that Harrison assaulted the Jamaican-born merchant after yelling racial slurs at him. A forensic psychiatrist described Harrison as a severe psychopath with a history of racist behavior. The Crown referred to him as extremely dangerous and noted he has previous criminal convictions for assault causing bodily harm.

Remembrance Day program held

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX – Canadians must always stand on guard against inaction and intolerance by its people, and maintain the right to ask for action from governments to prosecute violators, says Jon Goldberg, executive director, Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC).

Speaking to more than 200 people at Dignity Day ceremonies in Halifax's Grand Parade at City Hall, Goldberg said alleged Nazi war criminals have found a haven in Canada. He called on officials to expel those still in the country, "to honor those who fought for our country against the Nazis in World War II.

"If we don't use the legal opportunities available to us against these alleged criminals, we are telling other war criminals, from Bosnia, Rwanda and other countries they are welcome to our shores."

The large crowd at the sixth annual Dignity Day program organized by the AJC attracted many non-Jewish participants, including the lieutenant governor, several members of Parliament, members of the provincial Legislative Assembly, city councillors and clergy from Protestant and Catholic congregations. Veterans and legion members of all faiths were also in attendance.

"I was impressed with the turnout of people from all sectors of the community," said Goldberg. "I wanted to take the opportunity to remind them of the need to combat racial intolerance. We're not without it in Halifax, but, compared to other communities in Atlantic Canada and the country, our multicultural efforts have gone a long way toward understanding."

In one of the speeches made by members of the Atlantic Canada Jewish Students Federation, Dana Newman recalled the history of Kristallnacht, which the evening commemorated, citing the Night of Broken Glass, Nov. 9, 1938, as the night 191 synagogues were destroyed in Germany, 7,500 shops looted and 91 people killed.

"And within a week, Jewish children were barred from public schools and soon the extermination camps opened," she said.

Rev. Donald Fairfax, a black minister representaing the clergy of Nova Scotia, called for "value of the dignity of mankind. May we never forget those who proclaimed justice, peace and freedom. We must affirm those qualities for which our loved ones gave their lives."

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Nov. 21 is deadline for Dec. 5 issue and Thursday, Nov. 28 is deadline for Dec. 12. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 21

IMPACT OF DIVORCE

Jewish Family & Child Service group, Impact of Separation and Divorce on Children focuses on divorce-related stress experienced by children and parents' role in their children's adjustment, 7-9 p.m. Promenade office, Promenade Mall, Suite 318. Register. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

Sunday, Nov. 24

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

New Israel Fund of Canada lecture and panel discussion on The Challenge of Tolerance: Prospects for Religious Pluralism in Israel, panelists **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, Rabbi Dow Marmur, Rachel Turkienicz** and speaker **Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg** of Israel, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. **Marsha Slivka** 781-4322.

JUDY & DAVID

The Allan Simon Fund, in cooperation with Beth Tikvah Synagogue, presents children's enteratiners **Judy & David**, live in concert, 4 p.m., at Beth Tikvah. $6.

SJA INTERTALK

Secular Jewish Association Intertalk, a support group for intercultural couples moderated by **Eva Goldfinger**, 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8. 905-889-7450.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, breakfast meeting, 9:30 a.m., Centennial Arena, Skaters Lounge.

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation Entertainment and Cultural Connection, in connection with the brotherhood, presents **Jerry Ziedenberg** speaking on 100 Years of Zionism: Part 2, Menachem Begin, A Journey Through the 20th Century (includes showing of rare films). Coordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**.

LESBIAN & GAY FILM

Congregation Keshet Shalom in cooperation with Jewish GLBT Archives third annual Jewish Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, 4 p.m., Bloor JCC. Program includes several Canadian premiere screenings.

YIDDISH THEATRE SONGS

Temple Sinai breakfast presentation, Great Songs of the Yiddish Theatre with **Faye Kellerstein**, an illustrated lecture, schmaltzy and sentimental songs, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

MARKET DAY

Holy Blossom Temple Parents Association Market Day 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.with toys, gifts, crafts, kids' activity centre, book fair, plus a fashion show 9:30-10:30 a.m. to kick off the day. 789-3291, ext 510.

GRAND SOCIETY

GRAND Society, a support group for grandparents seeking access to their grandchildren, 1 p.m. meeting, 200 Eglinton Ave. W., North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. Speaker is **Prof. Jim Gladstone** (gerontology), McMasters University.

Monday, Nov. 25

CHAPTER SOLEIL, JWI

Chapter Soleil, Jewish Women International, is looking for French-speaking women to come and share friendship and help with work to help children and women. Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Rockford School (Bathurst and Rockford). Speaker's topic is Family Violence. **Louise** 656-3007 or **Edith** 654-0938.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League — North Bathurst presents The Art of Breastfeeding, 7:30 p.m., 99 Heatherton Way, Thornhill. **Joyce** 905-881-8779 or **Vivian** 905-883-9520.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

CANADIAN UNITY

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[Cont'd. on page 29]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 28]

national unity programs, Federal Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs **Stephane Dion** delivers a keynote address on Canadian Diversity and the Recognition of Quebec, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Co-sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and the temple. 635-2883, ext. 154. Admission free.

THE PEACE PROCESS

Canadian Friends of Peace Now first annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture, The Peace Process-Prospects for Survival, with guest lecturer **Gavri Bargil**, former executive director, of Peace Now in Israel, 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington St. 905-764-3997.

NORTHERN LIGHTS, JWI

Northern Lights chapter, Jewish Women International monthly program meeting, 8 p.m. Chapter serves northern York Region including Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford East/West Gwillimbury, Keswick and Georgina. 905-841-2145.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on Professional Confidentiality in Jewish Law, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

MARRIAGE, SEX AND LOVE

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses Marriage, Sex and Love, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

ISRAEL'S CHALLENGE

Beth Tzedec Congregation's Itta & Eliezer Zeisler Beth Midrash Lecture Series continues with **Shira Herzog**, vice-president of The Kahanoff Foundation and *Canadian Jewish News* columnist, speaking on Israel's Challenge: Our Challenge. 8 p.m.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

At Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement meeting current affairs instructor **Doug Haddow** speaks about What's Happening Now? at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1. **Leslie** 789-3291, ext. 233.

Thursday, Nov. 28

THE HARRIS AGENDA

Tzavta presents The Harris Agenda with panelists **Rabbi Dow Marmur**, Holy Blossom Temple; **Michael Mendelson**, economist, former secretary of cabinet, government of Ontario; **Arlene Perly Rae**, author; **Morris Zbar,** director of Community Planning and Allocation, Jewish Federation of Metro Toronto, 7:30 p.m., North York Central Library, Room 1, 5120 Yonge St. **Randi Sokolsky** 651-7347 or **Yehuda Marle** 736-1339.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation Jewish Single Parents Group (ages 30-50) monthly lecture series features Personal Budgeting by **Carey Drutz,** 8 p.m. at synagogue. $5 at door. 633-5500.

PILLAR OF FIRE

The screening of Chapter III of *Pillar of Fire*, Israeli television documentary, with introduction and commentary by **David Goldberg** of the Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7:50 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation. Sponsored by Arza-Canada, Herut-Likud, Mercaz-Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation, Central region, and Beth David.

And What Else Is New

FREE CHANUKAH PARTY

Jewish families of Durham (JFOD) social group (Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa and vicinity) Chanukah party for all Jewish people in the area, Sunday, Dec. 1, 4-6 p.m. Games, crafts, candlelighting, loot bags, light refreshments including latkes. No charge thanks to a UJA Federation Continuity Grant. RSVP/information, 905-831-6508.

EMUNAH TRIBUTE DINNER

Emunah Women of Toronto Tribute Dinner honoring **Evelyn** and **Murray Hoffman,** Sunday, Dec. 1, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Guest speaker is **Moshe M. Schwartz**, assistant district attorney, special advisor to the consulate general of Israel. Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 6:30. Couvert $125 per person. Information/tickets 636-0036.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Beginners and intermediate classes starting soon. Learn Yiddish in small, creative classes. **Sam Blatt,** Yiddish Education Committee, 651-8500.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Sunday, Nov. 24, 9:45 a.m. Adult Heder, **Anna Teper,** South Africa; Monday, Nov. 25, 8 p.m., Building a Jewish Library, **Rabbi Wayne Allen;** Tuesday, Nov. 26, 8 p.m., *Old Newland* by **Theodor Herzl** with **Ruby Newman.**

WEIZMANN EVENTS

The Ambassadors of the Weizmann Institute of Science wine tasting evening, Drink to Your Health, with **Dr. David Goldberg,** renowned scientist and wine connoisseur, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Dessert following. $25 per person. **Edie Bayer** 733-9220.

Annual meeting of Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Sunday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m., Sutton Place Hotel. **Prof. Paul Brumer** speaks on Controlling Matter with Lasers: A Major New Technology for the 21st Century. Brunch to follow. $50. Edie.

ART CLASSES

Learn to draw and paint in a relaxed atmosphere, all levels, Wednesdays 1-3:30 p.m. $30 three sessions, $55 six sessions. You may sign up every third session. Beth Sholom Synagogue 783-6103 or **Terri** 487-7244.

YOUNG & RESTLESS?

Join Tikvah chapter of Jewish Women International. Amazing programs, great fun for women in their 20s and 30s. 630-9313.

AT BETH TZEDEC

Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library workshops – Contemporary Jewish Writers, In My Flesh I See God: Jewish Spiritual Practices as Moving Meditations; Jewish Heroes of History and Their Significant Roles. Limited space still available. 781-3511, ext. 10.

AZAMRA INSTITUTE

Rabbi Abraham Greenbaum, founder of the Azamra Institute, comes to Toronto direct from Israel Nov. 23-27 to inaugurate the new Azamra Institute of Canada.

Saturday, Nov. 23, The Healing Power of Mystical Music concert, B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. $15.

Sunday, Nov. 24, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., A Call to Live: Jewish Mysticism and Spiritual Healing, learning annex workshop at OISE; 8 p.m., Mystical Enlightenment Through Meditation, Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave.

Monday, Nov. 25, 8 p.m., The Secret of Healing, Sephardic Institute of Torah Study, 7000 Bathurst St.

Tuesday, Nov. 26, 8 p.m. Meditation, Spirituality and Healing, Magen David Congregation, 10 McCallister Rd.

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 8 p.m., The Happiness Workshop, Ohr Somayach North, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill.

Admission $10. 537-2671.

For Seniors

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for recently bereaved seniors meets every other Friday morning. **Mona Munro** 785-2500, ext. 2299 or **Paula David** ext. 2271.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance Nov. 24; free blood pressure check-up Dec. 3; Nov. 24-28, Las Vegas; Nov. 28, Magna Corp., Markham, members $5, non-members $6; Dec. 8, Chanukah dance; Dec. 11, *Beauty and the Beast*; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner dance. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trips **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Annual Chanukah party Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 28 program is the Israeli movie *Aba-Ganov* Part 2. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, Sunday, Dec. 1, **Swing, Swing, Swing** to the music of the '40s, Daeman Theatre, Buffalo; Arizona trip leaves Jan. 7. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Florida at Sagamore Hotel, efficiency, entertainment and more, pick-up at airport. One month $1,668 Canadian, two months $2,735. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2212.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m. Topic: Posture and Exercise.

Wednesday social Nov. 27, features Creative Musical Variety Show, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m.Wednesdays. Nov. 27 is a sing-along. **Anna.**

at the JCC/BJC

Hebrew classes and gourmet kosher cooking classes at Bloor JCC beginning now. **Marcia Beck**. 924-6211.

At Bloor JCC Seniors Club, Thursday, Nov. 28, **Marcia Beck,** cultural arts director, talks about the Cultural and Religious Life of the Downtown Jewish Community in the '90s. 2 p.m.

Holiday Youth Volleyball Camp at BJC Dec. 23-27 for ages 9-14. **Grant Smith** 636-1880, ext. 374 or **George Shermer** ext. 235.

About People

TECHNION PRESIDENT

Arnie Recht, recently elected national president of the Canadian Technion Society, has been involved in Jewish community work since his university days. He has served as president of the Toronto chapter of the Society and senior vice-chairman of the national board, as well as serving on the national management committee and international board of governors. Recht received his law degree from the University of Western Ontario and was called to the Ontario bar in 1976.

Arnie Recht

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Anna Heilman stands before the exhibit paying tribute to her sister and three other women hanged at Auschwitz. (Inset): Heilman's sister, Ester Wajcblum.

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Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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METRO TORONTO SINGLES PRESENTS on Sunday, Dec. 1st at 8 pm, a *"Living in Syn Party"*, **at Syn Night Club**, 214 Adelaide St. West, (West of University, near the Loose Moose). Music: Synfully Good D.J., Synful Door Prize: 1 nights accomm. for 2 at the Inn on the Park, Cover $12.00, For info. call 222-7111.

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Museum honors wartime heroism

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

OTTAWA – Anna Heilman's long quest to have her sister recognized for her wartime heroism has finally born fruit. But there's still a snag.

Heilman, an Ottawa Holocaust survivor, recently travelled to Washington to accept the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's prestigious Medal of Resistance, awarded posthumously to her sister, Ester Wajcblum, who was publicly hanged at Auschwitz for helping destroy a crematorium during the 1944 prisoners' uprising at the camp.

Heilman has spent the last eight years trying to win recognition for her sister and two other women for their role in the sabotage. The three aren't as well-known as Roza Robota, a young woman tortured and hanged for helping to smuggle gunpowder to the resistance inside the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex, but Wajcblum, Ala Gertner and Regina Safirsztajn were also hanged the same day for their role in the revolt, in which Crematorium No. 4 was blown up and disabled on Oct. 7, 1944. The sabotage probably saved thousands who would have ended up in the ovens.

Robota had help from dozens of inmates, among them Heilman. But the Nazis condemned just the four women, and hanged them before 2,000 female prisoners on Jan. 5, 1945.

It was the last public execution at Auschwitz. The death camp was liberated by the Red Army just three weeks later.

Friends of Heilman pushed her to the back of the throng, preventing her from seeing the hanging. But even today, she can hear the moans from the crowd as the scaffolds gave way.

Heilman's lobbying has paid off. A monument to the four women was dedicated at Yad Vashem in 1991. Two years ago, the Polish government, at its expense, unveiled a plaque at Auschwitz dedicated to Jewish heroism and paying tribute to the four.

And while she's thankful that the heroines have been honored by Washington's renowned Holocaust museum, Heilman is hurt that in the museum's permanent exhibit on the Auschwitz uprising, while noting the role of all four women, only a photograph of Robota is displayed.

"This is very difficult for me to accept," she told *The CJN*, her voice choking slightly. "There are so few documented instances of Jewish resistance in the camps. I want photographs of all four displayed, but the museum has refused."

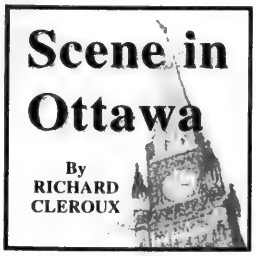
A small exhibit on the four heroines, with photographs of three of them, including Wajcblum, will appear only in the museum's Miles Lerman Centre for the Study of Jewish Resistance.

Three of the four young women – girls, really – worked in the camp's munitions factory. From there, they smuggled minute amounts of gunpowder into neighboring Birkenau. Heilman helped transfer the packets from the women's barracks to the men's, while Robota worked with the resistance.

"We all knew we would be killed if we were caught," said Heilman, now 68. "But we knew we might die anyway, so we thought we would at least die for something."

From coast to coast

FTA's passage in Commons was not a smooth ride



OTTAWA – Bill C-61 ratifying the Canada-Israel free trade agreement passed through the Commons unanimously on Nov. 6, but the official record doesn't tell the whole story.

It wasn't that easy.

It passed all right, but not without a lot of pushing and shoving behind the scenes and no small amount of lobbying.

In the process some nasty things were said on the floor of the Commons about Israel and the treatment of the Palestinian minority.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took the worst of it. Suffice it to say he didn't come out as next in line for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Right now the agreement is before the Senate, where a group of senators, not particularly known for their love of Israel, could turn it into a three-ring circus.

If they can prevent the agreement from being adopted during the next three weeks, in time for the original implementation date of Jan. 1, 1997, the delay would be a minor victory of sorts for them.

There was plenty of action in the Commons when the deal was debated there on Nov. 5. But most of it went unreported. It was overshadowed that day by the resignation of the Quebec lieutenant governor over Nazi sympathies he had during World War II.

Reform MP Keith Martin presented an amendment to hold up the free trade deal indefinitely until Israel improves its treatment of Palestinians.

His amendment was voted down overwhelmingly, but not before Martin said for the record what he thinks of Netanyahu and Israel's Likud government, which it turned out, wasn't much.

"The bulk of what has taken place (in Israel) recently falls squarely on the shoulders of Mr. Netanyahu and his Likud party.

"If he believes that the Palestinian people will somehow capitulate to a stronger Israel ... and that they will back down, he is dead wrong.

"History has proven that the Palestinian people will not back down until their demands are met."

Strong words indeed.

Martin has a plan for peace in the Middle East which involves bringing Syrian President Hafez al-Assad into the talks, moving the settlers out of the settlements and ending the border closures. He also has a plan for Jerusalem.

"I would propose as a Roman Catholic that Jerusalem be made an international site for the religions of the world. No one single nation, no one single religion is to have control over this sensitive site...controlled, organized and guarded by the United Nations. I cannot see anything short of that taking place."

The amendment and the plan were voted down, overwhelmingly.

Martin said afterwards he understood why so many Liberal backbenchers, whom he believes are secretly on his side, had voted against his amendment: "There was heavy pressure from the Prime Minister's Office to push the deal through."

Government insiders admit privately that Commons MPs and the general public were deliberately kept in the dark about the trade deal while it was being negotiated between Israeli and Canadian government officials during the past year.

The Liberal government feared that if the public got wind of the deal before it was signed, there would be so much political opposition to it, for reasons that had nothing to do with economics, that it would never be approved, regardless of how good a deal it might be for both countries.

No sense letting politics get in the way of a good deal.

That's why many MPs and other Canadians first heard of the deal when Israeli Trade Minister Natan Sharansky showed up in Toronto one day in July to sign the agreement.

For almost a year, without fanfare, members of the Jewish and Arab Canadian business communities were quietly and extensively consulted and brought in regularly for briefings at Foreign Affairs headquarters in Ottawa. The government knew it could count on the support of these businesspeople because they stood to gain the most from a Canada-Israel free trade agreement.

The bureaucrats did their homework well. There was not a word of opposition about the free trade deal this week or last from either Arab or Jewish-Canadian business communities.

Martin says he was surprised the Bloc Québécois didn't vote against Bill C-61 given its historic support of the Palestinian cause.

Behind the scenes, that work had been done there too.

When a Bloc Québécois MP complained earlier this year that a big swimwear manufacturer in his riding would take a hard blow from Israeli competition, a special clause was inserted to continue duties on all Israeli swimwear for another 2½ years. In return duties will remain on Canadian cotton exports.

The Jewish lobby in Ottawa, the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), deserves some credit too.

Over the past three years, and often despite fierce criticism from within the Canadian Jewish community, it regularly organized junkets to Israel for Bloc Québécois MPs, even for some who had not been particularly friendly to Israel.

The CIC idea was to show the separatist MPs firsthand (at no expense to them) that Israel might not be so terrible after all.

Bloc MPs Francine Lalonde, Pauline Picard, Gilles Duceppe, Yvan Loubier, Michel Bellehumeur, and Christine Gagnon were among the Bloc MPs who went on free trips.

During the Bill C-61 debate, they showed a more sophisticated approach to Middle East problems. At least none of them proposed giving Jerusalem over to the United Nations. And they voted for the deal. They were there when it counted...for Canada and for Israel.

Now for the next round in the Senate.

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This Journey Lasts A Lifetime

From coast to coast

Torah tape library opens doors in Ottawa

By MIRIAM VALE
CJN Correspondent

OTTAWA – Shannon Gordon, a 14-year-old student at the Ottawa Torah Institute, says he enjoys his weekly visits to the Jewish Youth Library to read books on topics ranging from kashrut to the observance of Shabbat.

Now, in addition to reading about Jewish culture, library patrons will be able to listen to this information, because more tapes about Jewish life and religion are being added to the library's collection in early December.

Gordon recently spoke to an audience of more than 140 at the opening of the Jarvis Freedman Torah Tape Library.

The audio collection will be one of the biggest in Canada and possibly North America, says Devora Caytak, who co-founded the library with her husband Joseph in 1983.

She says there will be 5,000 tapes in the collection, including the 700 tapes already available, because donations totalling $10,000 have been made by the Canadian Jewish community, adding that the tapes will advance Jewish education.

"A person wants to become more literate in Judaism and now they will have the opportunity," says Caytak. "While they're going to work in the car, they could put a tape on and learn to read Hebrew, learn how to run a Passover seder and learn about our Jewish heritage."

Born in 1935, Jarvis Freedman spent his life helping raise funds for local Jewish organizations. He belonged to every synagogue in the city and helped found the Ottawa Torah Institute in 1980.

Since Freedman's death in 1980, a Judaic studies research library at the Beth Avraham Yoseph Synagogue in Thornhill, Ont., was also established in his honor.

Jacob Freedman, one of Freedman's children who currently resides in Toronto, says this tribute is especially fitting for his father.

"Father had a sense of community," says Freedman. "This would be most appropriate from his perspective, because this library is meant to serve the Ottawa community at large and not only a tiny portion of the community."

Caytak says the Freedman family also made a sizeable donation to the library that bought a huge storage cabinet for the tapes and a high-speed tape copier.

Keynote speaker at the opening, Rabbi Baruch Taub, rabbi at Beth Avraham Yoseph Synagogue, said the history of Jewish survival depends on the survival of Jewish literature and culture. He said Jewish aggressors, like the Nazis, destroyed books as a means of destroying Judaism.

Windsor JCC gets face lift

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

WINDSOR – A $2-million renovation of the Windsor Jewish Community Centre is to be celebrated Nov. 23 with a gala and dinner, followed by a ribbon cutting Sunday afternoon to culminate the dedication weekend.

Although the community has dwindled from 850 families in 1959 when the centre started, to 1,700 individuals today, there is optimism that the decline has stopped and that young famlies are moving in, said the centre's executive director Steve Brownstein.

"After all, Windsor is a viable alternative. We have no traffic jams," said Brownstein

The 30,000-square-foot centre had little more than a new coat of paint until the community decided in the early 1990s that it was time for a renaissance, and then a provincial grant got the ball rolling.

The renovated centre has a new library lounge with a blue-ribbon collection of Jewish books and connections to the Internet. The board room, meeting rooms, the lobby and the gym/auditorium have all been improved, as has the health club. One feature is a newly renovated youth lounge with a pool table and video games.

The centre is also celebrating the 40th anniversary of its day camp.

For information about the gala dinner, which includes a live band, cocktails and dinner for $50 per person call 519-973-1772.

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Nathan & Roey Hurwich, former students at the Simcoe Street Talmud Torah; principal benefactors of the Hurwich Campus; contributors to every Associated capital campaign.; for more than 60 years of marriage they have "adopted" the children of our community as their extended family. Nathan is a life member of Associated and a member of its Board of Directors. Roey & Nathan's exceptional commitment to the Jewish people accounts for their 23 trips to Israel and has led them to involvement with Israel Bonds; the Board of Directors of Mount Sinai Hospital and Beth Tzedec Synagogue; the chairmanship of two UJA divisions and to be founders of the Toronto Friends of Bar Ilan University.

"There is nothing more important than educating youngsters. It's the best way to help them develop as Jews. We've watched Associated grow from practically nothing into one of the world's finest educational programs. Without money, you cannot build schools. We have contributed to the development of each of Associated's campuses because we believe in the purpose of the school."

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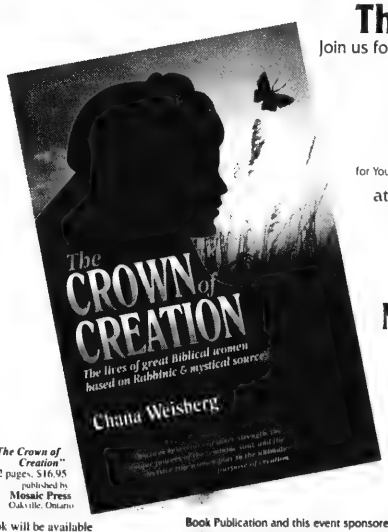

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Intensive talks underway to free Ron Arad

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Intense negotiations appear to be under way between Israel and Hezbollah via German Intelligence chief Bernd Schmidbauer, for the release of missing IAF navigator Ron Arad.

A report last week in London's *Independent* said two Lebanese government officials flew to Germany last weekend with Arad's fingerprints, which would be passed on to Israel.

The report said Schmidbauer had already delivered a letter purported to have been written by Arad, but the Israeli officials insisted on seeing further "signs of life."

"We are full of hope and as always our position is that Ron Arad and the other missing soldiers are alive until proven otherwise," Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said.

"We are constantly looking everywhere for anything possible in order to find out what happened to Ron Arad. We don't have anything for certain. There are things we have read and heard and we are trying to confirm them any way we can," Mordechai told reporters in Beersheva.

Earlier, the Beirut daily *An-Nahar* reported that Arad would be released soon in exchange for more than 100 Lebanese prisoners held at the South Lebanese Army's Khiam Jail and in Israeli jails.

Those held in Israel include Abdel Karim Obeid, a Hezbollah cleric captured by Israeli commandos in 1989, and Mustafa Dirani, who is said to have headed the Lebanese Shi'ite group that held Arad for some time and who was captured in 1994.

The Beirut paper quoted Lebanese security sources as saying Schmidbauer met Hezbollah spiritual leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah last month and "received Hezbollah's conditions for seriously seeking Arad's whereabouts and settling the issue definitively."

They said Schmidbauer would return to Beirut after conveying Hezbollah's terms to Israel.

The sources also confirmed that the Iranians had become a party to the issue and were seeking information about the fate of four Iranian diplomats who were allegedly kidnapped by Lebanese Christian forces in 1982.

There is speculation that, as part of the deal, the Syrians are demanding an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon.

In July, Schmidbauer brokered an exchange of bodies and prisoners between Hezbollah and Israel which resulted in the return of the remains of Yosef Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh, two IDF soldiers who were kidnapped and murdered in the security zone in February 1986. Sources in London said that the Germans were anxious to succeed in freeing Arad as proof to Washington that the European policy of "critical dialogue" with Iran is working.

At the same time, they say, both Iran and Syria are seeking to demonstrate flexibility to the recently re-elected Clinton administration.

Iran wants to pacify an increasingly hostile U.S. Congress, while Syria is anxious to demonstrate to a new secretary of state that it is a serious player and should be removed from the State Department's list of terror sponsors.

Arad was captured in October 1986 after he and his pilot bailed out of their nonfunctioning Phantom jet over south Lebanon. The pilot escaped by holding onto the skids of an IAF rescue helicopter, but Arad was captured just seconds before he could reach the helicopter. Hezbollah declined to comment on the report about Arad.

"We do not have anything to say on this subject," a Hezbollah spokesperson told Reuters by telephone.

High Court ruling limits rabbinical courts' authority

By EVELYN GORDON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – In a precedent-setting decision, the High Court of Justice ruled last week that rabbinical courts do not have the right to impose sanctions on religious Jews who refuse to accept their rulings in civil suits.

This is the most significant challenge to the rabbinical courts' authority since early 1994, when the High Court ordered them to use civil law rather than Halachah to determine property settlements in divorce cases. As such, it raised an outcry from the religious sector.

"In all religious matters that have come before the High Court recently, the 'surprising' split [in the verdicts] has been between religious and secular justices. This shows that the justices rule not according to legal principles but according to their world view," said MK Avraham Ravitz (UTJ), who added that the religious parties would initiate legislation to correct this change in the status quo.

"But this is the first time the High Court has interfered in the lives of the religious community independent of the [demands of the] secular community," he said.

However, as Justice Zvi Tal noted in his dissenting opinion, it is doubtful that the court's ruling will have any practical impact, since the sanctions imposed by the rabbinical courts in these cases – ostracism and excommunication – are implemented not by the state but by the religious community itself.

The court was ruling on three petitions. One was by Yosef Katz, who refused to allow the Jerusalem Rabbinical Court to settle a slander suit against him. The court issued a statement that Katz had refused to submit to its judgment, without imposing sanctions, but Katz said that labelling him as someone who refused a Torah judgment is in itself disgraceful among the religious community.

The second petition, by MK Ran Cohen (Meretz), was due to the Beersheva Rabbinical Court's decision to have a Netivot contractor named Yitzhak Sofer ostracized because of his refusal to allow the court to settle a financial dispute with a client. This meant that religious Jews would not count him in a minyan, educate his children, hire him or give him a Jewish burial.

The third petition was by Yanon Zaribi, a Haifa city councillor from the National Religious Party, who refused to let the Haifa Rabbinical Court adjudicate a dispute with Agudat Yisrael over who should get the council seat under an agreement between the two parties. The court then instructed religious Jews to keep him out of public life.

Justices Yitzhak Zamir and Dalia Dorner, with Tal dissenting, said the rabbinical courts had no authority to issue any of these decisions.

However, a rabbinical court has no authority in other civil disputes unless both sides accept it as an arbitrator, and then it would be subject to the Arbitration Law. This law states that no one can be forced to accept an arbitrator against his will, nor can sanctions be imposed on someone who refuses to accept the arbitrator's decision, even if he initially agreed to the arbitration.

Even in those areas where the rabbinical courts do have enforceable authority, the law does not allow them to use ostracism and excommunication as sanctions, Zamir added.

Zamir and Dorner also rejected the idea that Jewish law gives the rabbinical courts the right to use such sanctions. These sanctions have existed in Jewish law since Talmudic times, Zamir said, and it might be that a private rabbinical court such as that of the Eda Haredit would still be legally justified in applying them. However, he said, the rabbinical courts are state institutions and are therefore bound by the law of the land and cannot employ powers the law has not given them.

Tal, in his dissent, argued that the state did not create the rabbinical courts; it merely conferred official status on existing courts in the limited matter of personal status. In all other respects, he said, these courts continue to be what they were: Fully functioning courts with the full range of powers granted by Jewish law. If they did not have these powers, Tal said, these courts would have no halachic standing in marriage and divorce and would therefore be useless to the state.

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron said that to his sorrow the High Court of Justice had interfered in a matter which was clearly one of Halachah and said that the religious establishment would find a way to deal with this matter.

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Israel & the Jewish World

WWII hideout found in Amsterdam

By RUBEN E. VIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

AMSTERDAM – In a story that brings Anne Frank to mind, a new owner of an Amsterdam apartment recently discovered a hiding area above a closet that apparently was used during the Holocaust.

The apartment owner also found various items in the space that had not been touched in about 50 years.

The items included a mattress and copies of a German medical magazine from 1942 and 1943.

A German Jew may have hidden in the apartment, given the type of objects found and the location of the apartment, said a staff member of a museum here about the Resistance.

The apartment is located in an area where many Jews lived before World War II.

Efforts are under way to locate the person who hid here, but sources said the person probably did not survive the Holocaust.

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The Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education is a Junior Kindergarten through High School pluralistic community day school system of 850 students. Prior to the start of the 1997/98 school year we will be moving into a new state-of-the-art facility. The Director of Judaic Studies will be expected to assist in that transition.

Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Closing date for applications - Friday, December 6,1996. Anticipated starting date - Monday, July 7, 1997.

Applications should include a resumé and three references. Samples of relevant written material are welcome. Strictest confidence will be maintained. Please direct expressions of interest to: Mr. Jack Solomon, Director of Education, Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education, 200 - 370 Hargrave Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2K1, Tel: (204) 949-1482, Fax: (204) 956-0609, E-Mail: solomonj@mbnet.mb.ca

Pluralism dominates GA

[Cont'd from page 1]

Speaking to the full assembly plenary by live satellite feed on last Thursday night, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised delegates that "we will adamantly refuse to make any changes affecting conversions in the United States and the Diaspora. I will stand in the breach myself." He had been scheduled to attend the conference, but was held back due to the delicate, pressing stage of negotiations on the deployment of the IDF from Hebron.

The tone of the evening was set by Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, president of Hebrew Union College. In his *d'var Torah*, he called for intra-Jewish reconciliation, for mutual respect for a Jewish people that is "diverse but united, different but together. If we can meet with our Arab brothers and sisters," the rabbi rhetorically stated, "we can surely meet with our Jewish brothers and sisters too."

To thundering applause on last Friday afternoon, leader of the opposition Shimon Peres echoed the theme. "We have to unite our people", he said, "even though it does not mean agreement on all issues. There are 70 faces to the Torah. Each is valid. We are pluralistic enough to have a democracy; but we have to have a democracy that allows our differences: the right to be equal and the equal right of every person to be different."

Earlier in the week, at the outset of the assembly the CJF board of governors passed a resolution urging the government of Israel and the Knesset "to abstain from amending legislation, or passing any new legislation that would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions."

To underscore the gravity with which the CJF leadership views the unfolding political situation, the resolution also "urged the leaders of Israel not to underestimate the strength of feeling on this matter, and its detrimental effect on Jewish unity and Israel-Diaspora relations."

Though pluralism dominated the week's proceedings, other important business was also included in the agenda. Charles Bronfman took the spotlight during the Thursday evening plenary session to announce the inauguration of Israel Experience Incorporated. In an emotional appeal to the delegates, Bronfman called out to the delegates: "I ask you, I plead with you, send your children to Israel in an educational experience that will change their lives. The unity of the Jewish people, whose soul is in Jerusalem, depends upon it."

The Israel Experience is to be housed at the CJF, with the partnership of the UJA in the United States, the UIA in Canada, the CRB Foundation, the JAFI and the Ministry of Tourism in Israel, and will channel its energies at trying to ensure that every Jewish youngster between the ages of 13 to 18 who wishes to go on an educational summer program to Israel, will be able to do so.

The Israel Experience is seen by the CJF leadership as the centrepiece in the Jewish educational effort aimed at Jewish youth. Speaking to the assembly, Harvey Wolfe, chair of UIA-Canada declared: "We pledge that the younger generation of Canadian Jews will know Israel and love Israel as we do."

The CJF provides Canadian and American federations with essential services that attempt to strengthen local programs and enhance fund raising ability. There are 189 federations throughout North America. Each year, the federations gather in an assembly to exchange views, share ideas, and plan for the collective future of the federation movement across the Diaspora. Last week's assembly was the 65th such meeting. Dr. Conrad Giles, of Detroit, Michigan was elected president of the CJF.

Richard Vineberg, president of CJF- Canada, told *The CJN* he felt that this year's assembly demonstrated 'tremendous spirit" and was a wonderful opportunity for Canadians to get together to discuss important issues.

Of the 3,000 delegates and participants who attended the assembly, 160 were from Canada. There were a number of sessions with specifically-oriented Canadian themes.

The "excitement" during the five-day program did not only spring from the deliberations inside the conference hall.

Last Wednesday evening's plenary was halted in mid-session as a result of a bomb threat that Seattle police received. Delegates quickly evacuated the building.

Thursday evening's program was accompanied by three separate, noisy and competing demonstrations outside the conference centre. And on Friday afternoon, the police cordoned off a large section of the area near the centre for almost an hour to investigate a suspicious box that had been left nearby.

Chemical weapons

[Cont'd from page 1]

"I didn't say this. On the contrary. We are looking for every way to reach a dialogue. We were talking of what would happen if [Syria] implemented their threat. I said that if they did, then we have the might to severely harm anyone who strikes us and this blow would obviously put the regime at risk," Mordechai said.

In an interview with the *Sunday Times*, Mordechai had said that Russian scientists were helping Syria develop lethal nerve gases. These include VX, one of the most toxic nerve agents, said Mordechai in the interview, his first with a Western newspaper.

A minute quantity of VX on exposed skin can kill within seconds. Unlike other nerve gases, VX can persist as a deadly agent for days or weeks.

In his Israel Radio interview. Mordechai confirmed the report. "I hope that they will never use it, definitely not against us. But we cannot ignore it," Mordechai said.

Mordechai was quoted in the *Sunday Times* as saying the Syrians have "several hundred Scud missiles with the capability of reaching every part of Israel. It is these Scud missiles that would be used to carry the nerve gas in specially adapted warheads to centres of Israeli population."

Defence sources say the Syrian Scud Bs are capable of carrying a 1,000-kilo warhead up to 300 kilometres and the Scud Cs a 770- kilo warhead up to 500 kilometres, thus putting virtually all of Israel under Syrian missile threat. This also includes the nuclear research facility at Dimona in the Negev.

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 11

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told the media that security forces believe a soldier who has been missing since September was kidnapped. Sharon Edri, 19, was last seen Sept. 11, at an army base in central Israel.

Nov. 12

• The Supreme Court postponed a decision on the fate of several adopted children who have undergone conversions by the Masorti movement which represents Conservative Jews in Israel. Meanwhile, the movement said it received almost a dozen death threats from Brit Ka'anim, a religious extremist organization. The threats came after Masorti placed ads in newspapers urging public support for non-Orthodox conversions in Israel.

• Chief Sephardi Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron told settlers they should evacuate Hebron if Israel could no longer guarantee their safety. "Preservation of life supercedes everything, including the religious commandment to settle the land."

• The government announced two new cabinet appointments: Tsachi Hanegbi was named justice minister and Yehoshua Matza was named health minister.

Nov. 13

• In an appearance before the Knesset education committee the head of the IDF's personnel branch, Gen. Gideon Sheffer, criticized the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres for contributing to the lack of motivation in the army. Among other things, he said the former government was too quick to grant exemptions from service.

• The trial of Nahum Kurman opened in Jerusalem District Court. Kurman was charged with manslaughter in the death of an 11-year-old Palestinian boy.

Nov. 14

• Finance Minister Dan Meridor said the regional economic conference in Cairo was more successful from a business perspective than previous conferences in the region.

Nov. 15

• Israel's High Court of Justice agreed to allow the Shin Bet, to use physical force in the interrogation of an Islamic Jihad detainee.

Cairo Conference

Economics and politics: an inextricable link

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The third Middle East economic conference, held in Cairo last week, attracted a sizeable Israeli delegation, as well as several thousand entrepreneurs, diplomats and officials from 92 countries.

The forum – a spinoff of Israel's 1993 historic rapprochement with the PLO – took place at a critical juncture, when the future of the Mideast peace process is somewhat cloudy and Israel's relations with the Arab world are in sharp decline.

Israel is learning that there is an inextricable link between economics and politics. "Without progress in the peace process, we cannot have a flourishing economy," warned Eitan Raff, chair of Bank Leumi, recently.

Benjamin Gaon, chief executive officer of the Israeli congolomerate Koor Industries, was even more emphatic. "Israel's emerging economy," he declared in no uncertain terms, "cannot proceed without the peace process."

Shimon Peres, the former Israeli prime minister, envisaged a New Middle East in which Israel and its Arab neighbors would forge real economic partnerships, create open borders and a measure of shared prosperity, and push the region beyond the spectre of war as a means to resolve disputes.

For a while, as the peace process registered steady progress and optimism reigned, Peres' vision seemed reasonable and even attainable. It appeared as if Israel was on the verge of an economic boom, fueled in part by increasing trade with its Arab neighbors.

At the first economic Middle East conference in Casablanca, Morocco, the Gulf states abolished the secondary and tertiary boycott against Israel, a development widely regarded as a harbinger of Israel's eventual integration into the region.

As the boycott collapsed, Israel expanded its relations with Asian countries, notably Japan and India, which had been reluctant to enter into significant trade arrangements with the Jewish state.

Amid this atmosphere, foreign investors flocked to Israel in record numbers. Investments increased from $800 million (US) in 1994 to $2.2 billion last year.

And in the wake of last year's conference in Amman, Israel upgraded its economic links with Egypt and Jordan.

But with the election of a right-wing government in Israel, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a man who wants to liberalize the Israeli economy, the march toward a New Middle East was stopped almost dead in its tracks.

Netanyahu's policies – his skepticism of the land-for-peace formula and of the Oslo agreements, his opposition to a Palestinian state, his resolve to expand Jewish settlements in the territories and his cold reserve toward PLO chair Yasser Arafat – antagonized Arab states and the Palestinians.

As a result of these developments, Israel's Arab partners in peace, egged on in particular by Syria, effectively froze their relations – economic and political – with Israel.

Morocco and Tunisia snubbed Netanyahu, while Qatar postponed a decision to open a trade office in Tel Aviv. Furthermore, Qatar's foreign minister cancelled a scheduled meeting with his Israeli counterpart, David Levy. (Oman, however, has not followed Qatar's lead.)

Meanwhile, much to Israel's dismay, the prospect of joint projects with Jordan faded. When Israel signed a peace treaty with Jordan, there was heady talk of building common resorts along the Dead Sea, constructing an airport between Eilat and Aqaba and developing regional water resources.

These ambitious projects, despite the best of intentions on both sides, have not panned out. The heavy hand of bureaucracy is doubtless a reason. But more importantly, many Jordanians, inculcated with an anti-Israel bias, are still reluctant to do business with Israel.

This raises another question – the fear that Israel will subjugate the Arab world if given free rein. Israel's gross national product far exceeds that of all its Arab neighbors, and Arabs are afraid that Israel will take over their economy. This view has been expressed by Arab intellectuals and politicians alike, and Israel is keenly aware of these feelings.

Last year, in a speech to Israeli industrialists, Yossi Beilin, Israel's former deputy foreign minister, warned that "they [the Arabs] perceive us as an economic power that seeks to dominate them, and this calls for serious thought on our part."

But for now, Israel's immediate problem is to persuade nervous foreign investors that Israel is a safe, stable market. It may be a hard sell, given the unprecedented violence which recently rocked the territories and the uncertain status of the peace process.

Clearly, Israel's ability to build a strong, vibrant economy is partially dependent on its ability to reach a political accommodation with its Arab neighbors.

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Israel & the Jewish World

PM's peace strategy after Hebron still unclear

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Almost half a year into his administration and with the Hebron redeployment apparently now imminent, debate is swirling anew around Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Is he a pragmatist or an ideologue?

Many leaders, diplomats and political observers here and abroad are undecided about where the 46-year-old premier will head next, given his actions on Hebron and recent statements on the course of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Opinion

Nonetheless, they all would agree on the importance of better understanding Netanyahu, whose meteoric rise to power has left his own country as well as the rest of the world wondering about his long-term strategy.

That Netanyahu, the Likud party leader, has kept everyone guessing at this point in his term is no small achievement, some would add. Others, less sympathetic to Netanyahu, argue that perhaps he does not know where he is headed. They point to examples of fumbled decision-making as evidence of the young leader's irresoluteness.

The pragmatist-ideologue debate first occurred immediately after Netanyahu's May 29 election victory, but it subsequently died down.

The controversy has resurfaced, however, with the current talks on the implementation of the Israeli redeployment from most of Hebron.

The planned pullback from the West Bank town is a dramatic event, which makes it natural to re-examine the ideological makeup of the leader who has to implement the redeployment while trying not to isolate the hard-line members of his coalition.

At the same time, Netanyahu may soon face a Clinton administration that is still deeply committed to the Israeli-Palestinian peace process that it has promoted during the past three years. And for the most part, the administration in its second term will be freed of domestic political constraints in its dealings with Middle East peacemaking.

Predicting the course of U.S.-Israel relations during the next four years also has resulted in Middle East analysts making another attempt to pin down the political composition of the Israeli leader.

In and of itself, the Hebron redeployment does not necessarily provide firm evidence of whether Netanyahu is a pragmatist or an ideologue. For instance, regardless of whether Netanyahu remains a dyed-in-the-wool ideologue, he still could not have turned his back on the explicit Israeli commitment to turn over most of Hebron to the Palestinian Authority.

Netanyahu has indicated clearly and repeatedly that he does not intend to pull out of the entire West Bank, leaving Israel effectively denuded of the territories when the permanent-status talks reach their climax.

The final-status talks, which are scheduled to end by May 1999, will determine the status of Jerusalem, Israeli settlements and the Palestinian self-rule areas.

Netanyahu says his interpretation of "security locations" is broad and flexible.

And he has proposed several times in recent weeks that the two sides forgo the "further redeployment" phase altogether and move directly to the permanent-status talks.

Netanyahu has cited the U.S. commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the tiny nation of Andorra, tucked between France and Spain, as two examples of limited sovereignty that might serve as useful examples for fashioning a Palestinian entity.

Those who believe that Netanyahu is a pragmatist characterize these ideas as moderate.

But the ideologue school, which is more cynical, claims that Netanyahu's proposal to go to the final-status talks now is bound – even designed – to throw the entire peace process into a deadlock.

Regardless of whether he began as a rigid pragmatist, Netanyahu has already softened his own hard-line positions during his months in office.

Cairo economic summit supports peace progress

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – The recent Middle East-North African regional economic summit ended with a declaration by delegates stressing the urgency of progress in the peace process, but stopping short of blaming Israel for the current stalemate.

The statement called for the removal of restrictions hindering development of the Palestinian economy, but it did not specifically cite Israel for imposing the closure on the territories.

While the declaration did not call for peace negotiations based on the land-for-peace principle, it did affirm a commitment to the 1991 Madrid peace conference, and to UN Resolutions 242 and 338, which Arab states say explicitly call on Israel to adhere to the land-for-peace formula. Israeli officials see it differently.

Some 3,000 delegates from more than 80 countries attended the conference. The Israeli delegation included 100 business and political leaders.

In contrast to the previous two annual conferences, the atmosphere at the Cairo meeting was marred by heightened Arab-Israeli tensions surrounding the stalled peace process.

Still, Finance Minister Dan Meridor said that essential contacts were made between companies and he considered the Cairo meeting an economic success.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amre Moussa called for further regional development, but his remarks at a closing news conference focused on investing in projects that involved cooperation among Arab states.

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Accomplished Toronto cartoonist to write book honoring Israel

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Ben Wicks, the accomplished Toronto-based cartoonist, writer and media personality, plans to write a book and host an hour-long television documentary celebrating the 50th anniversary of the state of Israel in 1998.

The book's working title is *To Touch The Face of Home: The Birth of Israel*. It was commissioned by Bloomsbury, a British publishing house based in London. American rights have already been purchased by Hyperion, the publishing arm of Disney. Although just beginning his research, Wicks says that publication is tentatively set for the fall of 1997.

"The book is about the birth of a nation – it's a magnificent story," he said recently in his office above the Red Lion pub downtown. "I want to get to people who were there in 1948 and hear their experiences. I'll write the history of the period and intersperse it with individual tales told by people who were in the street at the time."

No Time To Wave Goodbye, a previous book by Wicks that Bloomsbury published in 1987, told the story of three million British children who were evacuated to North America two days before Britain got drawn into World War II. While researching that book, Wicks sought out first-person accounts from participants, and received some 7,000 letters from people who had lived through the evacuation as children.

The author of 17 books, Wicks is convinced that it was this personalized approach, this focus on average people who are swept up in important historical events, that gave *No Time To Wave Goodbye* its immediacy, propelling it onto best-seller lists both in England and North America. He plans to use the same approach for the book on Israel, and has begun seeking participants in Israel's struggle for nationhood in Toronto, New York, Los Angeles, London – and, of course, Israel.

"This is history told in a series of personalized images," he said.

Ben Wicks

"Naturally, I'm interested in what Ben Gurion was doing in his office, but I'm much more interested in what Maizie Goldenstein was doing in the street outside his office."

Wicks, whose ancestors include a Jewish great-grandfather from Poland, is planning to visit Israel in early December and again around March; he seems excited at the prospect of seeing Israel again after an absence of many years.

He and his Canadian researcher, Montie Mazin of Toronto, are seeking letters (no phone calls or faxes, please) from "the extraordinary people who made their way to the Jewish homeland before or during the Declaration of Independence in 1948."

If you have a personalized story you would like to tell, write Wicks at 449-A Jarvis St., Toronto M4Y 2G8, and either he or Mazin may arrange a follow-up interview. As suggested by Wicks, questions for letter-writers to consider include: What was it like leaving loved ones behind? How did you travel to Israel? What hardships did you encounter on the way? What was it like when you finally arrived?

"There's a peculiar power in someone who's experienced something and set it down in writing," the British-born Wicks observed. "They claim they're not writers, but no professional writer could do better. It's the power of personal experience."

Some advance publicity issued by either Wicks or Bloomsbury romanticizes the subject and makes it seem that the book has already been published. "Based upon reminiscences of several hundred pioneers, *To Touch The Face Of Home* vividly brings to life the hardships, disappointments and triumphs of the first Israelis," it reads. "Highly readable and deeply moving, this is a story of courage amid deprivation and of new life rising out of the wilderness."

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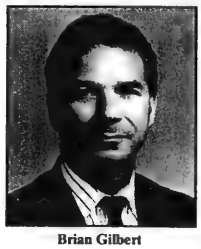
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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*, April 1995

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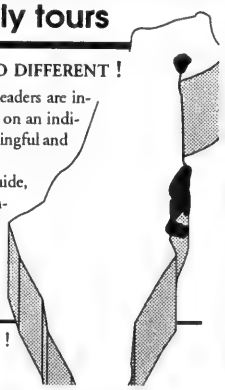

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Upcoming Events

Literary

• Books & Bagels presents *Children's Books: Jewish Themes in the Writing of Children's Literature*. The panel discussion features editor **Kathy Lowinger** and authors **Sharon Kirsh** and **Rhea Tregebov**. $6. Nov. 24, 11 a.m. Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Classical Concerts

• North York Symphony performs **Rossini**, **Vaughan Williams**, **Beethoven** and **Dvorak**, Nov. 21, Ford Centre, George Weston Recital Hall, North York. $20-$28. 872-2222.

• Acclaimed Moscow violist **Yuri Bashmet** performs with a hand-picked 17-member string orchestra of some of Moscow's finest young virtuosi instrumentalists. Ford Centre, George Weston Recital Hall, North York, Nov. 22, 8 p.m. Tickets $31 to $47.50. 872-2222.

Play Openings

• Stage Centre Productions presents *The Crucible*, by **Arthur Miller**, Nov. 14-30, Fairview Library Theatre. Adults $15. 299-5557.

• Previews for *Ragtime the Musical* have now begun, Ford Centre, North York. Tickets ($30 to $75) are $10 less than full price, which commence with the play's opening Dec. 8. 872-2222.

• *Froth: A Spectacle about Shopping and Hysteria*, opens Nov. 26, 8 p.m. at 318 Queen St. W., 2nd floor. An exploration of why women shop, *Froth* was written by **Banuta Rubess** and company, directed by **Leah Cherniak**, produced by Leslie Lester. Tickets $12-$15. Until Dec. 8. 979-2661.

Galleries & Showings

• The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery at Hart House, University of Toronto, presents the Genocidal Famine photographs of **Judith Eglington**, until Dec. 12. Taken while Eglington was on assignment for various newspapers and magazines, the photos feature stark and moving images of the ravages of war. 7 Hart House Circle. 978-8398.

In The Spotlight

At 78, retired merchant **Sol Mandlsohn** isn't your average poet. "I wrote for 50 years without publishing one poem," says the former longtime president of Toronto's Bay Bloor Radio (now run by his son Mark). He composed his first poem as a 14-year-old student at Jarvis Collegiate: "Hold high your head amid this mortal muck / The others need not know your feet are stuck."

A published poet

The triple alliterations didn't escape the attention of Mandlsohn's teacher, who encouraged him to continue. Poem No. 2 came soon after: "Before you laugh / At any giraffe / Be sure to check / Your own neck."

Mandlsohn joined the army in 1941, becoming a radio mechanic, and afterwards became a businessman and raised a family. In the 1960s, he took up his pen again to write short poems on business themes – to wit: "Giving discounts may seem a curse / No business at all is even worse." That particular couplet came to him at the Westinghouse plant.

For almost six years, he was the resident poet at *Home Goods Retailing* magazine, which, during that period, appeared 26 times annually, never without a poem by Sol Mandlsohn. His name was featured in the masthead. Once, when he had forgotten his deadline, his editor waited patiently on the phone while he scribed a suitable stanza – and then expressed amazement, Mandlsohn recalls, at how quickly he had summoned his muse. The creation of the new poem had taken all of 10 minutes.

"Do you want to hear something incredible?" Mandlsohn asks ebulliently. "This is impossible but true. I found out recently that *Home Goods Retailing* is still publishing after all these years! I find that remarkable!"

Mandlsohn is no stranger to the arts. Over the years, he dabbled as an actor, making no less than 65 theatrical appearances. But poetry remains his first love. About a decade ago, he published three volumes of poetry. They were sold over the counter at Bay Bloor Radio. While the venture did not make him rich, neither did it impoverish him: the proceeds eventually managed to cover his costs.

Recently, he sorted through his collected works, which amount to an astounding sum of about 3,200 poems. He intends to publish them in eight or nine volumes, to be sold as before, over the counter at the store. Our best wishes go to this entertaining and epigrammatic poet of the people.

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Fairy Tale Road

Our guide is sporting a multi-colored cape, tunic and leotards, a coxcomb hat adorned with ostrich feathers, and elongated orange leather shoes featuring baroque curlicues extending beyond the toes. Anywhere else, he would be locked up as a madman, but here in the picturesque village of Hameln (pronounced Ham-el-in) Germany, he is instantly recognized as the Pied Piper of medieval lore.

As he walks through laneways and streets, he plays occasional snippets of medieval ditties on a clarinet. Our group of seven follows as if in a trance.

We pass a schoolyard and the Pied Piper pipes a nursery tune that brings most of the children to the fence, their eyes wide in happy amazement.

"Out of every 10 children I meet, about two children run," he admits in perfect American English. "It's because some parents tell their children, 'If you're not good today, the Pied Piper will get you.'"

As we stroll through this beautifully restored town on the Weser River, the Piper points out distinctive buildings in the Weser Renaissance style, with their projecting bay windows and handsomely decorated gables. Dating from the 16th century, many of these half-timbered houses feature grotesque faces meant to scare demons away. But it is the Piper legend, not the exuberant architecture, that draws multitudes of tourists from around the world.

The Japanese especially are fascinated with this evocative tale of the stranger who came to Hameln in 1284 and lured the local rats into the river with his flute. After the burghers refused to pay him as promised, the Piper piped again, this time luring 130 children into a cave in a nearby mountain, in which they disappeared forever.

"The story is as popular in Japan as it is in Germany, because it fits into the Japanese ethic of being an honest person and being trustworthy, as in the stories of the Samurai," the Piper says.

A sad surreal medieval melody draws us along to the Ratcatcher's House, decorated with an inscription documenting the legend. Further on, at Neue Marketstrasse 3, the Piper points out the Jewish House, where 14 local Jewish families were rounded up before being deported to Theresienstadt in 1943: victims of an infinitely more malevolent piper. The site is marked by a plaque.

Although Hameln is a major stop on northern Germany's Fairy Tale Road, the story of the Pied Piper is not a fairy tale but a legend steeped partly in historical fact. Details of the tragic exodus from town were preserved in a medieval church window, which specified the number of people (130) and a date around June 25, 1284. "The part about the rats was later added to the story and has nothing whatsoever to do with the loss of the children."

According to one theory, Hameln's young people were

[Cont'd. on page 41]

The Pied Piper of Hameln. [Bill Gladstone photo]

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TAB news

Perestroika exposes plight of minorities

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The pain and joys of life in the 80s are splashed on a brilliant canvas in *Angels in America, Part Two, Perestroika.* And incredibly, almost, it ends with a message of hope rising out of the gutter.

The plight of minorities, blacks, Jews, homosexuals and others in North America are pitilessly exposed, as are the ills of the larger society – drug addiction, power politics and loss of hope – in this Canadian Stage production.

Perestroika runs in repertory with *Part One, Millenium Approaches,* at the Berkeley Street Theatre until March. See both if you can – they are masterpieces.

"I am trapped in a world of whites, perhaps that's my problem," says the black nurse Nelize (Cassel Miles), the play's amazing linchpin. In a different vein, Louis Ironson (Louis Poch-Goldin) the neurotic Jewish gay who has deserted his AIDS-afflicted lover, recounts his many problems, and adds: "Like my grandmother said, 'Go know...'"

The political sophistication that threads its way through *Angels in America* is no more evident than in its devastating portrait of Roy Cohn (Tom Wood) political fixer and closet homosexual who in real life hounded Julius and Ethel Rosenberg to the electric chair.

As the valium-popping wife of one of Louis' lovers, Harper Pitt (Karen Hines) exemplifies the desperation of a woman who has lost her husband to corporate power and physical desire. Hines is exquisite in delineating a baffled woman turning to fantasy.

Her mother-in-law, the Mormon Hannah Pitt (Patricia Hamilton) strides through the play in seven-league boots, bringing it down to earth. To the dying Prior Walter (Steve Cumyn) who says he seeks the "kindness of strangers," she snorts: "What a stupid thing to do."

Playwright Tony Kushner is a Jew and the theme of black-Jewish relationships runs through both parts of *Angels in America*, always clothed in humor and reality. Belize urges a reluctant Louis to say a memorial prayer as an act of forgiveness when Cohn finally dies. "You know the Kaddish - hit it," says Belize, sincerely but irreverently. It turns out that the ghost of Ethel Rosenberg has to help Louis with the words.

In one of the final scenes, taking place in Jerusalem in 1990, Belize and Louis, the essential protagonists, are debating whether Israel should give up the West Bank to the Palestinians.

Angel in America covers so many bases it may not be fair to pick out one theme at the expense of others. The play probes deep into the world malaise – what life is, that's what you get!

David Storch (left) and Alex Poch-Goldin.

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Shaarei Shomayim brings Judaica to the people

TORONTO – If the Judaica can't come to the people, then the people will go to the Judaica.

That seems to be the principle behind Shaarei Shomayim Congregation's innovative new program of field trips to local collections of Jewish art and artifacts.

Put together by the shul's historical exhibitions committee, the program will feature seven outings to local museums, archives and collections of Judaica, guided by their curators.

The series of visits will provide a rare opportunity to see and learn about collections of local interest and historical importance, says committee co-chair Phyllis Fien.

The trips will highlight Jewish ceremonial objects and crafts, she said.

The program kicks off Dec. 4 with a trip to the Ontario Jewish archives, housed in the Lipa Green Building. Director Stephen Speisman will speak about the extensive collection of documents and artifacts.

Other venues are: the Morry & Kay Rotman Collection at Beth Sholom Synagogue (Jan. 28); a visit with Judaica collector and *sofer* Rabbi Avraham Kubayov (March 3); the European Judaica collection at the Royal Ontario Museum (March 16); the Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum at Beth Tzedec Congregation (April 8); the Kanner Heritage Museum at the Baycrest Centre (May, 1997); and the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre (June, 1997).

Registration is limited. For details, call 416-789-3213.

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Travel Talk

[Cont'd. from page 39]

lured away to build new villages in the east. But the Piper declares this theory weak. "Certainly someone would have come back or written a letter. The world wasn't so large back then. There's an element of tragedy in the story that this theory doesn't address."

A local scholar Gernot Husam has asserted that the town's young people "were the victims of a bit of ethnic cleansing," the Piper reports. Supposedly, a group of young people still clung to the old pre-Christian German religion, otherwise known as the Teutonic or Atlantean religion; they left town to commemorate the summer solstice with a religious festival – "a witches' dance" – in a nearby mountain.

"Many early Christians were dedicated to stamping out the old religion. Since these festivals were sometimes held underground in a labyrinth or cave, they might have forced a cave-in."

The highest mountain visible from Hameln, the Oberburg, is 15 km away; its slopes contain many relics of the old religion, and the sun rises from behind it in June. A sinkhole in the mountain, the Devil's Hole, also contains early Christians icons, but it remains unexcavated.

These details, more fully expounded in Husam's 1990 book Copper Brugge, have all but convinced the town's modern Pied Piper that "a bit of ethnic cleansing" occurred here 712 years ago.

Our group made numerous other stops along the Fairy Tale Road – Hamburg, Bremen, Gottingen, Marburg, Alsfeld, Kassel – seeing many sites pertaining to such Grimm brothers' fairy tales as the Bremen Town Musicians, the Goose Girl, and Sleeping Beauty. But Hameln's sad tale, so ancient and yet so redolent of modern times, seemed to affect us more than any other.

I flew from Toronto to Hamburg via Canada 3000 and traveled as the guest of the German National Tourist Office. More about Germany in a future column.

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Israeli soccer team trounced by Cyprus

JERUSALEM – A very poor showing by the national soccer team in Limassol last week, in which the Israelis lost 2-0 to Cyprus, has brought the high-flying team down to earth with a thud and has put its World Cup qualification hopes in serious jeopardy.

Two first-half goals by Serbian-born Sinica Gogic were enough to sink Israel, which looked a shadow of its former self. There is no question that the result rightly reflected the difference between the two sides and not even the 2,000 or so supporters who flew out specially to support Israel could do anything to change the miserable night the visitors were having.

Perhaps the only consolation Israel can draw from the match is that neither Bulgaria nor group leading Russia will find it easy to play the Cypriots on their home soil, so another upset is possible and the Israelis, if they can return to winning ways, can be aided by such an upset.

Cyprus took control from the kickoff and played an excellent defensive game, placing tight marking on Eyal Berkowitz, Ronnie Rosenthal and Haim Revivo. Their excellent reading of the game also allowed the whole side to close down any open spaces and not allow Berkowitz or captain, Tal Banin, to develop any organized moves. Every time the Israelis tried to pass the ball, a Cypriot player would be there to cut out any buildup.

For their part, the Cypriots also managed to put together some constructive moves of their own and were obviously used to the poor state of the pitch, which made accurate passing very difficult. Gogic looked dangerous from the outset and had already tested Rafi Cohen in the fourth minute as Israel's defence looked shaky.

With only 10 minutes gone, Cyprus struck for the first time when Gogic backed away from Felix Halfon on the right and headed down a perfect cross from Marios Christodoulou who, broke into the area from the left.

Cohen in the Israeli goal had no chance of stopping the ball as Gogic rose high from seven metres out and guided the ball perfectly between the keeper and the near post.

Defence failed to close down empty spaces

Just five minutes later, Cohen dived at Gogic from behind and brought him down. Romanian referee Gheorghe Constantin had no hesitation in pointing to the spot, and Cohen's nightmare from the game against Bulgaria – when he committed an almost identical foul – was repeated.

The bad dream was completed for a second time, for as against Bulgaria, the Israeli goalkeeper failed to stop Gogic's well-taken penalty shot, which was struck hard to the middle of the goal.

The Israeli defence was again at fault, as it failed to close down the empty spaces, and Halfon, in particular, was having a bad night.

Cyprus would have made it 3-0 in the 26th minute, had not Alon Hazan intervened to clear a ball from the feet of Demetris Ioannu who was about to pop the ball in from close range.

The shaky defence caused Israel coach Shlomo Scharf to make two very early substitutions, taking off Halfon and David Amsalem in the 35th minute and bringing on defender Arik Bennado and prolific striker Ronnen Harazi to try to find a way past the Cypriot defence.

The change did shore up the defence, as Rosenthal, Nimni and Banin each took turns to fill the right back position, which was vacated by Halfon. Harazi up front, on the other hand, was unable to make inroads past the Cypriot defence, which was well marshalled by captain Pambos Pittas.

Only Nimni managed to recreate some of his penetrating runs, but even when a move was put together, some excellent work by goalkeeper Nicos Panayiotou kept the Israelis at bay. For the home team, the second half was all about sitting on its lead.

The Cypriots played a more defensive game and even though Israel was allowed much more leeway in the centre of the park, which led to some dangerous moves, the finishing touch simply wasn't there. Panayiotou thwarted several shots at goal, but the moves which Israel put together, particularly from the feet of Berkowitz, simply didn't have the conviction needed when a team is fighting back from 2-0 down.

Scharf tried to bolster the attack even more by bringing on Driks for Rosenthal with 15 minutes to go, but by that time Israel had thrown caution to the wind and piled on the pressure and the Cypriots conceded several corners and free kicks but to no avail.

Earlier in the day, Israel's under-21 side drew 1-1 with its Cypriot counterpart, Idan Tal scoring for Israel.

Israel's next match is against Luxembourg at Ramat Gan on December 15.

Hockey tryouts

TORONTO —Tryouts for the Israeli Junior Hockey squads under 18 and under 20 hockey teams will be held on Nov. 24 from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. at the Double Rink Arena.

All interested players must have a valid Israeli passport to be eligible. For further information call Oded Orgil at 905-881-3597.

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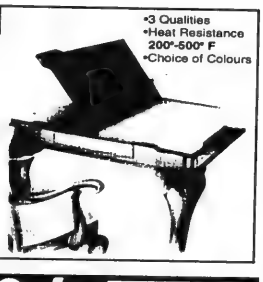

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Hospital explores complex behavioral patterns

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Research being done at the Ezrath Nashim-Sarah Herzog Memorial Hospital in Jerusalem may throw light on the complex behavioral patterns in some neurological and psychiatric diseases, says the hospital's director general Dr. Yehezkel Caine.

The 100-year old institution is in a unique position to do this, Caine told *The CJN* in an interview during a recent North American visit.

"It was the first psychiatric hospital in Israel, probably in the Middle East, with nearly 100 psychiatric beds. As well, we have a special expertise in geriatrics, with over 200 beds devoted to that."

The merger of these two disciplines leads to an interest in complex diseases and aging, he said, adding that "there are a lot of similarities between the different types of processes going on in the brain."

Caine believes that "changes in behavior are always organic in origin, even if we haven't identified them [those causes] yet. Behavioral changes are caused by changes to the brain."

There is a commonality in problems that affect behavior that runs the gamut from relatively minor ones like Attention Deficit Disorder to schizophrenia, and even to what seem to be physical disorders like Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease, he said.

"We know that many behavioral and functional changes are caused by a group of substances in the brain, called neurotransmitters. One well-known example is L-Dopa in Parkinson's disease, he said.

At the Herzog hospital, Caine said, researchers are carrying on the only trial in the world ("We think," he added carefully) on using glycine, an amino acid, to treat schizophrenia. "This is very experimental," he said of the study, which is being funded by the Israeli Ministry of Health and the Scottish Rite organization.

That is not to say, he added, that these problems are exactly the same, but that they have common elements, such as forgetfulness and rigidity.

Other research has led to the so-called "thrill" gene by the hospital's Dr. Richard Ebstein, a gene which seems to predispose people with it with a craving for excitement.

"When we learn more about ourselves," Caine said, "we may not use that knowledge immediately. But when we understand human nature better, we can better understand when it goes wrong."

Caine said much of the hospital's funding comes from Canadian sources, such as the Silver-Cooper Geriatric Rehabilitation Centre, donated by Nathan and Lily Silver and Florence and Sydney Cooper and UJA of Canada, and the Latner Mental Health Clinic, donated by Al Latner.

But he feels that despite this, many North Americans do not realize the difficulties Israeli society faces. "Over 20 percent of those who immigrate to Israel, will never work, but will remain on social welfare for the rest of their lives," he said. Many, especially from the former Soviet Union and what was behind the Iron Curtain are too old to retrain or for employers to hire.

He said Western immigrants who come to retire, even if they bring their own pensions and health insurance coverage, still use the resources of the state.

"Our hospital, like many others, is at the end of its tether – we have an occupancy rate of 140 and 150 percent, without any extra manpower and with smaller budgets.

"We must pose this question," he suggested: "Is it truly just Israel who is responsible?"

Mystic rabbi to speak

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Mystic and author Rabbi Avraham Greenbaum of Jerusalem will give a concert and a series of lectures on meditation, spirituality and spiritual healing in Toronto next week.

Originally from England, Rabbi Greenbaum was a BBC radio producer and broadcaster until he opened his own audio studio in Jerusalem in 1980. Since 1984, he has concentrated on translating the writings of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslov, and on his own books, which include *Wings of the Sun*, and *Garden of the Souls*. His most recent work is *A Call to Live: Jewish Guidance in Healing*.

He is the founder of the Azamra Institute, whose mission is, according to a press release, "to inspire commitment to authentic Jewish and human values and to provide guidance in our quest for meaning, health, healing and happiness both for ourselves and for the world as a whole."

Some of the ways to happiness, Rabbi Greenbaum says, include the return to Torah by the Jewish people, the observance of the seven Noahide laws by the non-Jewish world, promotion of faith, meditation, prayer and mystical wisdom, and women's spirituality.

The Azamra Internet Learning Project is spreading Rabbi Greenbaum's message through the Internet. It offers courses in a variety of areas of Jewish spirituality and at a variety of levels.

Another project is caring for the sick, through books, healing music on tape and an Internet site.

The week's events will begin with a concert by Rabbi Greenbaum called The Healing Power of Mystical Music, to be held Nov. 23, 8 p.m. at B'nai Brith House.

Rabbi Greenbaum believes that "Holy music has the power to lift the human spirit to the greatest heights of attachment to G-d and simchah."

Lectures will be held around the city from Sunday evening through Wednesday evening. There is a charge of $15 for the concert and $10 for each lecture.

For more information, call Dr. Allan Bortnick at 782-2113.

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490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
496 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/WORKSHOPS
505 TYPING/WORD PROCESSING
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

FOREST HILL CENTRE HALL GEORGIAN
Newer kit., main flr. fam. rm.! David Wagman* 488-2875

$839,000 BAYVIEW/FIFESHIRE NO GST
5400 s.f., 5 bdrm. fam. & lib., 8 months new! Sharon Bobkin* 226-1987

NEW LISTING! LOWER VILLAGE RENO
Spectacular 5 bdrm SOLD ith! Reesa Sud* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Magnificent custom built home, 30 x110 ft. lot, 4 br., 4 baths, stucco/stone ext. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

GOURMET KITCHEN
Family rm. 4 bdrms., 4 baths, nanny's quarters. Cathy Goldman* 226-1987

1ST OFFERING BUYER'S DREAM HOUSE!
$389K Cedarvale, 3 bdrm., 3 baths, fin. bsmt.! L. Taylor* 226-1987

REDUCED TO SELL 3 BDRM TOWNHOME!
Yonge-Eglin-All new, 2 pkg. spaces! B. Westbrook* 226-1987

NEW 2 BDRM TOWNHOME YONGE/EGLIN
All appliances, 2 pkgs.* amazing! B. Westbrook* 226-1987

MARLEE & GLENCAIRN DET 3 BDRM
$169,000, bsmt. apt, deep garden! Janie Lerner* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

A DREAM COME TRUE $749,000
Cstm. blt. contemp design! David Wagman* 488-2875 SOLD

BAYVIEW/16TH 5500 S.F. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm., fin. bsmt! F. Sversky** 488-2875

3 BDRM HOME IN NORTH YORK! $269K
Bath./Steeles, large lot, dbl, gar.! B. Westbrook* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

FOREST HILL FABULOUS! 3285 S.F.
Elevator access! Condo, 2 pkg. Mary Warsh* 488-2875

SKYMARK "ELEGANCE" EXCELLENT BLDG.
2 bdrm., 2 baths, fam. rm. & sol. P. Grossman* 226-1987

SKYMARK "ZENITH" INCREDIBLE VIEW
2 br., 2 bath, fam. rm., 2 car pkg. S. Train* 226-1987

NEW LIST! FRONT & GEORGE MOTIVATED
2 bdrm., 2 baths, sol, apt. 1550 s.f., pkg. J. Lerner* 226-1987

NEW LISTING! BAYVIEW WALK! $223K
Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, marble foyer, gas fireplace, approx. 1107 s.f.! Susan Dick-Goodman* 488-2875

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

50 ACRES IN PICKERING!
$349,000, 2 sty., 3 bdrm. & barn! J. Lerner*/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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-REAL ESTATE LIMITED-

FIRST PRESENTATION! $1,795,000
Exclusive elegantly appointed mansion designed for entertaining. Ravine setting. Alisa Abrahams*

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Truman Rd. $1,148K - 6000' showcase on 60x300' lot Bathurst/Lawrence $549K- Dream 4+2 bdrm, 4 bths. A 10+

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
12 Alexandra Wd - $699K Listed & Sold in 12 hrs. for 99.5% of price! Is yours next?? Call Sandon today!

NEW LISTING - YORK MILLS $648K
Wonderful fully upgraded & reno'd 4+1 bdrm, lib. & fam. rm., fin. bsmt., hrdwood flrs., c/vac +++Frances Novack*

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45 Riderwood - $448K - Fab. 5+1 bdrm., 4 bth, mn. fam. rm. 3547 Bathurst ! $319K - Storefront + 2-1 bdrm. apts.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED
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Power of Sale - $208,900. Potential for 4 units. Danforth/Birchmount., Must Sell!
Power of Sale - $159,900. Potential for 6 units. Oakwood/Eglinton. Must Sell!

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View.

• • •

BATHURST/CLARK
$175,000. Large 2 bedroom condo + enclosed solarium, 5 & 5 piece bath, move-in condition.

• • •

HILDA/STEELES
Get a winner & buy 4.5% mtge. $229,000 asking. 4+ bdrm, fin. bsmt. 2 storey semi det. Move-in condition.

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MORE LISTINGS NEEDED!
NORTH YORK & THORNHILL
•Palladium 2 br, 2 wr, 5 Appl., Sun. $147,900.
•N.Y. Townhouse $180,000
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Cust. built, 3+ bdrms, 4 bths, lge kit, fam. rm., w/outs, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

• • •

FINCH/WILMINGTON
5 bdrms, 4 bths, fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble drive, gar.

• • •

BAYVIEW/HWY. #7, $137,900
2 bdrm condo, 2 bths, Indry ens, appls, balc, A-1 buy!

• • •

FINCH/BATHURST $98,000
2 bdrm. condo, liv & din. comb, w/out to balc, appls, pkg.

• • •

WILSON/BATHURST
Ideal starter, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, fin. bsmnt, extras, A-1 buy!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

EGLINTON-BATHURST, 3 bdrm., 2 storey, fin. rec rm., **G. BARON R.E. 665-3044.**

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

Wanted: Bungalow, 3 or 4 bdrms. boundaries...**Lawrence, Eglinton, Avenue Rd., Marlee** $375,000 range, 10% down & if you hold balance, we will pay you 1% above going mortgage rate. No agents please. Call Ed (416) 661-0385 (days) or (416) 787-9541 (evgs).

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

***SKYMARK * "THE CLASSIC"**
$319,900. 2BR, Fam. Rm. 2 car park, Terrace, Beautiful upgrades! Marty Wagman 449-2020. The Prudential Sadie Moranis Realty. Independently Owned Broker.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles area, 2 bdrm., male, kosher, $400./mo.,nr. TTC & shopping. 665-1388.

Man seeks gentleman to share accom., kosher. 784-1425

Female student needing roommate to share 2 bdrm. apt., Yonge/Eql. area, 787-7198.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST
CONDOS
STEELES

JUST LISTED
2 BR, 1173' - $165,000
2 BR, 1173' - $163,000
SKYRISE 1855' - $290,000

JUST SOLDS
PRIMROSE
1131 Steeles W., #507
HEMISPHERES
133 Torresdale, #1208

Call
Paul Hegarty
NORMAN HILL REALTY INC.
416 - 226-5515

CONDO! CONDO! CONDO!

500 Glencairn Ave. 1-2 Bdrm + Den, Over 1380 Sq Ft, Security, Marble Entrance, Shabat Elev. From $139,000 to $164,000.

Glencairn W. Subway - Choice of 1-2-3 Bdrms, Fab View, Pool, Sauna, Shabat Elev. From $94,000 to $139,000.

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BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY
2 BEAUTIFUL CORNER UNITS!

*2 bdrm + den, lrge white kit. 2 w/o balc. model rarely available! 1400 sq. ft. $218,000
*1 bdrm + den - 3 w/o balc. Fab. view! $169,900
*Estate Sale **SOLD** + 2 bath $174,000
All 3 units include 2 prk + locker + appls.

PAULINE GOLD 905-889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

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REALTY LIMITED
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BATHURST / WILSON
Charming 3 bdrm. detached bungalow on 51 ft. lot, fab SOLD ation, clo all amenities! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES – PRIME UNITS!

CHOICE OF 2 UNITS
1. Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $209,000.
2. 2 bdrm., approx. 1,100 sq. ft., mint, freshly painted, only $162,900. **Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.**

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow on 50x134 ft. lot. Presitigious location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – HOME RENTAL – REDUCED!
Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., gorgeous 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rooms, finished basement, reduced to $1795 / month. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BALMORAL BEAUTY — STUNNING 3,450 SQ/FT HOME!

4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, dream kit., stone fireplace. An architectural masterpiece — MUST SEE! Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION BUILDERS! LOTS FOR SALE
AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN
• 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.
• 50 x 134 foot, only $369,000.

• • •

FAYWOOD / SHEPPARD – MAKE AN OFFER!
Detached bungalow on 50x159 ft. lot. Quiet street, close to all amenities, only $199,00. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – HOT LOCATION, HOT PRICE!
Renovated 4 bdrm. 2 storey, new windows, upgraded mechanical & heating, a must see at only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ALEXANDRA WOOD / HILLHURST – STATELY BEAUTY

Quality finishes and craftsmanship for the most discriminating buyer! 5 + 1 bdrms., dream kitchen, loaded with upgrades, prestigious location. For an appt. please call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., Bath./Wilson area, sep. entr., very clean, no pkg., immed. occup., n/smoker. 633-4128.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
Highrise.
Only 6 apts on each floor.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 pkg., rec. facil. Dec. 1 - April 1, flex. 905-889-4382.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart Waterfront
$198,000. Executive yr. round beauty w/fantastic view. All the bells and whistles! Walk to synagogue.
Anne van Wieringen
Homelife Kempenfelt Kelly
416-350-2366 705-436-5111

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Balfour Beach, Lake Simcoe, 40 mins. from T.O., 6 bdrms., 2 full baths, fully furn., broadloom throughout, walk to great Day Camp. 416-601-5843.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

HOLLYWOOD - QUADOMAINE
Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished, SE corner, oceanview, 24-hour security, restaurant, 2 swimming pools. Owner motivated - $135,900.
Call **Margaret** *or* **Carol**
(305) 935-0301
TURNBERRY REALTY CORP

Sands Pt., nr. Miami Beach, new, luxurious, 3 bdrms., 3 bath condo., 2120', balc., exc. view of sea, 2 pkg., a/c, appl's. $585K U.S. Priv. Sale. Call 416-449-0072.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
Fabulous 3/2½ pool home with double lake view in prestigious Boca Grove Country Club. $369,999.
Also available Woodfield C.C., Boca West C.C., Broken Sound C.C. and Boca Pointe C.C.
Call
David Greenblatt, *Realtor, (former Canadian Attorney)*
Coldwell Banker Real Estate,
561-997-7300; eves. 561-988-9030.

Delray Beach, Leisureville, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, season. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Ft. Lauderdale, 1 bdrm. + sun rm., 1 1/2 bath condo., fully furn., close to all amen.,secur., clubhouse, pool, immac. Avail. immed. for season. $800./mo. U.S. 905-886-1150.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Miami, Coastal Towers,1 bdrm., $1200./mo. U.S., 2 minutes to beach .Dec. only. 630-0754.

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

Aquarius-Hollywood, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn. condo. on ocean, exc. views, avail. Jan. 6th, min. 3 mos., $2,000/mo. U.S. 905-731-6478.

North Miami Beach, lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, facing pool, tennis, secur., Plaza of Americas. 163rd & Collins. Dec.1st-Jan.31,$3900.U.S. 252-2521.

Magnificent Villa, Ft. Lauderdale, 3 bdrms., 3 baths, 5 TV's, hot tub, sports, shops, kids rec. Ideal for family/2 couples. Wk./mo. Xmas. (other homes worldwide). 416-445-6200.

Ft. Lauderdale, 2/2, 3 mos. min.,$1,000/mo.U.S. 536-2907.

Get away from the Snow!!! Disney World/Epcot, fully furn. condos w/kitchen, 2 bath, etc. 1 bdrm (4 ppl) from $600./wk. U.S., 2 bdrm (6-8 ppl) from $750./wk. U.S. For info./res. call Rebecca Coen (310) 551-1510.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

Hollywood, Fla., beautiful park, brand new mobile home in Hollywood Estates, double width, 60 ft. long, 2 lge. bdrms., sep. liv. rm. & din. rm., sun rm., 2 washrooms., large bright kitchen, fully furn. Jan.1 - end of March. For more info. please call 905-472-1413, Mrs. Mach.

Oceanfront, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths. Avail. Feb., Mar. & April, $2,000/mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358.

Palm Aire, Pompano Beach, 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., fully furn., avail. Jan., Feb., Mar., April, 1997. Min. 2 mos. rental. Contact Bob (602) 948-3705.

West Palm Beach, Lands of the President, 2 bdrms. 2 bath, with or without golf, Jan. 3 - April 22. Call 905-731-5626.

West Palm Beach, Lands of The President, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, Jan.-April.905-881-9979.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, immed. until Dec. 24th, & after Jan. 25th, 2 bdrms., all conv., central, 944-1188, Hanna.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, 1 bdrm., newly furn., season, very reas., 714-969-8761.

PALM SPRINGS
Seasonal rentals. We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos. Nicely furnished in super location. From $850 - $3500 per month.
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(619) 327-8429

217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

HUMBOLD PROPERTIES LIMITED
UNIQUE RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

1118 - 1126 FINCH AVE. WEST
GREAT LOCATION - 1090 - 6060 SQ. FT.
JUST WEST OF THE ALLEN EXPRESSWAY. HI-TECH, MODERN PLAZA - RETAIL OR RESTAURANT.

72 STEELES AVENUE WEST
APPROX. 8600 SQ. FT.
THIS IS A THRIVING VIBRANT AREA, ACROSS FROM CENTREPOINT MALL.

YORK PLAZA - JANE/WILSON
APPROX. 2500 SQ. FT.
BESIDE ORIENTAL SUPERMARKET.

BROKERS INVITED
CONTACT MIRIAM KOTZER (416) 661-4000

DOWNTOWN

214 KING STREET WEST
APPROX. 7300 SQ. FT.
FULLY FIXTURED AND FURNISHED RESTAURANT. EXCELLENT LOCATION.
FINANCIAL AND THEATRE DISTRICT DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM ROY THOMSON HALL.

100 LOMBARD STREET
(103 RICHMOND STREET EAST)
APPROX. 4500 SQ. FT.
IDEAL FOR PRINTER, COMPUTER OR ELECTRONICS STORE.

15 TORONTO STREET
(KING & YONGE)
APPROX. 4200 SQ. FT.
COMPUTER STORE OR RESTAURANT.

BROKERS INVITED
CONTACT KIM MARTIN (416) 593-1777

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

I am looking for a position as a bookkeeper or a data entry operator, out of my home, using a Pentium computer. If you have a position avail., please call me at 416-733-8509 for further details & work exper.

Two 19 yr. old Au Pairs from Israel to work for religious families. Available immediately. Please call Bracha in Israel, 011-972-6-782-996.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

All Purpose Cleaning, avail. for Holidays, dinners, parties, open houses, guests, waiters & renovation. Call **Toronto Home Care,** 416-620-9240, Mariola.

Caregiver/clean'g, night sitter, errands, etc. reliable. 269-5626.

Cleaning lady avail. with refs., 782-7592 (early evg.).

Cleaning lady avail., exper., refs.Angela 243-3584, lve. msg.

EC ACCESS EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (Filipino Owned & Operated). We seek employers to sponsor Filipino **live-in** caregivers for children/elderly from overseas. **No placement fee**, minimum wage, apply - Please call 905-475-2518.

Exp. cleaning couple indiv. avail. with refs., man has exp. as a superintendent. 782-7592.

Exp. cleaning lady seeks job, refs.,2-3 days/wk.431-0379 msg

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
- **No Fee to Employer**
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Domestic Help & Nurses avail. 24 hrs. 656-6695.

Polish cleaning lady, with exper. avail. Call evg. 663-3725.

Exper. Homemaker seeks job looking after elderly, will also travel with you to Fla., days work,refs.665-8488 or 650-9471

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

King's Cleaning Services, spec. in condos. & houses. $52.75/day. Call 614-1885.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Polish female is looking for any cleaning job. 905-832-6747.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter/Housekeeper, live in/out, reliable, Sonia 213-1998.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Family wishes to hire a mature, pleasant motivated exper. cook who is familiar with vegetarian & other cooking styles, & is able to work independently & competently for 1 day/wk. Willowdale area. Send resumé with refs. to CJN Box 6850.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Kenneth & Rosalie Pal
are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter
Jodi
to
Darren
son of
Alan and Esta Segel
Proud grandparents are Marvin & Sylvia Singer and Steve & Shirley Pal

Certif. HCA seeks a position to work with elderly or disabled, reason. rates, refs. 944-1942.

Exper. HCA seeks position as a companion or caregiver, refs. Call Chelsea or Tanya, 398-1439 or 638-0445.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

I look after sick & elderly people, at lowest prices, housekeeping also. I speak English, Russian, Yiddish & Hebrew. Call 416-663-7217.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

ENGAGEMENT Congratulations to Debbie Fallick & Brian Diamond! **Bringing People Together,** 905-731-5204.

FINDERS, KEEPERS. From all continents, serious men & women wanting to meet with you for casual & serious relationships. Call 663-1029.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1170** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee** .398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

IS YOUR NAME BARBARA?
We met, some years ago, at Sonia's party, held at Bayview/John St. apt., (you dance well); Presumptuous of me, you appeared interested, remiss on my part for not obtaining your phone # - there was a reason! I believe you teach, are about 5'5"ish, & brunette. Please reply to CJN Box 6840.

LOOKING FOR LISA. From England, (maybe mid 40's), residing Toronto 10-11 yrs., remarried in Toronto, serious illness 2-3 yrs. ago, **URGENT.** Please call 416-280-6356.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

64 yr. old prof. male, would like to meet a lady, 55-60, to get to know one another. CJN Box 6851.

Companion wanted to accompany senior lady to Florida, Jan. & Feb. 514-486-5227, Jerry.

Female, 32, n/smoker, blue green eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male, 32-42. CJN Box 6843.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, 31, attr., petite, warm seeking Prince Charming & photos. CJN Box 6845.

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

SJM, 30, looking for an honest, caring, romantic, fun female (25-31). If interested, reply with picture to CJN Box 6853.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Cigar Humidors, Exotic woods, Spanish cedar interiors, high gloss finish, one of a kind, hand made, **wholesale prices**. Call Jordan, 905-881-9848.

330 OBITUARIES

DUBOW, Dora on October 29, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.

TESSLER, Ida on October 30, 1996.

KIOVEZKI, Simion on October 30, 1996, late of 5900 Yonge St.

TOBIN, Batya on October 30, 1996, late of 76 Crimson Millway.

WHARTON, Thomas Wilbur on October 30, 1996, late of 81 Delaware Ave.

HANDLER, Samuel Lionel on October 30, 1996

RUBINEK, Israel on October 31, 1996.

WEINSTOCK, Kelly on October 31, 1996, late of 21 Danby Ave.

HOCH, John on October 31, 1996, late of 206 Acton Ave.

HELLER, Livia (Lilly) on October 31, 1996.

FORER, Alla on November 1, 1996, late of 133 Torresdale Ave.

KILCHTOK, Mara on November 2, 1996, late of 55 Eleanor Circle.

WEINSTEIN, Evelyn Goldie on November 2, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

PEARL, Sarah on November 3, 1996, late of 2 Mica Court.

SOLWAY, Sidney Harold on November 4, 1996.

KURTZ, Leah on November 4, 1996.

RESNICK, Miriam on November 5, 1996, late of 4300 Bathurst St.

KOFSKY, Rachel Doris - on November 8, 1996, late of Angeline St. N.

GORIL, Ides - on November 9, 1996, late of 21 Thomas Henry Rd.

PAUL, Mildred - on November 10, 1996, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W.

SELBY, Celia - on November 11, 1996, late of 25 Canyon Ave.

GULA, Frank - on November 11, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

BERRIN, Fannie - on November 12, 1996, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd.

LEVINSON, Annie - on November 12, 1996, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

The Inside Back

About Life

Dear Ella,

I was raised to believe that money isn't everything and good friends are more important than anything monetary. This is why I am struggling with this problem.

I have a very close group of about 12 friends. We often see and speak to each other individually. We even exchange e-mail letters. We have made a pact that three times a year we all set aside our busy lifestyles and go out for dinner as a group. We take turns picking restaurants and we always have a great time until the bill arrives. Whatever the total is, we just split it evenly.

Here is where I fight my conscience. I don't eat very much, I usually only order an entree. Most everyone else orders appetizers, entrees and desserts. I can live with splitting the food. It's when I see the bar bill that I lose it. I don't drink liquor and resent having to pay for everyone else's drinks. The liquor part of the tab is usually as much as the food part. I usually end up paying anywhere from $50 to $75 for an evening, when my share should only be around $20. I even started to think about not joining them for dinners anymore. Am I being petty? What do you think I should do?

Wine Not Mine

Dear Wine Not Mine,

Your friends probably don't even think about your share of the bill, especially at the end of the evening.

Ask the waitress at the beginning of the evening to supply a separate food and bar bill. Split the food bill with the other 12 and let them take care of the bar tab. I'll bet none of your friends will even bat an eye. As a matter of fact, it may even hit home that you have been paying for liquor that you never consumed all along.

You are a rich person to have such a special group of close friends. Don't let your conscience prevent you from enjoying these wonderful evenings together.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
CATHAY CHICKEN VEGETABLE SALAD
SUB-ZERO
FOR LESS

1/4 lb. fresh snow pea pods, blanched
1 cup sliced celery
1 cup sliced carrots
1 red bell pepper, cut into strips
Oriental Dressing (recipe follows)
1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts
3/4 cup whole natural almonds, toasted*
Lettuce leaves
2 cups bean sprouts
1/3 cup thinly sliced green onions

Combine pea pods, celery, carrots and pepper strips in mixing bowl. Toss with 1/4 cup Oriental Dressing. Chill. Broil chicken breasts. Slice and toss while warm with almonds in remaining 1/4 cup dressing. To serve, line serving plates with lettuce leaves. Divide bean sprouts evenly between plates. Spoon vegetable mixture evenly over bean sprouts. Arrange chicken and almonds evenly over vegetables. Sprinkle with green onions for garnish. An easy one dish meal, makes 6 servings.

Oriental Dressing: whisk together in small bowl, 1/4 cup rice wine venegar, 1/4 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce, 1 tbisp sugar, 1/2 tsp minced garlic and 1/4 tsp red pepper flakes. (optional). Makes 1/2 cup.

To toast almonds: spread almonds in single layer in shallow baking pan. Place in cold oven; toast at 350°F, 8-12 mins. stirring occasionally until lightly toasted. Remove from pan to cool.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

330 OBITUARIES

LICHTER, Albert on October 25, 1996, late of 50 Almore Ave.
GOLDMAN, Seymour on October 26, 1996, late of 16 Sandale Gardens.
SPRING, Ruth on October 26, 1996, late of 59 Linndale Rd.
SILVERBERG, Linda on October 27, 1996, late of 81 Magpie Cres.
ROCKLIN, Ben on October 28, 1996, late of 749 Marlee Ave., #2.
GREENBERG, Molly on October 28, 1966, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MARGLES, Freda on October 28, 1996, late of 240 Heath St. W., #301.
KRONE, Helen on October 30, 1996, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W., #310.
FISHER, Irene on October 29, 1996, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
LIPTON, Edward on October 30, 1996, late of 138 Waterloo Ave.
KUPERBERG, Agnes on October 30, 1996, late of 125 Firglen Ridge.
HERTZMAN, Esther on October 31, 1996, late of 85 Skymark Ave. PH #1.
SCHNEEBERG (BERG) Jack, on October 31, 1996, late of 23 Fairholme Ave.
PARNAS, Dorothy on October 31, 1996, late of 131 Torresdale Ave. #2004.
MENDELSOHN, Arthur - on October 31, 1996, late of 29 Macauley Dr.
ROSENBERG, Max - on November 1, 1996, late of 133 Viewmount Ave.
FLORENCE, Earl - on November 2, 1996, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., #2704.
STEINBERG, Freda - on November 2, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

SEIDEL REBA, - on November 2, 1996, late of 7440 Bathurst St., PH #11.
GOLDBERG, Tillie - on November 2, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GRAFSTEIN, Goldie - on November 3, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GOODMAN, Molly - on November 3, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
APPLEBAUM, Max - on November 4, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
GREENBLATT, Sylvia - on November 4, 1996, late of 4005 Bayview Ave., #110.
WEISFELD, Louis - on November 4, 1996, late of 150 Heath St. W., #1004.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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Immensely important dates

Diplomatically Speaking

BY JEHUDI KINAR

In 1997 we will celebrate many momentous events. One hundred years ago the first Zionist Congress was convened in Basel, Switzerland. The Zionist idea, which had been developing for many years, was at this time formalized as a political movement. The goals expressed in 1897 culminated in the establishement of Israel, an independent Jewish state.

Eighty years ago, the British foreign minister, Arthur James Balfour, sent a letter to Lord Rothschild that could be seen as one of the elements in the foundation of the future state of Israel. In his letter, Balfour wrote, "His Majesty's government views with favor the establishement in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object."

Although it took more than 30 years until the independence of Israel was declared and we did not see too many British "endevors to facilitate the achievement of this object," nevertheless Nov. 2, 1917 should be seen as a milestone in our historty.

Fifty years ago the UN General Assembly voted on Nov. 29, 1947 in favor of the partition of Palestine into two independent countries, one Jewish and one Arab. This was quite a change from Balfour's proposal, who years earlier had suggested that the Zionist movement should found a state of and for the Jews in Uganda.

Thirty years ago, in June 1967, we were faced with an all-out war with all of our Arab neighbors who were allied against us. Only Lebanon did not participate in this onslaught against Israel. The results of this war are known to all of us. It is because of the Six Day War of 1967 that we were able to celebrate this past year the 3,000th anniversary of a united Jerusalem.

All of these dates are of immense importance to us and we look forward to the many celebrations. We would love to bring Israeli culture closer to those outside of Israel, and this would provide a wonderful opportunity. We will simultaneously begin the exciting preparations for the following year, when Israel will rejoice on the occasion of her 50th anniversary.

The establishment of the State of Israel is the single most important event in the modern history of the Jewish people. The right to self-determination and the ability to identify ourselves formally and legally as a nation with a land of our own is an irreversible fact. This has enabled us to develop further our national identity and our sense of peoplehood, and is a binding force for Jews the world over. Furthermore, in just half a century we have succeeded in establishing ourselves internationally in the arts, sciences, technology and business. Indeed, we are quickly becoming an important and well-recognized trading partner for many countries.

Last year 1,100 people joined a Jerusalem 3000 solidarity mission to Israel. There will be another such mission in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Wouldn't it be wonderful if this time we could fill 50 buses.

I can imagine many kinds of festivities, but the best *chag* is one in which everyone participates. The maxim, "We are one," is not merely a slogan.

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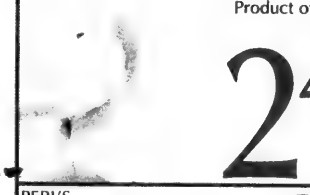

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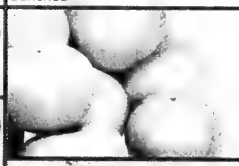

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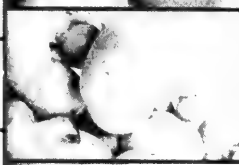

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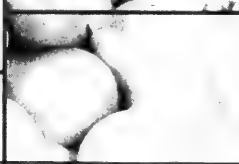

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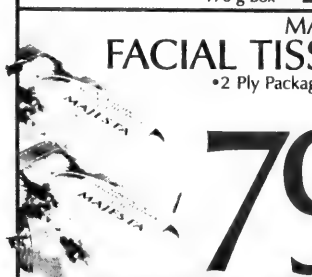

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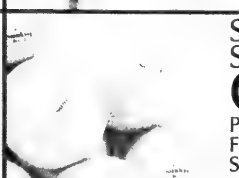

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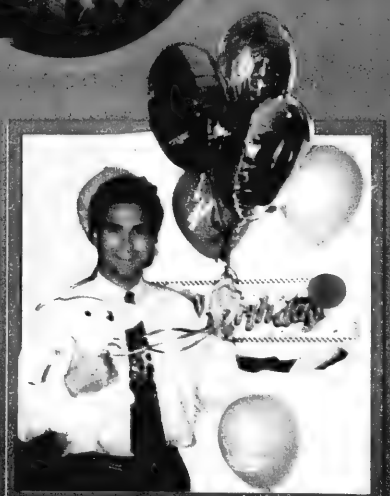

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PARTY PLANNER

Rich in Judaica

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

There are stores in the Greater Toronto Area that bring a huge assortment of Judaica items from Israel to this city. One of the best known is Israel's the Judaica Centre (416-256-1010) located at 897 Eglinton Ave. W., and 444 Clarke Ave. in Thornhill.

Israel's takes prides in providing for the Jewish needs in the community – in homes, schools, synagogues and at simchahs. It provides Jewish theme party products like napkins, plates and balloons to high-end, finely crafted Judaica giftware, says Joyce Eklove, manager of the Eglinton store.

"We carry a wide range of items so we can serve both the secular and the very Orthodox communities," she says.

Israel's carries ritual items from menorahs to kiddish cups, as well as a large assortment of coffee table Judaica books for gifts, says Eklove. Some couples have a bridal registry at Israel's purchasing such items as the Encyclopedia Judaica, havdalah sets, mezuzot and menorahs, she says.

At Israel's, bar and bat mitzvah celebrants are choosing to purchase such things as the Jerusalem Bible, siddurim, kiddush cups and travelling candlesticks.

Israel's also carries ketubot and wall hangings for anniversaries and weddings, Eklove says. "There's no limit to what we can provide. We have a full range of gift items and we pride ourselves on having a complete price range."

Israel's carries one-of-a-kind items handcrafted by local and Israeli artists and artisans, she says.

Another store offering high quality Judaica items is the Silver Centre (416-398-2929) at 3889 Bathurst St., which is now celebrating its first anniversary.

Silversmithing is a trade that can be traced to biblical times, says store owner, Yossi Silverstein. "The tradition dates back to the work of Bezalel who crafted the first portable tabernacle."

The Silver Centre imports most of its items from Israel, which produces some of the most exquisite silver Judaica items available, Silverstein says. He notes that his store is the exclusive Canadian representative of Hazorfim, the oldest and largest silversmithing company in Israel. He also carries European work.

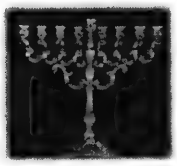
The centre's shelves are laden with an array of silver religious items from tzedakah, etrog and spices boxes to matzah and challah trays and Torah pointers. There's a selection of Yemenite filigree work on candlesticks, menorahs and mezuzot.

Shoppers can find picture frames and silver Judaica miniatures of dreidels, Shabbat candlesticks and menorahs.

The centre also carries the work of Israeli artists Sam Phillipe, Ben Zion, Arad and Saad as well as those artists represented by such companies as Netafim and Caspi. The artists create silver sculptures, both modern forms and figurative biblical scenes.

Silverstein says that his prices are very competitive with some kiddush cups and menorahs selling for as little as $42 and $100 respectively. Spice boxes start at $100.

Gift items can be ordered on the phone and shipped and delivered anywhere in Canada and the United States by the Silver Centre. The centre also offers an engraving service to personalize the gifts.



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Above and on page 7: An assortment of ketubot from Karny Rivlin Vorona.

Hand-painted ketubot cherish and preserve the moment

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

One of the most meaningful parts of the Jewish wedding ceremony is the reading of the ketubah. That moment can be preserved and cherished with a hand-painted, original ketubah by artist Karny Rivlin Vorona (226-3131).

Vorona, who specializes in original custom-made ketubot for weddings, haftorahs for bar or bat mitzvahs and anniversary ketubot, incorporates biblical quotes with various artistic mediums and themes to develop a one-of-a-kind piece of art that will never be duplicated.

The artwork, presented on natural bark, parchment or paper that is aged using Vorona's secret formula, is a delicate blend of illumination done in water color, gouache, chinese stick ink or gold leaf, among other medium, entwined with text.

A Star of David is constructed from the words of Song of Songs and a blessing to the young couple. The text, done in different colors, runs from red to purple to blue and back to red.

A couple's picture may be surrounded by intricately drawn magnolias or orchids with the text handwritten to match the floral design. A three-dimensional effect is

[Cont'd. on page B 7]

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Consultants lighten demands

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Planning a party seems to grow ever more complicated and demanding. Consultants Florence Wilder (416-222-2977) and Tamara Temes (416-222-7712) both see it as their professional mission to lighten these demands. After all, however much organization a party requires, "simchah" means "celebration", not "ordeal."

Temes, who specializes as a bridal consultant, identifies four C's which are essential in her profession: capability, compatibility, commitment and caring. In essence, Temes and Wilder do not disagree, though they differ in which qualities they emphasize.

There are many consultants out there; so how do you choose the one who's right for you? Talk to several before you decide, advises Temes. The best consultants offer you a free preliminary meeting, a chance to get to know one another and see how well you can work as a team.

There's no way to find out but to meet your prospective consultant in person, states Wilder. This is the only way to learn if you are compatible. It's possible for someone to have the finest qualities, yet lack rapport with you and this rapport is indispensable. Look for someone who treats you as a unique individual, Temes insists. Consulting is a service, and cannot be turned out on an assembly line.

Along with personal compatibility, both Temes and Wilder consider capability a must. This includes both reliability and organizational talent and organization should include rehearsal of the event. Knowledge of who does what in the professions associated with parties and party planning is also necessary, especially if you want the consultant to choose your florist, videographer or other professionals; so make sure your consultant knows a selection of people in these fields.

Besides dealing with other party professionals, a consultant may have to talk to your family – or, if you are getting married, both your families. In the case of an interfaith marriage, a consultant is often, in effect, mediating between two cultures. In consequence, Wilder finds that her work involves being "a bit of a diplomat."

Wilder believes that if necessary, a consultant should even offer you a shoulder to cry on. Your emotional involvement with your simchah is a natural thing; and even today, in planning a wedding, the immense responsibility devolves mainly on the bride.

Anyone who takes consulting seriously will appreciate this, and show what Temes calls the quality of caring.

As Wilder puts it, a consultant should be "always on call, but never seen."

Look for someone who knows how to stay on the sidelines, until you need her – and gives you the professional input you need, but without being a tyrant. Temes adds, elaborating on the idea of commitment, that your consultant should not want to dictate when she comes and how long she stays, but fits her schedule to your needs.

If you're getting married, the wedding will be one of the memorable days of your life. Pick your consultant with care, and you will be able to enjoy your simchah – not just nostalgically, in memory, but as it happens.

Other consultants are:

Heidi Gruenspan (905-738-5030); Judy Stein Consultant (905-764-7604); Lynn Borlack (905-882-4989); Lynne Meredith Elkind (416-487-5334); Marla Kay (905-882-2042); Raquel Sananes-Grad (416-398-0217); Sarah Cherry (905-764-7121); Shaindy Cohen Goldstein, Consulting (416-781-1064); Up & Coming Events (905-886-8148); Yael Azuelos (416-789-5408)

Bring on the bands

Are you thinking of hiring a singer for your simchah? If so, bandleader-singer Rena Gaile (905-420-8625) and Shelley Miller of Miller Entertainment (416-484-1044) have some useful suggestions.

Before choosing a singer, Miller advises, decide on the practical details. Do you want a single performer, a duo or a group? How long do you want them to perform: one or two numbers? a whole set? Do you want someone who can work with musicians, without them or both?

Gaile places great value on dress and demeanor. Is the singer tidy and well-groomed? How does she carry herself? Does her attire show class and sophistication? Once a singer satisfies you on this score, ask to hear her voice. Before your guests hear her, they will see her in the spotlight; their first impression will be visual.

Usually, thinks Gaile, a singer should dress formally. Of course, there are exceptions, depending on the occasion; both Miller and

[Cont'd. on page B 24]

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Hand-painted ketubot preserve the special moment

[Cont'd from page B 6]

created by using three pieces of paper and bringing the outside decorations into the text.

Grandparents or parents may want to present a bar or bat mitzvah child with a handpainted version of their Torah portion with the most important parts emphasized in larger letters or stronger colors. Incorporated in the work could be the names of family members or blessings entwined with flowers, birds, butterflies or abstract decorations. Sephardi style is often made up of an architectural or biblical design.

"A child studies very hard for this occasion and a gift such as this is a constant reminder. It is with them forever," says Vorona.

Children can honor their parents special 25th, 50th or 60th anniversary with an anniversary ketubah, says Vorona. "A hand-painted family tree can be a very special gift for a married couple with children."

Vorona, president of the Israeli Artists Group of Toronto, a past president of the Calligraphic Arts Guild of Toronto and a member of the Jewish Artist group of Ottawa, spends "countless hours" on each piece of work and suggests people give her a few months to develop "the perfect piece. I pay attention to each minute detail and I often encourage my clients to see a sketch and design before I start the original piece. When they are pleased with the rough sketch, I begin my work.

"I do not do the framing myself, but I do help with it and I make sure that the frame is an integral part of the text or the haftorah. The design on the artwork goes right into the frame because everything is an important part of the design. We are creating one unique piece," she says.

Although a ketubah makes a "magnificent wedding gift, it cannot be a surprise because a couple must know they have a ketubah," says Vorona. "In any case, involving the couple in the process is a wonderful experience. I love being part of this very happy time in their life — the beginning of their Jewish life together."

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Rick Levine and Lynn Cohen. [Lavee Studios photo]

We're having a party — or two

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Rick Levine and Lynn Cohen are having two more parties and everyone is invited.

The organizers of the fifth annual We're Having a Party, a trade show showcasing a variety of party planning professionals are expanding this year's show to include a downtown location at the Sheraton Centre as well as at the Premiere Banquet Hall and Convention Centre in Markham.

"Some people cannot get up north and others cannot get downtown. By having two locations, we're catering to everyone," says

[Cont'd. on page B 9]

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PARTY PLANNER

Levine's inviting you

[Cont'd from page B 8]

Levine. "The Sheraton location will open at 12 noon so that workers can come on their lunch hour, after work or whenever it's most convenient."

The shows, to be held at the Premiere Banquet Hall on Monday, Jan. 27, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and at the Sheraton on Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 12 noon to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., promise to be the party of all parties. Guests can mingle with dozens of party planning experts such as consultants, decorators, florists, musicians, photographers and travel agents, as well as enjoy some taste tests and watch demonstrations and live performances from bands and disc jockeys.

"Guests will feel like they are at a party," says Levine.

The show was first conceived, Levine says, when a group of party planning professionals got together to plan a way to promote their talents.

"Our goal was twofold. We wanted the community to become aware of what services are available and we wanted the professionals to have a chance to display their talents. We've had a tremendous reponse every year."

Cohen, a party consultant for more than 20 years, and Levine, an orchestra leader who offers a full entertainment package including disc jockeys, MC's and dancers know how difficult it can be to begin planning a party.

"Many people do not have a clue where to begin, but from the moment they enter our show they can see that everything is laid out in full color. There are people to talk to, information to obtain and shows to enjoy. It really takes the mystery and frustration out of the whole process.

Takes away the stress

"As well, our show saves people a lot of time. Imagine trying to see all these professionals one at a time. It would be impossible. This way guests can talk to a few people, take home some literature and study it at their leisure. It takes the stress out of a potentially stressful situation and fills a definite need in the community," says Cohen.

To make things even easier, she says, "we've published a handbook, available free of charge to all guests, that offers tremendous advice, from choosing a band to buying a diamond to finding a travel agent. Also included is information about such things as the chupah, interior design and makeup.

It really is an invaluable tool. It gets people in touch with every aspect of giving a party," says Cohen.

People well on their way with their party plans or even those with no immediate plans will enjoy the show, says Levine.

"Guests will be surprised at all the novel ideas out there. Kodak, for example will be showcasing their latest disposable camera. The camera, bundled in a bridal package, is left on every table and guests are instructed to take candid shots and leave the exposed camera. The hosts then develop the pictures and have a whole new outlook on their simchah."

The show, which is free of charge, benefits everyone, says Levine. "It brings the hotel industry together with suppliers and it brings the public together with exhibitors. It allows for mingling and getting to know each other. We are offering guests something they cannot get anywhere else – a trade show with a party atmoshere.

The one-stop way to shop

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

The point of a one-stop party supplier is to offer the widest possible selection, the idea being much like that of the department store or supermarket. Michael Shneer of Party City (905-709-9399) and Mel Grevler of Party Supply (905-764-5457) may be competitors, but on this point, they agree. How, though, do you choose among competitors?

Compare prices, of course, Shneer urges, and look for price guarantees, as they give added assurance that you're getting the best. Grevler stresses the goodwill value of "old-fashioned honesty," low prices and encouraging the customer not to spend more than is necessary.

Look for the best quality available as well as variety, Shneer advises. A store should carry not just every color of cutlery, for example, but every weight from heavy to light. Also, it should be up to date, with current patterns, colors and licensed products.

Grevler, whose motto is "the party should start when you enter the store," believes the layout tells you something about the quality of product and service to expect. The store should be fun, chock-full of items that catch your eye – and easy to find your way around in.

Does the store display items out of the package, Shneer asks, so that you can see what they really look like? And, with "interactive" being the buzzword these days, are you allowed, even encouraged to interact with products? Is there a "please clap" sign, for instance, telling you how to get that noisemaker going?

Shneer and Grevler both maintain that the greater the variety and quantity of goods, the more important a high level of service is, and that a one-stop party supplier provides a service as much as an item. Otherwise, you can get lost in the range of choice and pro fusion becomes con fusion.

Accordingly, Shneer advises, look for amenities like a free party planner checklist, customized wedding invitations or helium

[Cont'd on page B 32]

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Duette dresses you in style

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

You want to look perfect on your wedding day, but you also want things to be as stress-free as possible. Can you have it both ways?

Yes, says Anna Di Renzo, designer and owner of Duette, a bridal boutique located near Oakwood and Eglinton Avenue (416-654-8030).

"If a bride goes to a boutique that can outfit her from head to toe, including accessories, then the stress of shopping in several stores is immediately eliminated. She can relax and have the experts provide her with the care she needs."

Di Renzo, who trained at Ryerson Polytechnical University and University of Toronto, provides brides and members of the bridal party with either custom designed or customized gowns.

"We design from scratch or we can alter certain parts of the gown such as the neck, sleeves, bodice or even fabric. I make sure, however, that my clients know what they are getting into when they order a custom-made gown – there are a lot of changes along the way. When they buy a customized gown, they see what they are getting from the start. Sometimes people are more comfortable with that. I usually advise clients to have a garment custom-made only if they cannot find all the elements they want in a gown."

The '60s look is a hot trend in bridal gowns this year and Duette features Jackie Onassis-type sleeveless gowns complete with a gold-trimmed scooped neck that can be worn with a jacket for the synagogue. Off-the-shoulder gowns can be made with snap-off sleeves for the ceremony.

"There is a lot of art deco fashion out there and fashion often spills off onto bridal gowns. An empire waist gown with a guippure lace bodice is also popular," says Di Renzo.

Colors, she says, are still predominantly white or ivory and fabrics run from silk to 50 percent silk and 50 percent matte to satin and tulle or satin and chiffon.

Di Renzo advises brides to browse through the latest bridal magazines such as *Wedding Bells* or *Today's Bride* before starting to shop, in order to get some idea of what they might like. Tear out the pictures that are most appealing and go through these pictures to eliminate second choices.

"It makes the shopping process a lot easier if brides have even a tiny idea of what they want," she says.

Above all she says, it is imperative for brides to shop at a boutique in which they feel comfortable. "Feel free to ask questions and make sure your consultant is knowledgeable and confident in answering questions. My customers come back a minimum of three times and in that time I get to know them well. By the time they pick up their gown, we are friends," says Di Renzo.

Accessories complete any outfit, she says, and in order to save the bride from going from store to store, Duette carries everything from headpieces and earrings to shoes and jewellery. "We pay attention to every last detail so the bride looks perfect."

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PARTY PLANNER

CLICK! CLICK: Freezing the moment

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

In a city this size, you can't check out all the photographers — not even the ones you like. How do you decide who suits you?

Greg Dean of Signature Photography (416-399-1967) and Mark Stern of Mark Stern Photography (416-383-1333) offer several tips to help you make your choice.

If you can't go with someone whose work you know, choose from among two to four. See them in person, Dean says, see their work, find out their prices and pay attention to everything you see, not just the albums and what's on the walls. Is the business card well designed? Are you at ease in the office? Little things tell a better story.

Above all, make sure you and the photographer are compatible. This often requires flexibility in style. Quality work is important, but both Dean and Stern rank compatibility even higher. If an assistant may be doing your party, it's best to meet him. Whoever does the work has to have a style that you like – both professionally and personally.

Before choosing, talk to your most important guests. Though it's hard to generalize, says Dean, grandparents often prefer a formal, traditional style, children a contemporary style with more candid shots and special effects, and parents something in between.

The preference also varies with the kind of simchah. At a wedding, grandparents may have a lot of say, whereas at a bar or bat mitzvah, it's the parents and kids. Don't assume these patterns will apply in each and every case, though, Stern warns.

As to your preferences, ask yourself what you like best: posed shots (like the traditional formal portrait or group photo); the genuine candid shot (say, a kid caught unawares blowing up a balloon, his cheeks puffed out and red); or what Stern calls the "candid pose" (as when the bride cutting the wedding cake holds still just as the knife goes in, so that the photographer can get the shot).

Look for solid formal training plus practical experience, advises Dean. Membership in a professional organization tells you the photographer keeps up to date, sees others' work and gets feedback on his own. While it is an artform, however, photography is also part of the entertainment; and the skills of capturing the special moments at your simchah can be learnt only in practice, dealing with people.

Dean and Stern both stress that the photographer should have the flexibility to work around your schedule and be at your event when you need him, for however long you need him. Without being overbearing, he should be a bit more visible than the videographer and stay near the main guests in order to get close-ups and portraits.

If he enjoys his work, says Dean, it's a very good sign. Likewise, adds Stern, if he can deal with the unpredictable, if instinct and experience have taught him to be in the right place at the right time (especially for candid shots), if he stays alert and if he doesn't mind sometimes not taking breaks.

Finally, Stern recommends booking one to two years ahead to have control over dates. The pictures of your celebration will be part of your life for decades; don't put off until the last moment the choice of who's going to take them.

If you enjoy them at the time they're taken, Dean asserts confidently, you'll enjoy them later.

At left is a wedding picture by Mark Stern Photography.

Other photographers are: Eclipse Photography (416-256-3000); Horvath Photography (416-487-3443); Mitchell Studios (905-886-0391); Party Shots (905-881-6372); Photos By Arnold (905-881-6372); Stuart Moscoe Photography (905-881-8769); Sylman Photography (416-635-6749).

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Sharon Firestone and Bill Batista of Caterers York are seen at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

Caterers York continues in the Firestone tradition

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Forty years ago, Mickey Firestone established a catering business at Beth Tzedec Congregation that is still a leader here.

Today, his daughter Sharon Firestone and Euclides (Bill) Batista, who formed a partnership five years ago when Mickey retired, continue in the Firestone tradition of elegant catering.

Caterers York has become the caterer at the Pride of Israel Synagogue as well as at Beth Tzedec and they have expanded to form Sweet York Desserts, an on-site bakery which provides gourmet pastries and special occasion cakes for both synagogues as well as for hotels and other synagogues.

"We are always challenged and must constantly read the current trends and incorporate them," says Sharon Firestone. "We work with our chefs and create custom dishes for many of our discriminating customers."

Recently, Caterers York added two new chefs. Alfred Hu's talents include vegetables, fruit, ice carvings and food decoration. Ron Dukelow's specialties include international cuisine, buffets, and French banquets.

"People are sharpening their pencils more today than ever before – they are shopping around," Batista says.

Although contemporary foods and service are still popular, he says, many people try to include something that will give the event a special flare.

"Station parties with different foods at each station are gaining in popularity. The choices are extensive because these events can be both casual and elegant, and we find that they work extremely well."

The trends today, notes Firestone, include requests for more fish along with a choice of meat, and for vegetarian dishes and menu items to meet special dietary requirements.

Batista, who has been at the Beth Tzedec for 30 years, told *The CJN* that the Pride of Israel Synagogue accepts bar/bat mitzvah parties for non-members which, along with Saturday luncheons, have increased the demand for Monday and Thursday morning simchahs.

With an increasing number of kosher facilities in the city, Firestone says, for some time people looked for the most interesting place to hold a simchah, but more and more people are returning to synagogue functions.

"With so many choices for kosher events," says Batista, "we must stay one step ahead."

Firestone, who worked with her father for many years, says, "Although my father retired five years ago, he still drops in from time to time to add some friendly advice."

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Keeping the skin young

BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

A customized bridal package offered by Zahava.

As people age, their skin–care regimes should include regular facials, according to esthetician Bonnie Palmer, owner of the Ete Salon (927–9634), at 26 Bellair St. in Yorkville.

Ete Salon offers a variety of services, among them facials, acne treatment, leg waxing and electrolysis. The European-trained Palmer , who has been in the beauty business for approximately 20 years specializes in electrolysis – she's had a lot of success with a 16–needle machine from California — and skin care —she's known for giving thorough facials.

She says one of the newest skin–care products, glycolic acid. which is also known as alpha–hydroxy acid, is a natural substance made from sugar cane and fruit acids that can be applied to the skin in different strengths. Small amounts are used in skin creams, but it can also be applied in more concentrated strengths in facials, by professional estheticians.

The glycolic acid exfoliates and helps to renew the cells to improve the skin, Palmer explains. Her two–hour facials consist of cleaning the pores and massage, which improves the circulation. She also steam cleans the face and extracts black heads.

Collagen, once a key ingredient in skin–care products – it puffs up lines in the skin – has been surpassed by other products, she notes. "Collagen used to be very popular, but there are many other new products like alpha–hydroxy acid." Palmer does not recommend it, especially for women in their '20s and early '30s who have no need to use such a product. However, exfoliating the skin with alpha–hydroxy acid is good for any age group, she adds.

She also advises people to clean the face well after make–up removal, to go without make-up on some days to give the skin a rest and to change their skin–care products temporarily, for about three months, every one to two years, to give the skin a break from the product.. Heavy foundation should be avoided because it clogs the pores, but it is sometimes necessary to use it to protect the skin on very cold windy days, she says.

Brides wanting to give themselves a special beauty treatment for the big day, could benefit from a cleansing facial because the make-up is easier to apply after a facial, Palmer says. But she stresses that the facial should be done one week to 10 days ahead of the wedding or big event so any redness or blemishes that occur from the facial can be cleared up.

Customized bridal packages which generally include a facial, pedicure, manicure, and leg waxing are available at the Zahava Beauty Centre, (630–6300) a salon and school located at 842 Wilson Ave in North York. now celebrating its 25th year.

Owner Zahava, who trained in Switzerland and France, started the beauty school, an accredited school of aesthetics, some 20 years ago. The centre offers a host of beauty treatments which includes facials, electrolysis, manicures, pedicures, cellulite treatment and make–up.

The cellulite treatment is done with a special ionization machine which massages the area of the body that has cellulite, Dan Saarony, manager of Zahava's explains. "It helps alleviate problems with cellulite. People lose inches."

The centre also carries Dinur Cosmetics, specialized skin care products from Israel which utilize minerals from the Dead Sea. "The Dead Sea is known to be healing and rich in minerals, Saarony says. "The same properties benefit the skin."

Zahava clients have the choice of two price ranges for a variety of beauty treatments. If they use the school there is a significant saving for such things as facials, and leg waxing. For example a full leg wax – the price includes the bikini wax– costs $40 in the salon and $27 at the school. Similarly the facial, consisting of deep cleaning and massage, is $40 and $27 respectively.

Saarony stresses that an instructor overlooks the procedure and students have to be fully qualified before they see clients. Although the students learn electrolysis it is not available through the school.

Saarony advises that brides ordering a wedding package come in to plan the package services two months before the wedding. Zahava's also offers self improvement courses and corporate packages.

Other estheticians are: Beauti Contol/Sandra Meleca (905-828-7552); Francine Birken (905-881-5527)

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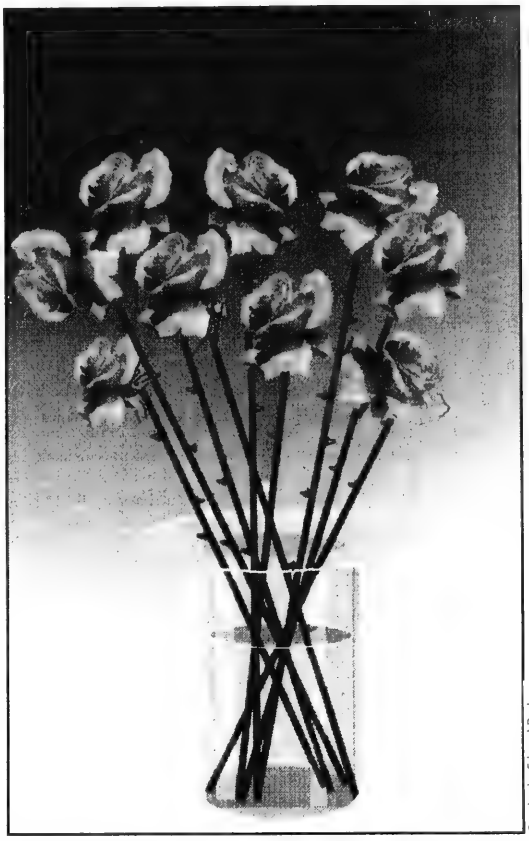
PARTY PLANNER

Flower power:

A lot more than simply red

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN



Graphic by Edward Dunbar

Flowers can make a room say whatever you like says Karen Baker of Designs by Karen Baker (905-886-8100).

"Add some flowers to a bare room and you give it life," says Baker who operates the room decor and flower shop in Richmond Hill. "If you want a tropical atmosphere, add some haleconia, antherium or a variety of orchids in bright purples, oranges and pinks and you've said it all.

"We've filled a room with palm trees for a Middle Eastern theme and we've taken hydranda, lysianthus and oceana roses to create a country garden decor," says Baker who orders from such places as Ecuador, Costa Rica, California, West Indies, Holland and Australia.

"The more exotic flowers are orchids from Bangkok and insidiums from Thailand."

Keeping to what clients can afford, however, is important, she says, and stresses that even those on the strictest budget can have a well put together room.

"Depending on the time of year, we can use seasonal or local flowers such as sunflowers and present them in colorful vases.

"It really is all in the display. A large stately vase can make any flower look elegant. Even ribbons that match the color scheme brightens up the room. A florist needs to have visuals. She needs to know what will make a room look great and work towards it. They can take courses and learn all the mechanics, but they still have to know how to visualize how a room will look. The thoughts they have in mind must come out of their fingertips."

She advises clients to come in and see how their flowers will look with the proper table linen and vases.

"I also invite them to go out and see some of the functions we've done in order to get some idea of what they can put together. There really is no end to what we can do with flowers."

Another florist is: GreenLeaves & Petals (905-709-4080).

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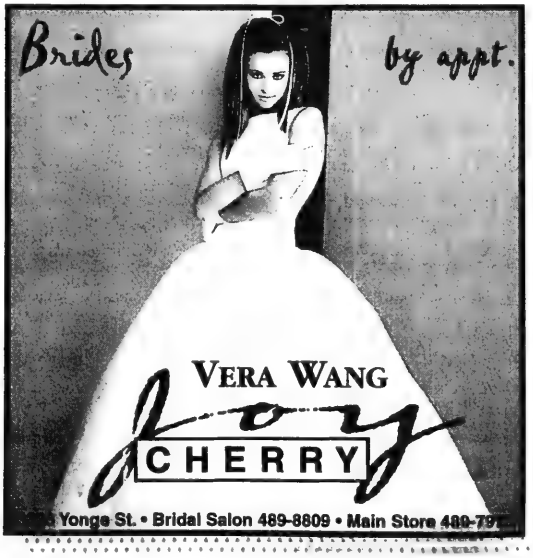

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Children's entertainer Raafi, 12, a student at Eitz Chaim Day School, juggles and does magic tricks to entertain kids of all ages at parties (905-886-1697). [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Joy's known for her evening-wear

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

If you're looking for the right dress for a simchah or special event it's best to go to stores that specialize in evening wear.

Joy Cherry's in the Yonge-Lawrence area is known for its selection of fine evening-wear from formal gowns to cocktail dresses. Sales associate Lorna Weinstein describes the look this year as "simple elegance." Dresses with "clean lines" like the slip dresses, available in a variety of fabrics – silk, silk charmeuse, silk satin, satin and jersey are in vogue, she says.

Black reigns as usual as the number–one selling color, but hunter green is an important shade for evening wear, she notes.

Cocktail suits available in four–ply silk, brockade, satin, and velvet are also popular, Weinstein says, pointing out that one of the most elegant cocktail suits – it's made in England – is a satin jacket paired with a velvet skirt.

Ball gowns with crinolines for very special occasions are also available at Joy Cherry's but that style does not suit every figure, Weinstein notes. Long dresses with jackets or unconstructed gown are more flattering for fuller figues, she says. Specialty alterationists are on site so dresses can be adjusted for the best fit possible.

Velvet is shown every year and particularly popular at holiday time, with pattern or cut velvet a fashion trend for this year according to Weinstein. "Velvet is very seasonal. It's worn from the end of October to the end of February."

Joy Cherry's carries some satin and velvet gowns as well as velvet and tulle. "Different textures are put together for interest," Weinstein says.

Chiffon, satin, silk and crepe are the popular fabrics for evening wear. Beading is making a comeback, but heavily beaded gowns are not common because people are looking for more versatile outfits that they can wear on more than one occasion, she explains.

The store carries a range of evening-wear from Europe and the U.S. by such design lines as Bell ville Sasoon of London and Gregory Cicola and Chris Cole of New York. Prices begin at $500.

Joy Cherry's offers a full line of accessories from wraps to shoes, says Weinstein. "We give a complete look to our clients from the dresses and accessories down to their toes."

Other fashion outlets are: The Hat Box (416-787-5944); Joy Cherry (416-489-8809); Piccolo Mondo Childrens Wear (416-789-5807); Satin Party Shoes (504-8823).

The only thing we overlook ... is the city of Toronto.

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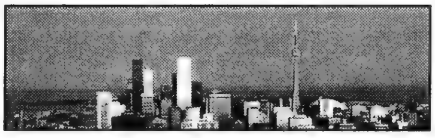

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PARTY PLANNER

Cookbooks for all occasions and interests

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Good cookbooks are not only pretty to look at; they are exceedingly useful. The following volumes will doubtless sharpen your skills in the kitchen.

The Sephardic Kitchen (HarperCollins, $42.50) is a wonderful book. Sephardi cuisine, a melding of delicious flavors from many corners of the world, has produced such stellar dishes as *pescado sofrito a la Judia* (fried fish), *apio* (braised celery root and carrots) and *yaprakes de oja* (stuffed vine leaves).

These and other recipes are found in *The Sephardic Kitchen,* written with loving care by Rabbi Robert Sternberg, a person whose knowledge rivals that of my mother-in-law, a fine Bulgarian lady who has taught me to appreciate the food of the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

Beni's Family Cookbook (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $27.95), written and illustrated by Jane Breskin Zalben and with a foreward by maven Joan Nathan, celebrates the culinary treats of Jewish holidays like Passover or Chanukah.

The recipes are irresistible, running the gamut from sweet potato tsimmes and brisket to honey cake muffins and baklava. Mmmm!

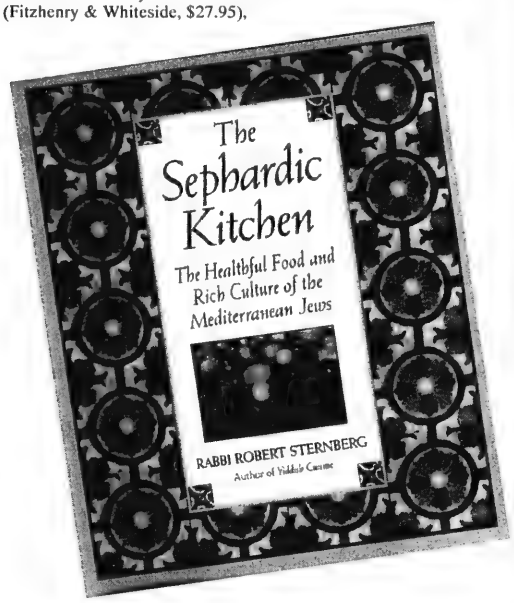
Rose Elliot's Vegetarian Cookery (HarperCollins, $40), first published in 1988, is an excellent primer. Beautifully illustrated, it contains over 300 recipes, as well as pertinent information on a whole host of ingredients.

Charmaine's Solomon's Complete Vegetarian Cookbook (Harper Collins, $35) is a blockbuster of a book, containing 600 flavorful recipes from all over the world, including the Middle East and the Far East. Lavishly illustrated, it is a lasting testament to the author's knowledge and flair. Definitely recommended.

The World's Finest Pasta and Grains (General Publishing) by Anne Marshall is lavish in scope and color. The recipes, culled from Europe, Asia and the United States, are simple to understand and yield excellent results.

Trattoria: The Best of Casual Italian Cooking (Little, Brown,, $26.95) by Mary Beth Clark serves up home-style dishes any gourmet would savor. How about a tomato-bread soup, cannelloni or oven roasted potatoes with rosemary and garlic? You'll find these and other recipes in this attractive book.

The World's Finest Chicken (General Publishing) by Sonia Slyer and Janice Metcalfe will inspire readers with its mouth-watering recipes. They are augmented by 90 inviting photographs. A feast for the eyes.



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PARTY PLANNER

Waiters serve piece of mind

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

If you think that hiring waiters for your private party is beyond your means, you have not spoken to the people at Gemini Waitering Services (573-1365).

Owner Sean Haber, 24, who took over the 8-year-old business about a year ago, says that at $15 an hour per waiter, "even at a minimum of four hours, hiring us is a luxury, but it is definitely an affordable luxury."

One call to Gemini, says Haber, and the party gets rolling. "We discuss what type of party it is, how many people are coming and then we determine how many waiters are needed. For a house party I usually suggest one waiter for every 15 to 20 people. It is important to have enough staff to get the job done so if 25 people are coming, I like to see two waiters plus a bartender, if necessary."

Peace of mind is the number one reason people hire waiters, he says. "We come in early and prepare the platters; heat up the hors d'ouevre and warm up the food. The only thing we do not do is cook. We also mop up the kitchen and clean the dishes so it looks like there was no party at all. The hosts can easily sit back and enjoy themselves.

Outgoing and friendly

"Before the party we send out a questionnaire which asks when the food should be served, how to warm it up, what type of platters to prepare and any special instructions. If the waiters have a list and a set area in which to work they do not have to ask the clients about every detail."

He says that the waiters, who come dressed in black pants or skirt, a white dress shirt and a red bow tie are all outgoing and friendly and are "quite intuitive so they see what needs to be done without having to ask. They also know how to be inobtrusive so although they are there doing all the work, they are not in anyone's way. They just add some elegance to the party.

"I prefer my staff to have training and some come from George Brown College's Foodservice and Bartending course so they have been properly trained. We also have professionally certified bartenders who are able to suggest what alcohol and wine to stock and what wine goes with what type of food."

Wanting to provide a one-stop party service, Haber will also arrange for the dinnerware, flatware, tent, florist, disc jockey, sno-cone or popcorn machine — "anything needed to make the party a success. We'll also come in and assist with the decorating. When we say we make the party, we really help help make it."

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PARTY PLANNER

Meet your travel agent in person to ensure reliability

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Graphic by Edward Dunbar

Some people continually shop around for new travel agents, while others prefer a lasting relationship. Judy Jacobs of Goliger's Travel (416-979-1313) and Shelley Fremont of Fisher Fremont Travel (416-481-3323) agree that the long-term relationship is best.

When people choose an agent, Fremont observes, they pick someone they know, not the agency as such. Meet your agent in person; then, after you establish rapport, you can do business on the phone. Know your own travel needs inside-out, Jacobs advises, so you can communicate them to your agent.

For example, do you travel regularly on business, or only on vacation? Do you keep to an itinerary, or change your mind? What interests you more, destination, route or mode of travel? The mode affects the importance of details – they matter less on a plane, say, than on a ship, where you spend more time and will be more concerned with such details as travelling companions and cabin sizes. Families or newlyweds planning a cruise should first see the ship on video.

Do you plan everything yourself and have the agent rubber-stamp your decisions? Or do you want a partner, who knows you well enough to anticipate you? He hears what you say, but also what you leave out; he knows enough to ask you, not just where you want to go, but where you've been and where you enjoyed yourself most.

Your agent should be enthusiastic about your trip and show the same interest that he would if he were travelling. You probably don't want to make decisions which involve the hassles of planning. The agent should do the planning, then offer you choices and let you pick whichever pleases you most.

In the travel business, offers and prices change fast, without notice and an agent's job is to keep you informed in spite of this. A good agent can tell you about specials that won't even be on long enough to be advertised. Good automation is important, Fremont concedes, but it's only backup for your agent's memory.

Think about your budget; identify your upper and lower limits. Your agent should respect the fact that you are spending hard-earned money, but you, in turn, have to remember that a few hundred dollars extra often means a better vacation. Pick "an agent who spoils you", Fremont suggests; but expect to pay for extra service.

In the next few months, Fremont predicts, agencies will be charging for services like research or faxes. They cannot afford to offer such services free, as they cost time and money. By the same token, if you pay more, you should expect more – and do more follow-up on your agent's research.

In vacation travel, Fremont observes, an agent makes dreams come true. Jacobs agrees, referring to vacation money as "happy money."

Call when you return from your trip, Jacobs suggests, to let your agent know how you enjoyed it. Thanks is much rarer than criticism, but if there are problems, your agent needs to know – and should even call you, says Fremont, to ask how your trip went.

With seat sales generally seven to 14 days in advance, it's hard to say how far ahead to book, but if you don't book early for holiday season travel, you won't get a seat at all. Even so, you can plan farther ahead; you can book a hotel now, for example, and your flight later.

In sum, the details of planning a good trip will be well looked after if there is solid rapport between agent and client. On this, Jacobs and Fremont are of one mind.

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Pros offer you pointers on how to choose a band

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

If you've never hired a band, or weren't satisfied with your choice when you did, the prospect can be intimidating. Choosing is easier if you follow these pointers from three Toronto-area band leaders.

Not every band will suit your simchah – one which is ideal for weddings might not be what you want for bar mitzvahs. Russ Myers (905-771-0257) suggests you hire a band you enjoy working with, who is enthusiastic about its work in general and fits your image of the unique event you're planning now.

Look for full-time musicians: they have to play well. Besides word-of-mouth referrals, ask for references, including letters. Check with a venue where the band has played, suggests Sheldon Kagan (905-882-5888), and look for a band which does follow-up, to see how its clients enjoyed themselves.

"For a bar or bat mitzvah," suggests Stan Hiltz (416-667-9649), "trust your kids. Older people usually prefer live music; it's more personal and less electronic."

If you can do so without crashing parties, hear the band live in different settings.

Kagan adds that you should listen to the tapes they play during the breaks.

The band leader (whom Hiltz compares to the head chef in a kitchen) should be open-minded, able to work with other people and ready to accommodate your tastes and work to your schedule. He has input, but you have the final say. He should be organized, yet able to deal with the unexpected.

Kagan advises planning the entire program with him in advance – especially timing, which he compares with the tempo of a musical composition.

A good band works hard, coming early to set up, and staying till the wee hours if need be. Myers suggests having them play as much

[Cont'd on page B25]

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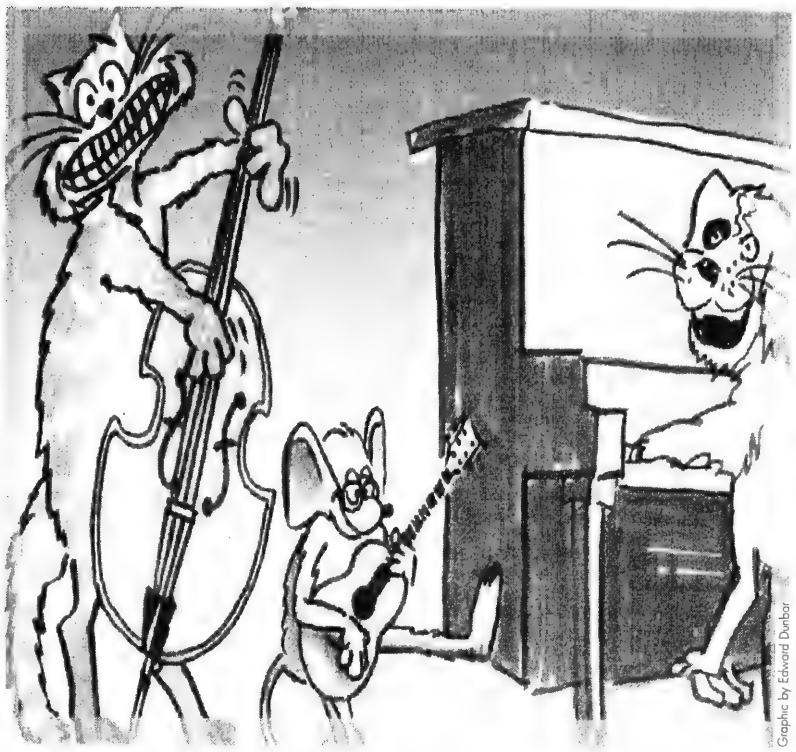

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Pros offer musical advice

[Cont'd. from page B 22]

as possible and take breaks during the speeches.

According to Myers, a good PA system and sound technician are a must, and in an interactive band, the singer should wear a wireless mike to move among the crowd.

As for volume, Hiltz advises playing within a "bubble of sound". Don't blast the back corners with music; people who want to hear will come closer.

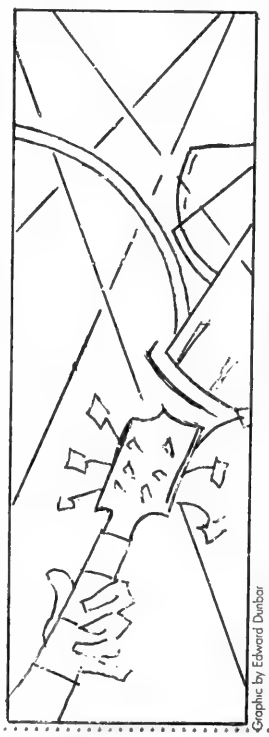
If the band is part of the party, everyone has more fun. Youthful energy appeals to everyone. In our impersonal world, there is a resurgence of live music, because people still respond to people. Especially for a wedding, there's nothing like people on stage making music to which guests can dance.

Myers thinks a band neec wide, constantly growing repertoire of traditional and contemporary material. Also, their sound should be authentic, reflecting the culture from which the music comes. Horahs, klezmer and chassidic songs, for example, are quite different, both musically and in their origins.

Kagan advises booking eight months to a year and a half ahead to get the band you want and benefit from today's prices.

Hiltz points out that while a band should be able to work within your budget, you pay for quality. Musicians spend a lot on training and equipment.

Kagan – who, for a successful affair, puts the band on a level with the food – states bluntly that for a good time on a moderate budget, a good DJ is better than a mediocre band. If you can, hire a good party band; but for a successful affair, don't skimp on entertainment. Get the best within your means.



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Other bands are: Aelita & Friends (416-222-7573); Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band /All Star Jazz Band (416-782-9202); Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals (416-445-9780); Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band (416-703-6895); Harvey Silver (416-480-2444); The Joe Star Band (905-881-1378); The Larry Rodness Orchestra (416-650-5858); The Magic Touch Orchestra (905-493-5393); Mickey Lewin Band (905-881-7972); The Mila Kanev Band (416-665-2450); Murray Alter & His Orchestra (416-782-3931); Nu-Rhythm Band (905-882-5044); The Original Starsband (1-800-498-8444); The Paul Zurin Orchestra (905-770-3084); The Rena Gaile Band (905-420-8625); The Shelley Miller Band (416-481-1034); Shelly Ovdat (905-881-9949); Shlomo Aviv, Vocalist (905-881-5381); Times Square Entertainment Group (905-881-6400).

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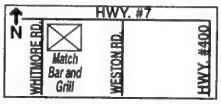

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Disk jockeys agree with Bob:

The times they are a changin'

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Ed McMurtry of Mr DJ (905-737-8670) and Corey Mandell of Mandell Entertainment (905-886-4000) emphasize different aspects of what it means to be a disc jockey, but both agree that in the last several years, the field has changed a great deal.

Mandell remembers that when the economy required it, there was a trend to hire DJs instead of bands and as people got used to DJs, they demanded more. In response, disc jockeys now compete with bands, MC-ing live interactive shows with props, costumes, even live musicians. While their major appeal is to kids, adults are coming to like them too.

To choose a disc jockey, Mandell maintains, you need more than word of mouth. See their work. What's right for someone else might turn you off. Even a demo tape isn't enough; look at a video of an actual event. Best of all, see your prospective DJ at work, live. McMurtry suggests that you get references from professionals, like videographers or others who work the party circuit. He also mentions the Canadian Disc Jockey Association, whose members are reputable and set standards for the business.

McMurtry values presentation and appearance. For most simchahs, whether there's an interactive show or just background music, formal dress is OK; even kids like to see a tux on stage.

Look for someone who rehearses every event, he continues – and tell him everything about your simchah: formal or causal, audience age and tastes and whether they're conservative or more open to new ideas. An event must be well-planned, yet have an interactive spontaneity tailored to each unique audience.

It's all right, McMurtry thinks, to make a music list, but narrow it to general preference and a few key songs. A good DJ will ask what you want to hear, what you don't want to hear and what to do if a guest requests songs you don't want to hear.

Entertainment matters as much as music. "A DJ," he insists, "is not a human jukebox."

As a mobile entertainer, he has to deal with new crowds and come up with new ideas constantly, while perfecting older ones; and says he's "only as good as his last show".

Bar mitzvahs are most demanding because the entertainer has to strike a balance in pleasing both children and adults.

Weddings are more elegant and understated, and give a chance to build the audience-entertainer relation gradually. Instead of tossing plastic leis out into the audience, for instance, as at a less formal affair, the DJ-MC leaves some where your guests will notice them, watches to see whether they pick them up, and takes his cue from there.

For quality entertainment, Mandell advises, look for digital equipment. Get a company with backup staff and equipment and some technical expertise; the

[Cont'd on page B 29]

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Ed McMurtry of Mr. DJ takes a break between gigs.

Times they are a changin'

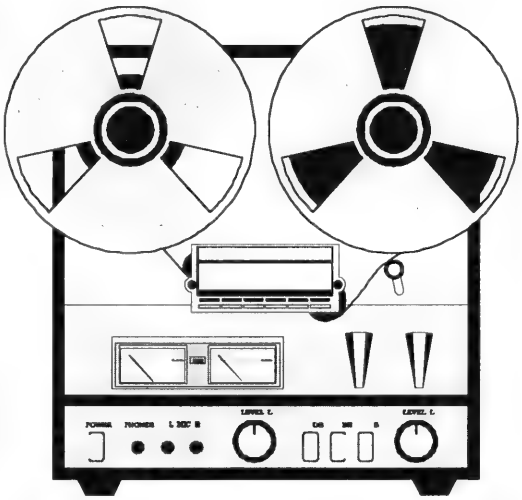
[Cont'd. from page 24]

higher the technology, the greater the expertise. For a DJ, the technology is more important than it is for a live band.

Don't go by price alone, Mandell warns. It's only one factor. You can compare prices on goods, like novelty inflatable guitars, but not on entertainment, which always involves personality. Entertainment costs about one-twentieth what food does; but next morning, people remember it. Why not spend a little more? For a wedding, Mandell estimates a disc jockey wedding package should cost about $500; for a bar mitzvah, from $525 to $5,000.

Book at least six months ahead, Mandell advises. As much as two years ahead, says McMurtry – and start your search some weeks before you book. That way, you make sure of getting the right DJ at the right time.

Other D.J.s are: North American Entertainment (416-750-3750); Paramount Entertainment (905-508-8530).



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Kids go nuts at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Innovative party ideas

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Imagine a birthday party for 15 9-year-old boys with energy to burn.

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The next thing you know they're throwing water balloons at each other and the place is soaking wet.

Sound like a parent's worst nightmare? It's a child's dream party come true if it takes place at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party (905-475-2854) at 7676 Woodbine Ave., #12 in Unionville. Not only does someone else clean up the mess, parents don't even stay for the party.

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Mad Hatter's offers the ultimate parent-friendly birthday party at parent-friendly prices. The minimum package for a group of up to 10 children (the place is geared for children ages four to 12) includes 10 complimentary invitations, hotdogs, birthday cake, candy lootbags, juice, ice cream, face painting and the food-fight food. The cost for each additional child is $12.

The party begins with the opening of the presents and the staff keeps a list of the presents. The children proceed through a maze and have a pillow fight.

Then it's on to the games room, followed by the wet room – children need to bring towels and bathing suits – for a water fight. For $35 extra per 10 children, you can order whipped cream or Jello that the kids throw at each other before the water fight.

After they're dry, they have a supper of hotdogs and juice and then it's time for the food fight with marshmallows and popcorn. There's face painting and the birthday child blows out the candles and everyone gets cake and ice cream.

Other options that can be added to the package include candy-filled piñatas at $45 each, specialty birthday cakes for $30, and arts and craft lootbags for $3.99 a piece. Mad Hatter's will also take

[Cont'd. on page B 27]

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Interactive fun for the whole family

[Cont'd from page B 26]

pictures, $12 for a roll of 24, so parents can see what they missed. Specialty cakes and lootbags need to be ordered two to three days in advance.

The latest in birthday party venues is the Playdium (905-273-9000), 99 Rathburn Rd. W., in Mississauga, an indoor-outdoor recreational theme park on 12 acres that boasts a miniature golf course and a go-cart track.

The parties take place in the 33,000-square-foot Sega City building which houses 180 of the latest video games and interactive simulators, an Imax Ridefilm theatre, rock climbing walls, a lounge and licensed restaurant. Some of the of the most popular attractions include the Imax Ridefilm simulator, the virtual Indy-car race and virtual gliding.

Birthday packages for children aged six and up are available from $16 to $42 per person depending on the amount of money on the game cards. The basic package includes the use of a party room for an hour, a meal of hotdogs or hamburgers and fries, or three pizza slices plus unlimited soft drinks; a private hostess; and a $10 game card.

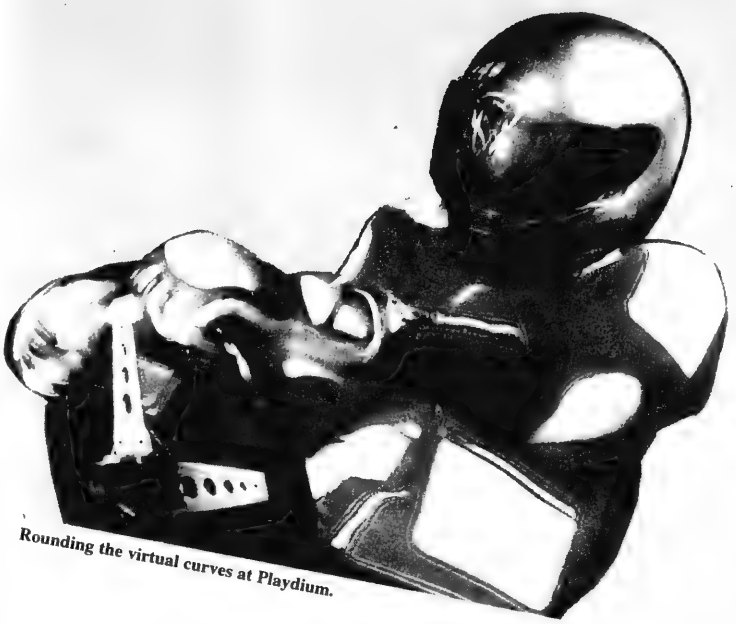
Birthday cakes are provided at an additional cost: $18 for a cake that serves 10 and $28 for a cake for 18 people.

The most popular package is the $30 package with the $24 play card.

Cards that are not used up can be saved for subsequent visits.

Games start at 75 cents and run as a high as $3.50 for Speed Zone, the virtual Indy car race, and $4.95 for the Ridefilm. They average out at $1.50 with the batting cage costing $1.60 for 15 balls.

Another interactive entertainer is: Ka-Boom Interactive Parties Inc. (416-483-6811)



Rounding the virtual curves at Playdium.

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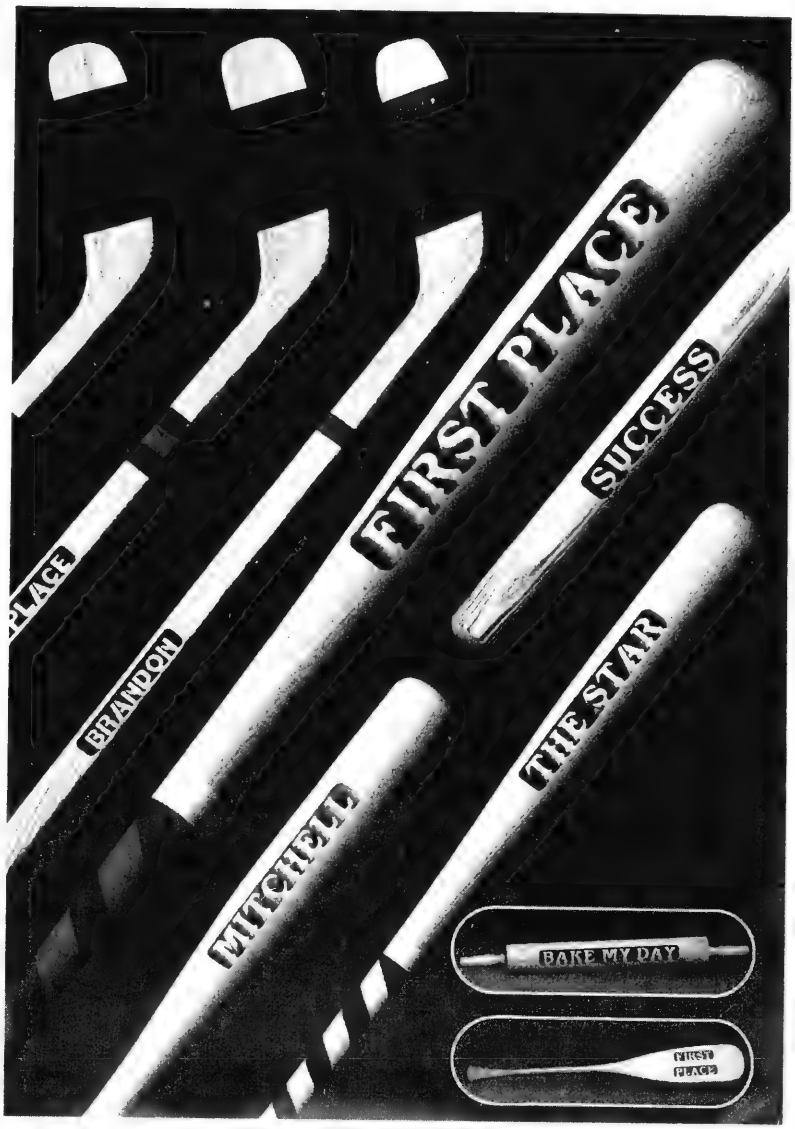

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By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

It's the age old question. What can you buy for someone who has everything? Several companies in the Toronto area may have the answer you need.

The Present Company (416-510-0084), owned by Linda Banks and Pamela Smith is a 3-year-old store that recently relocated to the Leslie and York Mills area.

"Our mandate is to save people a trip to the mall. Not only are we one of the only gift stores in the area, we carry stock that is difficult to find anywhere else," says Banks.

From china, cast iron and wooden gifts to pillows and throws, The Present Company caters to people looking for a unique, high-quality item," says Banks. "Brides have been thrilled with our Fiestaware, a brightly-colored dinnerware line with an art deco pattern that originated in the 1930s. It is lead-free and highly collectable. It is a great pattern to register."

Registering for weddings and showers is a large part of their business and Banks says that brides get extra-special attention when they come in.

"We walk them through the store, help them make a list and decide together what would be best for their home. We have items for every budget and if someone buys a gift with which the bride is not perfectly happy, we exchange with no fuss at all."

She says that although they have a relatively small store, they are continuously replenishing the stock and always looking for something new.

"With three patterns of china and items such as bakers racks, plate stands, picture frames and even baby shower items such as stuffed animals and baby throws, we really do cater to everyone."

Palazzetti (416-785-7190), owned by Fabia Sadoch is a furni-

[Cont'd. on page B 29]

PARTY PLANNER

Different opinions offer reliability

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

In some ways, Abe Salzman of Video Affairs (905-889-0909) and Darren Sager of D.M.S. Video (905-881-7677) have different approaches to what makes good videography. However, they agree on some important points and by considering both their views, you can form reliable standards for choosing a videographer.

Sager says there must be a match between the videographer's work and your taste. Insist on seeing his work ahead of time, he says, rather than try to be a maven on state-of-the-art equipment, let your eyes be the judge.

Salzman says that instead of a demo tape compiled from a videographer's best 10 events, you should ask to see a complete tape of one single event. This will tell you more about how good he really is – just as a singer's live performance tells you more than a studio recording. And pay attention to audio quality, he adds.

Among reputable videographers, Sager sees many differences in quality, style, taste and equipment, and as videography is an artform, like music and photography, talent matters most. Salzman puts more emphasis on technology. Make sure your videographer has the best, he advises – both in cameras and editing equipment.

Salzman recommends that the videographer let you take part in editing. You can leave it entirely up to him, of course, but generally, the end result is better if you take home a copy of unedited footage, view it, and return it to the videographer with editing notes. If it's a bar mitzvah video, Salzman suggests letting the bar mitzvah boy have input in editing. Some have later worked for him as assistants. "I may be creating my own competition," he laughs.

Look for someone who does hand-held camera work with no wires and everything portable, Salzman says. This allows the videographer to get close to the action, without intimidating the guests. He doesn't have a tripod, wheels or wires, but he can capture close-ups without being shaky.

Sager does offer one piece of technical advice. If your videographer "knows his stuff," he uses camera light, not external light, for intimate moments, but for exactness of image, external light is best.

A good videographer, Salzman and Sager agree, has good rapport with you – and works well with other professionals at your event, like caterers and photographers. A capable consultant takes some of the work off the videographer's shoulders, but he still has to be well organized.

Sager and Salzman also agree that a good videographer is unobtrusive, staying on the sidelines and blending with the crowd, but he's ready to capture that special

[Cont'd. on page B 34]

Bands entertain above all

[Cont'd. from page B 6]

Gaile agree that a 13th birthday party by the pool is different from a wedding.

A good singer, Miller believes, constantly expands her repertoire. Gaile wants a singer to offer a wide choice of material and style, to appeal to different kinds of audience – and to sing every song in a way that respects its ethos and origin.

Miller, whose wife is a singer, sees a growing demand for a uniquely Jewish form of entertainment, namely *a capella* singers with a Jewish repertoire, for Shabbat afternoons. This involves mainly traditional Hebrew songs, with a little popular material drawn mostly from the theatre.

Gaile, who hires singers to work with her band, insists that a singer's personality mesh well with band and audience alike. What counts is not temperament, but confidence, sincerity, style and charisma.

As audiences grow more sophisticated, Miller observes, they want better singers; but first and foremost, they want entertained. A singer has a r sibility to your guests an enjoy entertaining. One can gently create a mood for an audience, but basically, it's the guests who lead.

For Gaile, a good singer not only has the material down pat, but also has the ability to ad lib or engage in repartee with the band and guests. Miller speaks of the singer as "adding seasoning to the music." Gaile also stresses the importance of timing – a song which goes over well once a set is underway, for example, is not always a good opener.

What ultimately counts is what you see and hear. But referrals, especially from other people in the entertainment field, can help narrow your choice. Also, look for a singer who will help plan the music program for your party. And book six months to a year in advance as the best singers are in high demand.

Music is central to your party; and many people find that of all music, the human voice is most compelling. A well-chosen voice can make your simchah a special event, both at the time and in memory.

A wide range of gifts

[Cont'd. from page B 28]

ture store that carries a unique line of wedding, shower or birthday gifts. Sales representative, Julie Burbury, says that one of their most popular lines is Alessi, a line of kitchen and home gifts that includes such items as candle sticks, tea kettles, napkin holders, trays and even pots and pans.

"Most items are produced in stainless steel, but they also have some available in silver plate. Furthermore, Alessi carries a collection of funky functional kitchen accessories produced in a high quality plastic.

"A great gift can be chosen from our line of cast aluminum free-form bowls and candlesticks designed by Matthew Hilton. Each piece is unique and and signed by the artist."

Gord Cohen, owner of First Place Promotions (416-410-8811) has the perfect gift for the sports fan in the family – a solid wood baseball bat, hockey stick or oar, with the recipient's name carved in the centre.

"The bat or stick is ready to be wall-mounted and is guaranteed to leave a lasting impression," he says.

The sports item is a great gift for guests who do not want to give the bar mitzvah boy money, says Cohen, "Imgine the look on a 13-year-old's face when he receives a bat complete with his name and a plaque with the date of event. It is a fantastic keepsake. It's a great gift for an adult as well. It brings out the kid in every guy."

Cohen, who went into the business just over a year ago says that all the items are manufactured in a Toronto plant and take about two or three weeks for delivery.

Other gift ideas can be had from: Country Classics (905-707-9032); Dodick Design (416-481-2328); Karats Fine Jewellery (416-494-6655); The Silver Centre (398-2929).

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PARTY PLANNER

Different venues cater to clients' different needs

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Today, with so many more kosher venues for your simchah than there were a few years ago, choosing which one suits you can be difficult. Neither David Lazar at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue (416-633-0344) nor Kim Goldenstein at Regal Constellation Hotel (416-798-6433) claims to serve everyone's needs.

Before you look for a venue, suggests Lazar, think about your party. What kind of occasion is it? Is it formal or causal, buffet or dinner, large-scale or intimate? With your answers to these questions in mind, you are better equipped to decide whether a particular locale is the right one.

Have an idea of your budget in advance, advises Lazar. If budget is the major factor, says Goldenstein, a hotel is not what you need; a good restaurant or banquet hall is usually less expensive. At a hotel, you pay for ambience and the convenience of finding everything under one roof. Only spend if you expect value, but given a basic standard of service, spending a little more will get you more.

At a hotel, out-of-town guests can "take the elevator home" and the trained staff offers a high level of service. A hotel can often host larger groups – and unlike some smaller venues, will always provide you with your own private room. The larger hotels also have experience with various budgets, group sizes and kinds of event, from school groups to corporate conferences.

Even so, Goldenstein understands that some people find the intimacy of a restaurant more congenial. For a hall, says Lazar, food and location are the major drawing cards. He includes service with the food, not as a separate factor, and says ambience is less important, because people bring in their own.

It's hard to say how far ahead to book a hotel, says Goldenstein. For a synagogue, Lazar recommends booking two years in advance for spring or fall events, and one year for winter or summer, depending on the date. He can give you today's exact prices and ballpark figures for two years ahead. The menu should be finalized four to six weeks before the event.

Goldenstein advises talking to people who have used a venue. Even if you're sure what you want, shop around and make tentative bookings; this gives you the right of first refusal. Look for someone who will send you where you need to go if their locale isn't right for you.

For a smooth-running party, Lazar recommends the caterer's own hall, because the caterer has everything on hand and is accustomed to working there. At a synagogue, you get more personal attention, and in some things, management may be more flexible than at a hotel, where there are often a dozen functions at once. Moreover, a hotel environment is secular, whereas in a synagogue, the entire setting is religious.

Most business for a hall, says Lazar, is referrals or repeats. Goldenstein also acknowledges negative referrals: if someone has a good experience, they tell one or two people; but if it's bad, they tell dozens, because their expectations are disappointed. This means that anyone in the catering professions has an interest in getting it right for you the first time.

Other kosher places to throw a party are: Baycrest Hospitality Services (785-2500, ext.2477); Beth Radom/Freda Tobler (416-636-3451); Royalton Banquet & Convention Centre (416-222-1230); The Sheraton Centre (416-361-1000).

Broken glass from under the chuppah can become a Suspended Treasure

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Keep the memories of your wedding or the wedding of loved ones forever with a gift created by Suspended Treasures (416-445-0202).

Owned by Yael Elfassy and Devra Wasser, the company specializes in using glass obtained from under the wedding chupah and turning it into a piece of artwork.

Elfassy, who was recently married, says that she received her wedding glass in a case as a present and thought it was a beautiful idea.

"When it came time to give another couple a present, I wanted one they would never forget. We came up with the idea of suspending the glass in a permanent acrylic case.

"What we do is instruct people to gather the glass in a napkin, which really can be done without anyone noticing. They then come to us and we decide on a shape, which can be a Star of David, a Torah, a simple cube or one of their own choosing. We have it made into a mould and include a nameplate with the couple's marriage date.

"Ready-made moulds cost about $150 while a custom-made mould runs a little more."

She says the finished works, which are on display at several local synagogues including Temple Sinai, Beth Tzedec, Pride of Israel and Holy Blossom, take about six to eight weeks to make "but are well worth the wait. They are unbreakable, easy to clean and show beautifully under spotlights. They really are a conversation piece.

"Suspended Treasures also make a tremendous housewarming present. I once saved the glass and gave it to the couple when they bought their first house. The happy memories of their wedding accompanied them to their new home.

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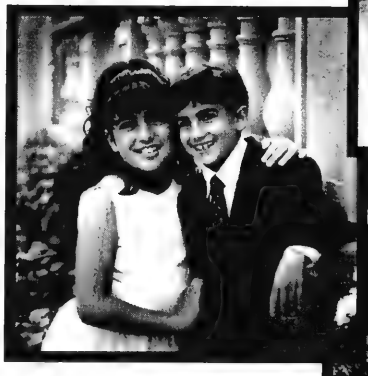

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PARTY PLANNER

Can't have a party without invitations

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Calligraphy for your invitations is important, but it is not the only factor. Both Gilda Lefton of Stationery Plus (905-881-5588) and Mark of A & D Invitations (905-731-5864) offer total service, involving everything to enhance your invitation.

Both Lefton and Mark consider experience an important factor. Find out how long an invitationer has been in business and whether they have expertise in work other than social printing. Look at their work and talk to friends who use their services. Of course, for establishing rapport, nothing beats face-to-face conversation.

The invitation is the first communication between you and your guests, Lefton points out. It will be with them six to eight weeks before your simchah and long after it as a tangible memento. Besides being informative (kind of simchah, in whose honor, place, date, time and kind of dress), its wording should reflect your feelings for the guests and the occasion.

Most customers, says Mark, like their invitations to be either very simple or very elaborate. Lefton believes something simple can make a strong statement; all the possible adornments are less important than reflecting the personality of the person(s) for whom the simchah is being held and the mood of the occasion.

Before you hire anyone, look for a variety of languages and typefaces – and possibly, for convenience, accessories like kippot or party favors. Though you will use only a fraction of what is available, a professional with a wider range of service is more likely to be able to serve you. And when the work is done, get proofs, as you would for an ad. (Proofread backwards, Mark suggests; it's easier to catch mistakes.)

As Mark puts it, you, the customer, are the real designer of the invitation; so your invitationer should be willing to accommodate you. A business builds its referrals by "going that extra mile" – like mounting bows on the cards or working with you outside conventional business hours. Of course, if what you want won't fit or could be improved, the invitationer has a responsibility to let you know what can be done and what cannot.

The more you want done, Mark advises, the farther in advance to book. If you're sending invitations to the United States, four months is not too early – or even six months, if the invitation requires more personalized work. Something plain, he concedes, can be done in as little as seven days.

If you're mailing, do so at the latest six weeks prior to the event; eight weeks for overseas. Lefton advises starting work on your invitations six months or even a year in advance.

Make sure you get enough invitations, Mark warns. Reordering is costly. If you're only ordering 75, then 100 won't cost much more; but if you need large quantities, estimate more precisely. There's not much volume discount for anything under 500. Gilda advises that to allow for last-minute additions and addressing or mailing errors, you add 25 to your basic order.

Your invitations are important. Sit down and make a list of all the points you want to cover to be sure that you get the best possible work and service. Then go to a professional – and use your own judgment.

Other invitation printers are: Barbara Mortfield Invitations (905-738-1232); Folio Calligraphy (416-733-9086); Heather Hennick-Invitation Plus (905-881-5736); Invitation House (416-593-0519); Muroff Impressions Ltd. (416-633-4491); The Printed Word (416-484-4600); Twinvitations (416-787-7005).

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PARTY PLANNER

Quality menswear can be affordable

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

When King Constantine of Greece needed a tuxedo for his son's wedding last year he summoned Stavros Theodoro-Poulos of Toronto to outfit all the men in the wedding party.

Stavros, as he prefers to be called, is a master tailor who has been making hand-sewn suits for celebrities and executives for 45 years. The Yorkville shop that bears his name, Stavros Master Tailor & Shirtmaker (416-924-8144), is located at 95 Cumberland St.

Stavros says his clients come from as far away as England and San Francisco because they want the quality craftsmanship he offers. It takes 32 hours to make a Stavros suit, 90 percent of which is hand-sewn. The cloth comes from the finest mills in the world.

The fit distinguishes a finely hand-crafted suit from a factory made one, Stavros says. "A made-to-measure suit should fit like a glove."

To ensure the best fit possible, he has devised a special method of cutting patterns to create jackets that follow an individual's body shape. Jackets with tapered waists, he says, are more flattering than loose-fitting factory garments.

His suits hold their shape because the outer cloth and lining are stitched onto a canvas foundation at the shoulders and front torso, he says. "Without the canvas, the suit bags and sags."

Robert Kennedy who has worked along side Stavros for three years, notes that the detailing of a handmade suit cannot be replicated by machines. "We're proud of what we do and it shows up in the craftsmanship," he says.

He points out that each buttonhole of a Stavros suit is hand-sewn and the breast pockets are angled so that the pattern of the material can be matched vertically and horizontally. Cuffs are surgeon cuffs — the buttons open and close unlike those on the cuffs of off-the-rack jackets which are just decorative.

Stavros says his suits, priced from $2100, offer good value: they can last at least 15 years, provided the jackets are hand-pressed and the owner doesn't put on too much weight. The store carries high end accessories – ties, socks, sweaters, etc., including an exclusive line of black tie accessories.

Stavros makes suits fit for kings. But such fine craftsmanship is a dying art. His youngest tailor is 56, Stavros laments. "When the master tailors of my generation retire these fine suits will no longer be available."

Heritage Clothing (416-789-5192) at 103 Orfus Rd. is the place to shop for those people seeking fine quality, well-priced executive and upper-end suits. The 50,000 square-foot fashion house offers shoppers a huge selection in all sizes of top quality suits, says Heritage Clothing president David Rosenberg.

"We believe we have the best selection of men's upper-end apparel under one roof in the country. Instead of having 20 locations we have one huge location only offering one-stop shopping." The store carries a wide-range of accessories with ties priced from $10 to $55.

The merchandise is priced well below their competitors', filling a special market niche, says Rosenberg. "When we started the business there was no one selling high-end clothing at popular prices. That's where Heritage has positioned itself."

Heritage's private label-Canadian-made suit (retailing from $270) is "equal in quality to the $1200 suits," Rosenberg says. Italian designer suits retail at Heritage from $470. "In other stores they easily sell for $1500."

All Heritage suits, including tuxedos, are lined to the knee and are made from cloths that conform to Halachic specifications. Italian-made suits are more softly constructed, Rosenberg says.

He says tuxedos, made from German faille cloth, a very dressy wool, are trimmed with satin and have a special protective layer built-in to absorb and camouflage perspiration. The tuxedos which start at $595 are "easily a $1200 value. It's an incredible upper-end tux. For the price of three rentals you can have a tuxedo forever."

Heritage carries a large assortment of black-tie accessories which include suspenders, cummerbund sets and pleated shirts with regular and wing-tipped collars. There is also an alteration department— five tailors with more than 20 years of experience — can customise any garment right on the premises.

Rosenberg, who with his sister Anita Rosenberg Gleberzon recently bought Heritage from their father, says being a family-run business has been one of the key aspects of Heritage Clothing's success.

"The family aspect distinguishes us from the competition. My father had enough confidence to sell the business to us. I hope we can pass it on to the next generation."

Another men's fashion outlet is Beatties (416-481-4459).

The one-stop way to shop

[Cont'd from page B 9]

tank rental to fill your balloons – and friendly staff to help you use these services. Ideally, he continues, the staff should interview you, to stay tuned to your tastes.

Grevler promotes the idea that management as well as staff should interact with the customers, offering suggestions, help and good humor.

At any time of year, says Shneer, a good party supply store will be full of seasonal and theme merchandise, be it Chanukah or summer holidays, sci-fi or rock 'n' roll. Selection is very important, because items geared to your party's season will often be hard to come by. While some stores feature one season at a time, Grevler's approach is different. You should be able to see merchandise from all seasons at once; that way, you can plan ahead, however far in advance of your simchah.

As you see, Shneer and Grevler agree on almost everything. Probably, they disagree on which of them is better at meeting the criteria they set for one-stop party suppliers. As to whether you end up agreeing with Grevler, Shneer or someone else, it's up to you to find out.

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PARTY PLANNER

City has a wide choice of kosher caterers

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Graphic by Edward Dunbar

It's been said that the success of a simchah hinges on two factors: food and entertainment. Choosing the right caterer is thus vital to the success of your simchah; so how do you choose, now that there is a wide range of choice among kosher caterers?

Ask around, advises Deena Schaffer of Malmar Fine Foods & Catering (416-638-0091). Talk to the caterers you're referred to – then talk to some more.

"Unless a client knows me personally," says Esther Klein of Adeer Catering (416-781-4433), "they shop around before they decide."

Pick someone who catered an event you attended, where you enjoyed the food and presentation. Getting a sample meal is a good idea too, but a caterer, Schaffer points out, has to please every guest. Are the other 200 meals going to be as delicious as the one you ate? Except for those who specialize in small gatherings, a good caterer can work on both large and small-scale events.

Both Klein and Schaffer list good food, service and rapport as the essentials. If client and caterer have rapport, then everything else works out, Schaffer says. Rapport creates trust, which in turn creates ease of mind. Then you can sit back and enjoy your food, "like a guest at your own party."

Of course, the caterer has to do what you want in quality and taste. Any caterers will do their best, but is their best what you want? What's ideal for someone else might not be for you. You need to feel free to ask your caterer any question at any time. Also, your preferences have to overlap a good deal – not just for how the food tastes, but also how it's served. Presentation contributes a great deal to the success of a party.

Here as everywhere, the adage remains true: the customer is always right. At the same time, Schaffer insists, a good caterer never compromises the quality of food or service. A solid reputation is based, not in cost-cutting for its own sake, but in value for the dollar you spend.

Moreover, says Klein, most clients do take the caterer's advice, though they are free not to.

A successful caterer needs a talent for organizing – not only in preparing and serving meals, but in coordinating with the other professionals at the party, like entertainers and photographers.

At the same time, Schaffer observes, how the caterer does the work is not your problem; as a client, you are concerned with results.

Schaffer tells of buying B.C. cherries from exclusive retail stores one week after the B.C. cherry season ended, in order to please a client. More often, it happens that a caterer is asked to prepare a special meal for someone with food allergies or other special needs. Not only will a good caterer do this, but that special meal will be as delicious as everyone else's.

Klein advises booking a year ahead, or as soon as you know the date of your simchah.

The wider the range of caterers to choose from, and the more you expect from your caterer, the less you can afford to delay your choice.

Other kosher caterers are: Adath Catering (416-638-6522); Le Parc and Beverley Hills Caterers (416-798-7246); Paradise Banquet Centre (416-661-6612); Tri Elm Catering (416-222-1230).

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What to get...what to get?

Registries simplify process

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

More and more couples are using a registry to choose their bridal gifts. Both Hilary Jones of Conway & Gower (416-923-7003) and Shanithah Kachan of William Ashley China (416-964-2900) offer reasons for this.

A registry, Jones explains, lets the bride and groom, decide exactly what they want for their new home. It simplifies things for friends and family, directing them what to buy and how much.

By letting them know what has already been bought, it also eliminates unnecessary duplication and "white elephants." After the wedding, the registry's list also makes it easier to write thank you notes.

If you are moving directly from your parents' home, you want to make sure you start your first household with things you will love. If you have lived on your own, are coming out of an earlier marriage or have lived with your spouse-to-be for some years, you may already have much of what you want, but your wedding guests will probably not know what to get you. In any case, both you and your guests benefit from a registry.

Look for stores which offer the fullest possible services to registry customers, Kachan advises. Jones points out that free gift wrapping and delivery are standard services and many stores also offer discounts and free gifts. Moreover, both Jones and Kachan identify a trend to broaden the range of registerable gifts, to include items like dining-room furniture.

Going to a store for a preliminary look is good, Kachan says; shop around before making a commitment. Then make an appointment with a consultant and do your planning while you're relaxed, when decisions come easier.

Pick a store where you feel comfortable, Jones advises; and don't feel overawed, rushed or under pressure. Sound out the staff: are they knowledgeable? The wider the range of choices to make, Kachan says, the more valuable a consultant is.

Is the staff sensitive to the stress you are under? After all, Kachan says, choosing can be intimidating, especially when it comes to formal dinnerware. Registering is meant to relieve this stress, and make the experience fun.

The patterns you pick now, you may well be living with for 30 years or more. Do you want immediate or lasting appeal?

As long as the wares bear a quality brand name, simpler is better for timelessness and easy matching with other things. This is especially so for silver and china, less so for glass.

Start with dinnerware, Kachan suggests, then go to flatware and crystal. Choose formal ware first, as it's harder, then go to casual. And pick a variety of items in various price ranges.

Register at least six months before the wedding date, Jones advises. This allows all the presents to arrive at the same time.

Kachan recommends registering as soon as possible after the engagement, before the invitations are mailed. This is important because many things, like 12-piece sets, have to be ordered.

Choosing your tableware is a serious matter, but it can also be enjoyable. The services of a registry allow you to taste that enjoyment more fully.

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DESSERTS:

Saving the best for last

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

The dessert may come last, but it's certainly not least in importance. Lets face it, no matter how good the food is at a simchah, the piece de resistance comes at the end of the meal.

The spontaneous ooohing and awing are usually triggered by the sight of the sweet table in full caloric splendor, with its rich and luscious mousses, cakes, tortes, petits fours, squares and chocolate.

Many caterers rely on companies that specialize in desserts for the grand finale. Increasingly they are turning to places like Delectables, a new kosher dessert company, and My Zaidy's Bakery, both under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (COR), to tantalize taste buds at a simchah or special event.

Chaya Ungar and Iris Halpert, co-owners of Delectables (416–782–5055), opened at 3197 Bathurst St. in March. Ungar, who comes from a Hungarian background, said she "always dabbled in the kitchen" and learned the art of making fine continental pastry from family members. "I had a knack for baking."

> Cakes were outstanding

The mother of three said she had "absolutely no interest in going into business," but she began getting so many requests for her cakes within the Orthodox community, that she started a part-time baking business to accommodate community members.

Through word of mouth, Halpert, a mother of four, became Ungar's customer when she ordered two cakes for her husband's birthday party.

"The cakes were outstanding," she recalls.

The two women struck up a partnership agreement on the day they met. They're a perfect business match, they say. Ungar is the baking maven, while Halpert specializes in marketing and new product creation.

Both women stress that their baked goods are top quality made of the finest ingredients – from the margarine they import from New York to the European chocolate.

"We use the type of ingredients you would find at home: canola oil, fresh fruit, no preservatives, no filling."

They can't use any commercial products like pre-cracked eggs to shorten their prep time because many of those products are not kosher, they note.

But the two women aren't looking to cut corners, because they have set out to create the finest kosher pastry in the city, they say.

"We started from home and we want to retain that home-baked quality."

However, they do use the most up to date equipment to enhance the production and they can get a specialty cake ready in three hours, if need be Halpert says. But she prefers to get at least 24 hours notice whenever possible. All Delectables cakes, which start at $40, must be ordered in advance.

The women can also help plan a sweet table. They offer a wide

[Cont'd on page B 35]

Check videographers out

[Cont'd from page B 29]

moment, and has a feeling for when it will come, Salzman recommends that to make sure those moments are captured, you clue the videographer in on every aspect of your event, but a skilled professional will also be on the alert for the unexpected.

Sager attributes 90 percent of his work to referrals, and agrees with Salzman that they are good pointers to follow. Check a videographer's reputation with previous clients, Salzman advises – and with other professionals who work at parties. Anyone who is good will tell you not to take his word for it, but to check others' opinions.

As to budget, Sager estimates, you can get good simchah videography for between $1,925 to $2,000. Book as far in advance as you can, if you want the best, there's no such thing as too early.

Other videographers are: 2 Pro Video (416-515-9242); ABC Video Productions (416-265-8313); Redstone Pictures (416-256-4666); Twins Photo Video (905-660-7385); Video For Hire Productions (905-731-4355); Video Productions by Josh (416-630-5558); VideOccasions (905-737-6800).

PARTY PLANNER

Desserts: Saving the best for last

[Cont'd from page B 34]

selection of pastries and cakes which include a 16-layer triangle cake with chocolate cream, chestnut, chocolate espresso fudge and mocha cakes, Swiss chocolate (one of their most popular cakes), as well as a large section of cookies, bar and squares, tarts, strudels and coffee cakes.

Further north on Bathurst Street in Thornhill, My Zaidy's Bakery (905-731-3831) creates fine desserts to please the most discerning of palates. Terry Samuels, owner for the last year and a half, runs a kosher dessert catering service and prides himself on offering his clientele new and different sweet table items like a walnut cake and different flavored mousses.

My Zaidy's is known especially for its spectacular wedding and bar/bat mitzvah cakes, Samuels notes.

"We make a wedding cake to be savored, not just to be looked at," he says.

In fact, he suggests using a different flavored cake for every tier so guests will come back for seconds. For bar/bat mitzvah cakes, the scroll can be a different flavor than the main cake, he adds.

Some of the most popular specialty cake flavors are chocolate mousse, a chocolate sponge cake with a rich chocolate mousse filling, strawberry shortcake made with fresh strawberries, or double mocha, a mocha sponge cake with mocha cream filling. Samuels advises people to try something different like tiramisu, an Italian cream cake.

The hosts of the simchah can cut down on the cost of the sweet table by serving a gourmet wedding or bar/bat mitzvah cake, which can also serve as a centrepiece.

Samuels consults with the hosts to make sure these cakes complement the sweet table and are coordinated with the color theme of the party. The shape of the cake can also be matched to the theme.

Samuels praised the work of Andre Sziligyi, the European-trained head pastry chef who oversees the baking as well as the design of the cakes; he has over 35 years of experience with more than half that time spent in Canada.

"He's been with My Zaidy's since it opened in 1990," Samuels notes. "He's very familiar with the needs of the clientele and he is always taking courses to keep abreast of new techniques."

One of the newest products is decorice, a mouldable icing like marzipan, but made without nuts. All the sponge cakes are made with out allergens like peanut oil, he adds.

While most cakes are pareve, he says he can make a cheese cake with chalav Yisrael cream cheese for dairy meals. Bar/bat mitzvah cakes start at $70 for a slab cake and wedding cakes start at $200. All prices include delivery.

"A lot of places have cakes that look good but don't necessarily taste good," Samuels says. "Our cakes look great, but they taste even better than they look."

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PARTY PLANNER

That's entertainment:

Agencies liven up anyone's simchah

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

The food may be wonderful and the decor creative, but it's often the entertainment that makes a party memorable.

Fallis and McGuin and Associates Inc., a talent agency representing performers including actors, musicians, magicians, DJs, MCs, comedians and clowns, has a large selection of entertainers for all age groups, says Carole Weiner, a musical agent for the company. "We can offer anything to anybody."

Would you like to invite some celebrity guests to your simchah? If the real Princess Di or Michael Jackson can't make it, you can choose their double from the company's large roster of impersonators.

Fallis and McGuin represent many versatile bands and musicians that play everything from top hits to celtic and Klezmer music to suit any simchah or special event, Weiner says. For children's parties she also suggests entertainers such as clowns, magicians or a jugglers.

One act she recommends for older children and adults is a versatile illusionist duo named Barbie and Ken: he cuts Barbie in half and does levitation.

There are no set price ranges for the individual acts, Weiner explains. "We work within people's budgets and try to find someone within the range. The entertainers have different scales depending on the time and day of a booking; sometimes they might opt to work for less money, she explains.

The company represents a large number of children's musical entertainers who can be booked for parties and fundraising events. They include the Simple Tones, Lenny Graf and Doug Barr, in addition to clowns, comic jugglers and mime artists. They even represent a Sumo wrestler who has been quite the novelty at some bar mitzvahs, Weiner says.

Fallis and McGuin do party planning and coordinating, with agents like herself available to help plan the entertainment to suit the party theme, she says. "We try to bill ourselves as one stop–shopping for all your entertainment needs."

Hart Entertainment (416–762–2200) represents musicians and magicians, but it is also Ontario's largest rental service for party equipment. The warehouse located at 130 Industry St., Unit 14, in the Black Creek Drive area, carries everything from candy floss machines and antique hot dog carts to inflatable castles, pitching cages and black jack tables.

Hart Entertainment president David Hart boasts that he has one of the most complete collections of inflatable rental equipment in the country, from inflatible slides to a hockey slap-shot cage.

The company can rent items that would keep any bar/ bat mitzvah party in high gear.

One popular rental, the Bungee-run, was recently used at a bar mitzvah held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. The game is 35 feet long with two bungee cords. Two people get hooked up and run. The runner who gets the furthest wins, as they gently flip horizontally within an area bounded by soft inflated walls when they bounce with the cord.

The Bungee-run, which costs $725 to rent, has also been used at shul Purim parties, says Hart. This rental can be used for fundraising, as can the two-storey inflatable slide which rents for $1395, with the price covering delivery, set-up and two operators, he adds.

He says he is constantly adding to his equipment, attending trade shows and amusement park conventions to check out the latest products. Right now he stocks more than 1,000 different items. Party consultants approach Hart for new and unusual rentals, visiting his interactive showroom which is open to the public, he adds.

Sumo wrestling, where people don pads that turn them into wrestlers and challenge a second opponent – also dressed in the same padded gear – is fun to watch, Hart says. "People wearing the gear have trouble getting up." This rental, which includes a soft ring mat, delivery and a supervisor starts at $650.

Other popular rentals include a push-button polaroid booth which takes four-shot pictures, and rents for $495, with a large supply of film included; a portable mini-golf course, ranging from $125 to $795 for the one- and nine-hole course respectively; a portable batting cage for $795 or an inflatable pitching cage for $650.

There are a few machines – snow-cone, candy floss, theatre pop corn – that can be rented without an operator to reduce the rental charge to $275. The cost can also be further reduced to

[Cont'd on page B 37]

Black Jack table and hostess provided by Hart Entertainment.

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PARTY PLANNER

That's entertainment: Agencies liven things up

[Cont'd from page B 36]

$225 if the client picks up and returns the machine.

Food packages with an operator cost $525 for two machines and $700 for three machines and two operators. The rates increase for the use of wagons and carts for the food machines. Other fun food services include nachos and cheese, soda carts, waffle cone makers, giant pretzels, roasted peanuts and frozen yogurt.

The operators, usually university students, often add to the party spirit, says Hart. "People ask for the operators by name. Our people help make the party."

Top: Some rubber fun by Hart Entertainment and (below) a sumo wrestler represented by Fallis and McGuin Associates Inc.

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Parties Deluxe:

Now adults can have fun too

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Who says that children have to have all the fun at parties? Several Toronto-area party places have the facilities for adults and children alike to have a great time.

When Alison Post and Shari Koffman tell people they're fired, they have a smile on their face. Owners of You're Fired...(905-737-8944), a 5-month-old paint-yourself ceramic store, they specializes in helping adults and children create ceramic works of art.

Budding artists, who either come in alone or with a party, choose their own piece, which ranges from dinnerware, serving plates and pasta bowls to tea pots, vases or knick-knacks, says Post.

"The pieces, all of which can be used afterwards, are cleaned and fired beforehand; so our clients can begin directly with the design.

"They then decide whether they want to use one of our stencils or draw the design themselves. Some people come in with a design they want transferred onto their piece.

"Using underglaze, available in over 100 shades, they create their own piece of work. It is left with us to put on the finishing touches, which include an additional one or two coats of glaze and the firing. The pieces, which are all non-toxic and food safe are ready for pick-up in about one week.

"We always stress that people do not have to be artists and even those who never do artwork walk away with a great piece. They are usually quite proud of it and love displaying it at home."

You're Fired...is a "wonderful place for friends to gather, for women's groups to have meetings or to hold showers or bar/bat mitzvah parties. People of all ages, including men, have a great time doing the work. We do have a party room available in which to serve guests when the artwork is done," says Post.

Above and below: Skating at the Rinx.

Adult parties, which run for three hours, cost the price of each piece plus a flat rate of $15. A child's party runs two hours and costs the price of each piece and $4 per child.

Athletes will enjoy a party at The Rinx (416-410-RINX (7469)), a 5-month-old entertainment complex complete with professional-size inline and ice skating rinks.

"We offer skate rentals, instruction, supervision and party coordinators. Guests can come with absolutely no experience and have a great time. They can even shower and change before continuing the party in our private banquet room," says owner Howard Orfus, who also owns Playtime Bowl.

The banquet room can seat 200 people and is elegantly decorated with wall sconces, carpeting and imitation trees, he says.

"It has the makings for a fun party. They can skate, or if they wish, play soccer or basketball and then relax in the banquet room."

Bowlers may wish to have a party at Playtime Bowl (416-787-7421), where guests can bowl and then have a meal or snack in one of the party rooms.

"We've had adult parties or corporations come in. People still love to bowl," says Orfus.

PARTY PLANNER

Some of the work produced by Robbi Lewin's Picture Perfect.

Novelties and parting gifts

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

People capture the memories of their simchahs in pictures and videos, but the guests rarely get a picture as a memento of the evening.

Picture Perfect (486-5245) makes that possible with instant pic-pictures that are put into frames – some with customized art work – mounted on fridge magnets or key chains. The pictures are taken, personalized and mounted on the spot, be it a simchah, corporate party or other special event.

Robbi Lewin founded the company five years ago, after a friend from Georgia, a guest at her son's bar-mitzvah, brought a specialized polaroid camera to Toronto and created instant photography novelties at the Lewin simchah. The pictures were a real hit with all the guests, she says.

Her friend suggested that she start a similar photography business in Toronto. It's become a family affair with her husband and sons pitching in at many a party, Lewin says.

She charges by the individual pictures which are approximately 3½ by 4 inches in size. Key chains start at $5.50 and picture frames at $6.50 with additional charges for customized frames and backgrounds. They can both be personalized with the name, date, time and place of the event.

According to Lewin, the picture taking keeps the children busy and entertained, especially at bar/bat mitzvahs where kids will pose with groups of their closest friends. Choosing the background is "half the fun," but adults also enjoy the experience, she says. "When you're all dressed up for a simcha and you're looking your best you like having your picture taken."

Hunting for party novelties for children means knowing where to shop. And one of the stores that carries a large selection of youth-oriented novelty items is Marky's Warehouse (905–731–4433) at 7171 Yonge. St.,in Thornhill.

The 7,000-foot store specializing in jeans, sweats and T–shirts stocks plenty of novelty items to suit its clientele.

"We like to have the items kids are looking for and that they can afford," says Howard Esakov, co–owner of Marky's

Name necklaces in both Hebrew and English, priced from $5 (the strings and letters are sold individually) are very popular, says Esakov. He can also send staff members to make the necklaces at any simchah. "The necklaces make great Chanukah gifts," he says. He also carries a selection of rings and earrings in femo and silver starting at $4.99

A new game that's becoming the rage is go-gos priced from $1.99 Go-gos is a variation on the game jacks with plastic moulded beads in different shapes and colors; the beads are collected and traded, Esakov explains. "It's the new POG." Puppies in your pocket, tiny plastic moulded puppies, is another popular collectible.

Some other novelty gifts carried at Marky's include Loonie Tune and Timex Indiglo watch bands costing between $7.99 and $9.99; stretch gloves for $1.49; plaid and Looney Toon boxer shorts for $4.99; custom–printed T–shirts and boxer shorts priced from $7 to $10; sunglasses from $7.99 to $9.99; and iron-on patches starting at $1.99.

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WJC seeks Polish restitution

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

OSLO — Leaders of world Jewry are planning a frontal assault on the government of Poland at a conference here on the restitution of properties of Holocaust victims or their heirs.

The planned pressure on Poland comes as Swiss and Jewish leaders are negotiating to reach an accord on the mushrooming issue of Holocaust victims' claims against Swiss banks.

Sources at the conference, organized by the World Jewish Congress (WJC), said a deal could soon be struck under which Switzerland would hand over a sizeable lump sum early next year.

Mendel Kaplan, chair of the WJC executive, said in an interview that the decision to hold the biannual meeting of the WJC leadership in Oslo was made seven months ago.

He said it came in recognition of what he described as Norway's forthcoming posture on making restitution for properties seized from Norway's Jews during World War II.

The Norwegian government set up a commission earlier this year to study the restitution issue. The commission is scheduled to give its report in March.

The looming attack on Poland comes after Jewish leaders received a letter from Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz that rejected a call from two Polish Jewish groups.

The Jewish groups wanted the restitution of pre-Holocaust Jewish communal property in Poland to be made to a foundation comprising world Jewish organizations and the

Continued on page 34

THE PM AND THE ELDERS

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu chats Nov. 24 with two Druze elders. Israel's Druze community, despite having communities in Lebanon and Syria, are loyal to the state of Israel and even serve in its armed forces. They make up about 1.6 percent of Israel's population and are represented in the Israeli Knesset. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Supreme Court rejects funding request

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario Jewish community's long campaign for public funding of its 22 day schools came to a disappointing end last week with a final verdict from the Supreme Court of Canada: Negative.

The court ruled 7-2 that Ontario, which fully funds Catholic schools, is not obliged to fund private, religious-based schools, and that not even the religious equality section of the Charter of Rights can be used to press for funding.

In a decision that left other religious groups bitter and disheartened, Canada's highest court based its ruling on the "historic compromise" that led to Confederation in 1867 – from which arose a distinction between Roman Catholic and other schools "that is constitutionally mandated and cannot be the subject of a Charter attack."

Please see pages 10 and 11

The court's majority dismissed an application from five Jewish parents and the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools, alleging that Ontario's policy of funding only Catholic schools – but not minority, religious-based schools – is discriminatory.

The court ruled that Canada's Constitution protects denominational, separate and "dissentient" schools from Charter challenges. Thus, "one part of the Constitution cannot be used to interfere with rights protected by a different part of that same document."

Writing for the majority, Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci added that parents are not forced to send their children to private schools: "They were free to send their children to secular public schools maintained at public expense. Their decision not to do so was solely a response to their religious beliefs and not a result of any government action."

The expense involved in sending their children to religious-based schools "is a natural cost of the appellants' religion" and does not violate the Charter, the court stated.

"Not providing funding for private religious education does not infringe the freedom to educate children in accordance with religious beliefs where there is no restriction on religious schooling," the court said, in upholding lower court rulings.

The decision rests in large measure on the strength of the constitutional bargain of 1867, when it was agreed that Quebec would fund its minority Protestant schools, and Ontario fund its minority Catholic schools. The

Continued on page 32

INSIDE

Excerpts from last week's Supreme Court of Canada ruling on public funding in Ontario private, religious schools. Please see page 11.

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Seven Israelis missing in plane crash — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

Open Your Hearts

VANCOUVER – *Open Your Hearts*, the story of the Jewish War Orphans of Canada from 1947-49, will be launched Dec. 3 at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. The book tells the story of the 1,123 Jewish war orphans that the Canadian government reluctantly allowed into Canada during the late 1940s.

Guide to Jewish Life

VANCOUVER – The second edition of *Jewish Life – A Guide to Jewish Life in British Columbia* has just come off the press.

Jewish Life, a 64-page book of information about Jewish facilities and programs in most major B.C. centres, is a project of Shalom Vancouver, which has its office in the Jewish Community Centre.

The book is so up-to-date it has a listing for Whistler, the ski and resort town near Vancouver, which recently opened a Jewish community office to serve residents.

Shoah Project

MONTREAL – Steven Spielberg's Shoah project – the Hollywood director's international initiative to establish a single permanent repository for Holocaust survivors' videotaped testimonies – has gotten underway in Montreal.

Officially established as the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, Spielberg personally launched the project 2½ years ago, soon after making his acclaimed *Schindler's List*.

ISRAEL

Settlement Expansion

JERUSALEM – Israel has approved plans to more than double the size of a West Bank settlement.

The plans call for the construction of 1,200 new homes, a country club, nursing home, field school and study center for fervently Orthodox Jews in Emmanuel, a Jewish settlement near the Palestinian town of Nablus.

Caught on Video

JERUSALEM – Two Israeli border policemen who were videotaped beating Palestinians at a roadblock in northern Jerusalem have been placed in detention.

The incident, which occurred several weeks ago, was recorded on video by a Palestinian who happened to be nearby.

El Al Moves Offices

JERUSALEM – El Al offices in European cities have moved to higher floors because of heightened security concerns.

In London, the office of Israel's national airline was moved from the ground floor location.

Other European offices of the carrier were moved after security officials responsible for the airline's operations decided that the El Al offices could be targets for terrorist attacks.

Rabin Memorial Day

JERUSALEM – Israeli President Ezer Weizman has given his support to a campaign aimed at making the anniversary of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination a day of national mourning.

Israeli Crackdown

JERUSALEM – Israel launched a crackdown this week on Islamic militants in the West Bank.

Security officials said 12 members of Islamic Jihad had been arrested in the Hebron area and that security forces were carrying out searches in the Bethlehem area.

WORLD

Avodas Hakodesh Award

NEW YORK – Toronto businessman, Daniel Diena, will be the recipient of Agudath Israel of America's prestigious Avodas Hakodesh award at the Orthodox Jewish movement's 74th annual convention, taking place Nov 28-Dec. 1.

The honor is bestowed in recognition of outstanding community service on behalf of Torah. Diena, who grew up in Ottawa, is an alumnus of the Yeshiva Ner Israel of Toronto, and serves on the board of Toronto's Bais Yaakov elementary school and high school.

NFTB Elections

NEW YORK – Stanley Till, a former president of Temple Sinai, was elected assistant secretary of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods and the Jewish Chautauqua Society at the recent national board meeting in Chicago.

Festival of Lights

NEW YORK – The Festival of Light, a worldwide entertainment and educational event will debut on the World Wide Web on Dec. 4. This site features multimedia stories, adventures, comics, Menorah lighting ceremonies around the world, plus an electronic shopping mall. It can be found at http://www.festival.chabad.org.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Nov. 26, 1971

U.S. HALTS FLOW OF PHANTOMS TO JERUSALEM

It is no more Phantoms for Israel for the time being, the American State Department has decided, and no resumption of Phantom supplies, unless the Soviet Union cancels its policy of arms restraint which, the U.S. notes, has been in effect since May.

Secretary of State William Rogers said the military balance in the Middle East had not changed. [Basically] saying: The shipment's of Soviet arms to Egypt have decreased in a significant way.

******

ZIONIST ELECTION FAILS TO ATTRACT VOTERS

Less than one out of four persons eligible to vote in the Zionist election Sunday cast ballots in what Zionist officials called "a disappointing turnout.."

The Zionist Organization of Canada, the United Mizrachi and the United Labour Zionists [unofficially] won four seats to the World Zionist Congress next year. The Revisionists and the Canadian Zionists for the Seventies each won two.

About 1,500 mail-in ballots still have to be counted.

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Israeli immigrants receiving better treatment

Minister touts education as best route to integration

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Yuli Edelstein

TORONTO – Although the rate of professional integration of Soviet olim has not changed in the past two years, with only 30 percent of those immigrants employed in positions reflective of their training, there has been a marked change in attitude toward newcomers in Israel, according to the country's minister of immigrant absorption.

Israelis can no longer get away with disparaging comments about immigrants, said Yuli Edelstein in an interview last week.

The former Moscow Hebrew teacher and longtime refusenik, who spent three years in a Siberian labor camp before leaving for Israel in 1987, was in Toronto as a keynote speaker for Hadassah-WIZO of Canada's national convention at the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

While here he also met with representatives of B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress and other groups of community leaders, as well as with the "Edel-clan," an ad hoc group of Toronto Edelsteins and Edelstones formed in the mid-80s to lobby for his release.

One of the few olim who was able to pursue his chosen profession in Israel, Edelstein worked as an educator before entering politics. Already active as a founding member of several immigrant organizations, last year he became a founder of the immigrant political party Yisrael b'Aliyah, which under the leadership of Natan Sharansky won seven Knesset seats in this year's election.

Not quite two years ago, after serving for a year as adviser to Benjamin Netanyahu, Edelstein was quoted in the Jerusalem Report as saying that veteran Israeli politicians "go around defaming us."

A recent incident offers evidence that the atmosphere has changed, he told *The CJN*. An Israeli retail chain found itself in hot water after a local newspaper obtained a letter written by one of the chain's directors, in which he blamed the large number of immigrant employees for damaging the store's image, said Edelstein.

Damage control in the form of paid ads saying "how much they love new immigrants" ensued, and Edelstein is convinced the situation won't arise again.

For him and an estimated one million immigrants who will have made aliyah between 1989 and 2000, this represents a sea change which he attributes to the immigrants' newfound political power.

Of immediate concern, Edelstein said, are the issues of professional and social integration. "It's time to try and use the potential of newcomers. It's a very complex process and should be done gradually."

A believer — not surprisingly — in the value of education as the best way to integration, Edelstein said educational issues should be addressed from kindergarten through the army. He noted that the army has been "very cooperative" in running special courses for Ethiopian immigrants and that there are already dozens of Israeli army officers of Ethiopian origin.

"[But] there's still lots of work to be done," he adds.

Private eye found Nazis: *Post*

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A sensational *Jerusalem Post* story about a New York private eye who tracked down some 140 suspected Nazi war criminals living peaceful lives in Canada should, at the very least, light a fire under government investigators, says Prof. Irving Abella.

The story "brings home to the rest of the world that despite some action, Canada has been delinquent" in punishing Nazi collaborators, Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's war crimes committee, told *The CJN*.

Last weekend's two-part piece in the *Post* described Canada as a "near-blissful refuge" for Nazis. It detailed the efforts of Steve Rambam, a 39-year-old private detective from New York, who, armed with lists supplied by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and Yad Vashem, easily found dozens of suspected Nazi war criminals across Canada since early 1994.

The story said Rambam personally visited 80 of them, and even obtained secretly taped confessions from several, including admissions of having taken part in the killing of Jews. Others confirmed they had been active in wartime units that committed atrocities.

The two *Post* reporters who wrote the story went along with Rambam for about a dozen of the encounters, posing as academics from a fictitious university.

It was "not unusual" for Rambam to visit "four or five" suspects a day, having traced them down via drivers' licence registrations and property-ownership records, the story said.

In some cases, he and the reporters simply found the names in telephone books. Suspects' names were often displayed in apartment lobbies.

Among those interviewed by Rambam were Antanas Kenstavicious of Hope, B.C., who is accused of personally murdering three Jews in Svencionya, Lithuania, where he had been chief of police.

Kenstavicious, whom Ottawa intends to deport for concealing his past, graphically described how Jewish men, women and children were rounded, stripped naked and gunned down into ditches until there were "no more Jews."

Abella said he hopes the story "embarrasses the country, the government and the judiciary."

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Greater Toronto Area

Adapting to deficit reduction policies

The General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations is a wonderful opportunity to meet those active in Jewish life. The gathering two weeks ago in Seattle attracted approximately 3,000 participants from all over the world including a small number from Israel, the former Soviet Union and South America.

The vast majority of the participants were from all sizes of communities within the United States. As a result, the myriad overlay of seminar and workshop programming throughout the five days was geared primarily to the concerns and issues confronting the American organized Jewish world.

Nevertheless, there were a number of interesting and thoughtful programs designed by CJF-Canada specifically for the 160 participants from Canada.

One such program was entitled All Politics is Local – Federation response to social policy shifts across Canada. It dealt with the need by all communities to adapt to recent deficit-reduction policies by all levels of government.

The discussion was carried by a four person panel: Eli Rubinstein, spiritual leader of Habonim Congregation in Toronto, provided the biblical context for Jewish community involvement in general.

Irving Abella, professor of history at York University and past president of Canadian Jewish Congress, provided a historical context to the discussion of past Jewish involvement in community matters as well as a reading of current attitudes of the younger Jewish generation toward community involvement.

Maxyne Finkelstein, director of community planning, FEDERATION CJA in Montreal, and Morris Zbar, planning and allocations director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, provided practical insights from their vantage points "on the ground," as it were, dealing with day to day as well as the strategic, long range issues of the two largest federations in Canada.

'Are we paying the price for our success'

Finkelstein described the experiences over the past 10 years of a number of distinct social service institutions in Montreal's community with united social policy lobbying.

In her view, the federations have no choice but to become involved in social issues, to lobby government as one voice even though the individuals who are part of that one voice often must cope with potential "conflicts" in their loyalties to the federation, the institution that they represent and the collective lobbying voice on which they serve. In the future, federations will be more involved in political activism and of necessity reach out in a network of cross involvements with other social action groups.

Zbar was equally emphatic. He spoke with an urgency wrought by the two severe budget cuts made last year by the Ontario government. "Only the federation movement," he said, "can deal with the crisis unfolding in the social and human services area." The task of the federations was to ensure that the local, ethno-specific infrastructure survives. To do this, Zbar called upon federations to develop skills and expertise that to this point in Jewish communal history had been exercised only at the national communal institutions: government relations, coalition-building, advocacy, and social policy planning.

This will mean reforming and adapting *(i.e. somehow amalgamating)* existing community structures and institutions *(i.e. Congress, CJF and the federations)* to enable them to respond more effectively *(i.e. pre-emptive rather than responsive political lobbying)* to changing times *(i.e. severely reduced funding from federal, provincial and even municipal governments)*.

Abella took participants on a "tour" of the history of Jewish involvement in community life and in relations with government. Starting with the earliest settlers in the 1760s, Abella said, " Jews were always involved in philanthropy and in public policy. *Shtadlanut* (private Jewish representation to the government on behalf of the community) dates to the very beginning of the Jewish community in Canada."

This evolved to the "very significant contributions" to helping shape progressive public policy made by the Jewish trade unions and then by the Canadian Jewish Congress. Though ironically, Abella added, as the community grew, its influence weakened.

"The turning point for all of us was World War II. Lobbying became more aggressive, though not too aggressive, for after all we are still Canadians.

"The survivors' generation provided backbone to an often supine Jewish community.

"In the '50s and the '60s Jewish lobbying started to be felt in the fields of social policy and then...in the adoption of the official policy on multiculturalism."

But whereas the older generation had demonstrated a commitment to the "Jewish values" of involvement and caring and compassion in social policy, Abella fears that the younger generation seems to be increasingly turning away from those paths and the values that line them.

At a recent young leadership meeting at which he spoke, he noticed that there was no particular interest in the "Jewish" positions on such touchstone issues as immigration, multiculturalism, the social safety net or human rights.

"Are we paying the price for our success? Have we become too complacent through our affluence?

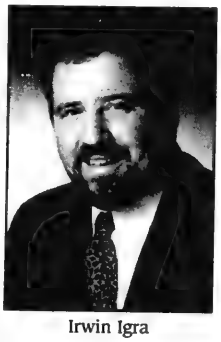
"Is the younger generation so engrossed in the bottom line that they won't have the time to look up from their ledger sheets?", Abella asked, more painfully than rhetorically.

"We must train a younger generation," he continued, "to start to behave as Jews, with caring, commitment, compassion and conscience. The best weapon against intolerance is tolerance."

Abella's words animated the discussion. And the questions he raised were most appropriate and even, I would say, among the most perfect, at the 65th general assembly of those active in Jewish life. *MBD*

CORRECTION

In the article which appeared last week on Louis Weisfeld, we incorrectly identified Tracey and Gilad Abrahami as Mr. Weisfeld's daughter and son-in-law. In fact they are his son and daughter-in-law. We apologize for the error.



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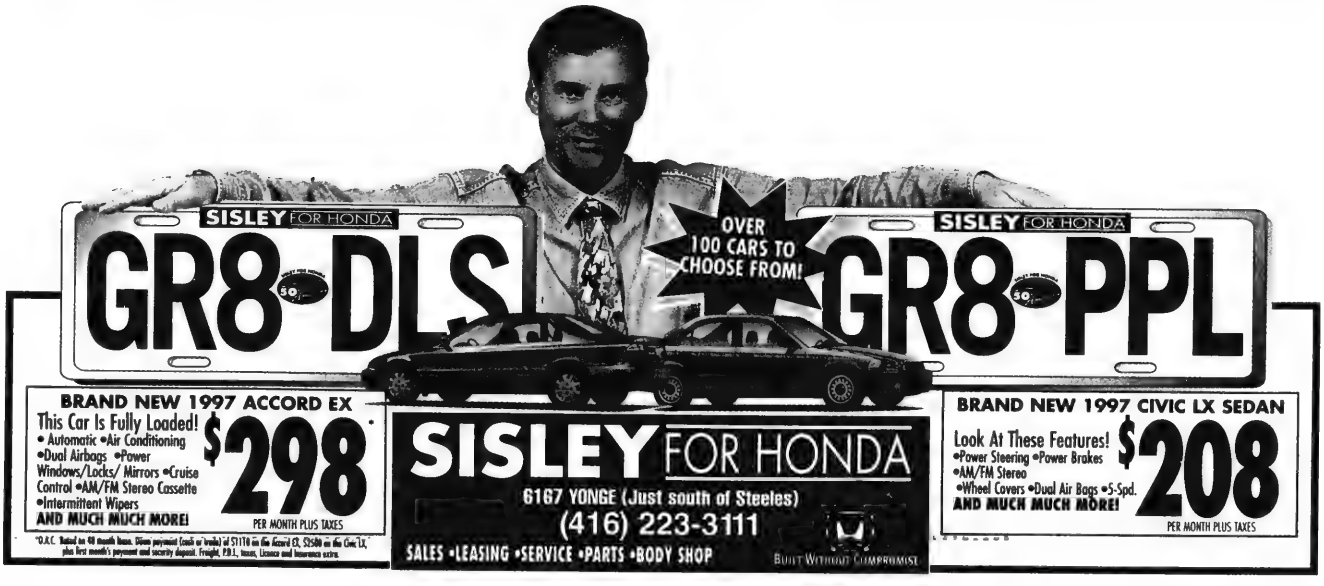
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Greater Toronto Area

WIZO chair urges women to do community work

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The chair of World WIZO has a message for young women. It's not enough to have a career, says Michal Modai, a stylish grandmother of four and onetime Miss Israel. "One needs to know that she's part of a community and doing for the community – and as Jews it's not just the local community. It's Israel."

A keynote speaker at Hadassah-WIZO of Canada's national convention, held recently at the Sheraton Centre Hotel, Modai, a seventh-generation Sabra, lauded the efforts of Canadian members to support a "vast array" of projects in Israel.

"Your day care centres provide a caring environment to thousands of babies and toddlers," she told the 500 convention participants. Women's shelters, youth clubs and schools were among the other Canadian projects she mentioned.

WIZO, represented in 52 countries, has 800 such projects in Israel and is active in lobbying the Knesset to change legislation on issues such as alimony, workplace equality and insurance for homemakers. Currently there are seven proposals for new laws before the Knesset, she said.

Modai herself established one of the first battered women's shelters in Israel almost two decades ago "when people did not discuss this openly," she said in an interview. An estimated 200,000 women and 660,000 children in Israel are affected by domestic violence.

She became committed to being active in WIZO when she saw "what a movement like WIZO can do to change the lives of so many poor people. It gave me the challenge to continue and accept more and more responsible roles later on," she told *The CJN*.

Joining WIZO was natural for her, she added, having had family role models

"My grandmother did not belong to any organization, but she was a real volunteer. She used to help people by making herbal medicines for those who needed them. She cooked from Wednesday to Friday to have food to bring to homeless people in the synagogue. She never told me, 'You have to be a volunteer,' but that wonderful example she set, very quietly, very discreetly, was always in the back of my mind.

Michal Modai

"My mother, too, was always very discreetly helping brides, doing all kinds of things. I saw this as a child and accepted it as a natural thing."

* * *

A panel on the Changing Role of Women Affecting Volunteerism, which followed Modai's talk, addressed some of the issues she raised in the interview.

Panelists Taylor Hogge, Judy Feld Carr and Wendy Eisen – three of eleven Women of Achievement honored at the convention – discussed their own volunteer experiences.

"One person can change an existing situation," said Feld Carr, known for her role in the rescue of Syrian Jews. "I am convinced if women have a desire to contribute meaningfully to the destiny of our people, it is within their hands to achieve that contribution."

Taylor Hogge, a non-Jewish American who spends several months a year working with immigrant teens at WIZO's Hofim school, confessed that "what began as a well-intentioned trip from an aging hippie to help needy Ethiopians living away from their parents, has become an exercise in selfishness."

If a project is expensive, ask for money, Hogge advised. "If you don't have the time, make the time. You will never do anything that enhances your life more."

Eisen, former chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress committee for Soviet Jewry, stressed the need for women to act as role models in the interest of continuity.

"I think it's important that we tell our children and grandchildren what's important. Hang up your plaques on the wall. Tell your kids what you're doing. It's not enough to say, 'We're going to a meeting.' It's what we do at the meeting and why."

"I don't call it a problem, I call it a challenge," said panel moderator Gillian Horwitz, referring to the multiple demands on women's time that make it difficult for some to volunteer.

Redemption dawning?

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Belief that the Jewish people are at the dawn of redemption "may be an incitement to fanaticism" suggested Rabbi Steven Saltzman of Adath Israel Synagogue, moderator of a debate held at the synagogue.

Arguing that Israel represents the dawn of redemption, Rabbi Wayne Allen of Beth Tikvah Synagogue said classical sources, the miraculous nature of events and the kind of life now being lived in Israel support his belief.

On the other hand, Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University declared: "I would like to see Israel making decisions based on evidence other than that these are Messianic times; that is a somewhat dangerous determination."

The arrival of the Messiah and the dawn of redemption are two separate events, Rabbi Allen stated, arguing that redemption might come even before "the final ingathering of the exiles, when the Messiah will, or will not appear."

Lockshin who described himself as a religious Zionist, said, "I feel that something miraculous has happened, but it doesn't mean redemption is with us. I worry about depending too much on our connection with Israel."

Rabbi Saltzman asked Rabbi Allen if he was underestimating the incitement to violence, referring to the massacre of Arabs by Baruch Goldstein and the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

"There are always people who will abuse the concept," replied Rabbi Allen.

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Greater Toronto Area

Waterloo Jewish studies gets major donation

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO - A Toronto developer has donated $500,000 for a chair in Jewish Studies at the University of Waterloo.

The university received the gift from Joe Lebovic, president of Lebovic Enterprises and past president of the Urban Development Institute of Canada, a few weeks ago through the Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Foundation.

The donation brings to $522,000 the university has gotten since the fundraising campaign was launched in 1995.

The university is seeking between $1.5 million to $2 million, said Paul Socken, a member of the university's advisory committee and a professor of French literature. Once this sum has been raised, the chair can be established, he added.

The chair is to be called the Lebovic Chair in Jewish Studies. But Lebovic is willing to share the name with a donor who donates an equal amount.

Since 1995, the university has accepted $200,000 from Alexander Raab of Toronto; $100,000 from Charles Bronfman and his family in Montreal; $100,000 from Martin Levine of Kitchener and $100,000 from Don Bierstock and his family in Waterloo.

In addition, the university has collected $22,000 from some 24 smaller donors , Socken disclosed.

Lebovic and Bierstock, co-chairs of the fundraising drive, want to wind it up this year, Socken said. "They feel it's definitely feasible."

Lebovic, a Czech Jew and a Holocaust survivor, immigrated to Canada in 1949 via Britain.

He said he had been approached recently by Socken and several university officials.

He said the occupant of the chair will disseminate Jewish philosophy, morals and principles. "Jewish people have something to gain from that," he observed in an interview.

In a related development, the University of Waterloo intends to link up with the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University for joint fundraising and student and faculty exchanges.

As well, the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University has decided to offer its courses to the University of Waterloo's distance education format, thereby enabling students across Canada to take its courses.

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Students from United Synagogue Day School participated in a Spirit and Tzedakah day. The theme was Hollywood. Everyone impersonated their favorite character from the movies and contributed to a winter clothing drive for the Just a Second store. Seen in costume sorting the donated clothing are (from left) Middle School students Faren Bogach, Mira Shuman and Jonathan Wiesenthal.

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Understanding Holocaust seen as essential to grasp Israel's psyche

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Israel's psyche cannot be grasped unless there is an understanding of the Holocaust, says the executive director of the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

"One must realize how the world would have been different had the homeland been created a mere 10 years earlier," Neal Sher said at the 1997 UJA Federation Major Gifts and Atarah Event.

Sher, former director of the U.S. justice department's Office of Special Investigations, was responsible for the investigation of Kurt Waldheim, the removal of a series of Nazi prosecutors from the United States and the commencement of over 100 prosecutions against suspected Nazi war criminals.

The work enabled him to see the role of the individual.

"We think of six million people when we think of the Holocaust and that has a dehumanizing impact because we do not see the faces. These trials bring home the fact that the Holocaust was a series of events where individuals killed individuals.

"If our history has taught us anything, if we are to learn from the slaughter of women and children, then we must redouble our commitment to Israel. There is only one Israel, and that is the safe haven for Russian and Ethiopian Jews. I would much rather devote our resources to save people now than have to build monuments to destroyed Jewish communities 50 years from now."

Neal Sher

Jews are a people of history and memory, he said, and "we cannot afford to lose sight of our tragic past. My mentor, Elie Wiesel, said, 'A Jew without a past is less than a Jew. If we do not have a sense of history then we cannot escape the lessons of history.'

"There was never a serious effort to rescue Jews in Europe and there is a lesson that every Jew in every free society must take away from this. The American and Canadian Jewish communities were politically impotent. They wanted to stay back and not rock the boat. They had a 'sha, sha' mentality."

Jews must learn from this lesson, he said, and commit to ensuring that it never happens again. "Go up to lawmakers and argue and push about issues you care deeply about. I have never felt prouder as a Jew or as an American than when I have done that."

Major Gifts and Atarah Event chairs were Karen and Paul Morton and Joanne and Miles Nadal. Major gifts cabinet chairs were Norman Godfrey and David Green. Atarah chairs were Marilyn Gold, Maryka Weisz and Carole Herman Zucker. Campaign chair is David Goldstein.

Mideast terrorism mentality called a mystery to Westerners

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Westerners fail to understand the mentality involved in Middle East terrorism, says an author of books about Israeli intelligence affairs and special operations.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

"Middle East terrorism cannot be mastered through book learning. One has be to born and bred there to be anything close to an expert," Steven Hartov, author of *The Nylon Hand of God*, told an audience at the 20th annual Jewish Book Fair.

Eliminating the point-man involved in the terrorist act, says Hartov, is merely a stop-gap effort. "It is necessary to try and change the hearts and minds of the populace that supports it. Terrorism seems to become a way of life in itself and long-term terrorists often redefine their goals in order that they not be met. Otherwise, they would be out of work."

Targeting the lowest ranking terrorists is non-productive "because that only creates heros and martyrs and leaves a space to fill the ranks with more. It is those who train the terrorists who must be made to realize that their actions carry a price," he said. "That would need approval, however, of the legislative bodies in the west. Israel, although tough, still has to live in the neighborhood."

In response to a question from the audience, Hartov said the media could play a role in counter terrorism.

"If not well publicized, terrorist acts have no effect. Objectivity in the media is rare, however, and they are always willing to sensationalize, which makes them unwilling to cooperate. As far as that is concerned the media is a hopeless venue," he said.

Asked if Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is interested in negotiating with Iran, Hartov replied that outreach is only one-sided. "The only reason Israel has made noises is because of one Israeli pilot that it is trying to get back. Much of the contact is based on him."

The lecture was sponsored by Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, New Leadership chapter.

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Greater Toronto Area

Men must be equal with women in home: author

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Men need to be brought into the home not as help, but as equal partners with women, said feminist author Anne Roiphe.

"Yes, they will resist," she said. "But that's because they don't know how happy they'll be."

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

At the recent 20th annual Jewish Book Fair, Roiphe, author of *Fruitful! – A Real Mother in the Modern World*, spoke on Family Values and the Feminist Vision Feminism, Motherhood and the Fathering Issue.

She called her new book a combination of "personal anecdote and political essays." It is based on her experiences of raising her children and step-children in both single parent and blended family situations.

Roiphe described herself as both a "Jewish feminist and a feminist Jew," which, she said, "are part of the same thing."

Her own feminist values stem from her teenage years in New York watching her younger brother prepare for his bar mitzvah. Although she described her family as assimilated, her brother took his Hebrew studies very seriously and furthermore, learned Yiddish, kept kosher and eventually considered becoming a rabbi. But she was discouraged from learning Hebrew.

"I was offended," she said. "Because he clearly had something that meant a great deal to him that I didn't have. It took many years for me to understand what he had and how I could get it too."

Roiphe said that in the early days of the feminist movement, women were offended by the stereotype that they were only good for domestic work.

Because of this, she said, "We made a bad tactical and political mistake – we stopped talking about motherhood."

Instead, the feminist movement focused its energies on discussing their outrage at male crimes, such as abuse, harassment and rape. The result, she said, is that "we have pushed men away at the moment when we need them."

Where at one time Gloria Steinam's quote, "A woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle," was a slogan for the feminist movement, Roiphe said the statement only applies to part of a woman's life.

"A woman doesn't need a man when it comes to going through medical school," she said. "[But] a woman needs a man if she wants to have a child. And two incomes are better than one, two nurturers are better than one."

Roiphe also reflected on the feminist movement's rejection of Freud's theory that anatomy is destiny.

"Sometimes anatomy is destiny," she said. She gave the example of women who choose to start having children later in life.

Roiphe also noted that the loss of fertility is particularly devastating for the Jewish community, which has a low birthrate.

Yet even when women try to balance a career and family, many experience a double edged guilt.

"They feel guilty if they work too much," she said, "and they feel guilty if they stay at home."

One young mother in the audience pointed out that she and her husband were equal partners in both income and parenting. "So why," she asked, "do I feel guilty when my 3-year-old goes to his father when he gets hurt?"

Roiphe replied that "the definitions of mother and father need to mutate...we need to teach women to give up some of their role [as caregiver]."

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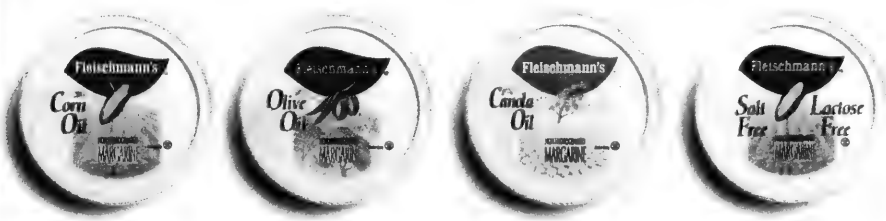

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Deep disappointment

The law has finally been settled.The Supreme Court has rendered judgment. In a 7-2 split decision, the court decided that the Charter of Rights and Freedoms does not require Ontario to treat all religious communities equally to its treatment of the Roman Catholic community regarding the funding of the general studies portion of private school education.

We accept and abide by the decision, as we must. But we express our deep disappointment as also we must.

The majority of the court determined that Ontario's full funding of Roman Catholic separate schools was a result of the "historical compromise" crucial to Confederation. Because of this, the Ontario government's funding practice toward the Catholic schools could not be impugned. But this reasoning misses, almost entirely, the main thrust of the community's argument. The nub of the grievance against the government is not in the 12-year-old decision to extend full funding to the Catholic schools, but rather, in its constant refusal to extend any funding to other religious schools. The "historic compromise" was never the object of attack but rather the basis of comparison. The argument by the non-Catholic communities rests on fairness not on history.

If individual Ontarians were to behave as their provincial government does, namely, discriminating on the basis of religion, they would be brought to account; they would meet the full justice of the law, and rightly so, for "[E]very person has a right to equal treatment with respect to services...without discrimination because of...creed..." This is not simply a noble sentiment, it is the very first provision of the Human Rights Code of Ontario. But the conduct of the government towards the non-Catholic schools seems not even to contradict the Human Rights Code.

There is however, one argument in particular for continuing the unfair treatment, which we feel compelled to answer. Simply put, the argument holds that education in religious schools is somehow an impediment to fostering a common Canadian identity. The argument is fallacious and, in a sense, offensive.

It is fallacious because it ignores the fact that six other provinces already provide some public funding to private, religious schools without any fear whatsoever that the graduates will turn out, somehow, less Canadian. It ignores the fact that the general studies curriculum is established by ministry officials and follows provincial (Canadian) guidelines. But worse, the underlying premise of the argument, namely, that the religious component of the education will likely lead to exclusionist behavior by the graduates from those schools, panders to the most unforgiving stereotypes.

Jewish Canadians are as proud of their Canadianism as is any other identifiable group in this country. Our commitment to Canada's well-being is not less than that of any Canadians. And our contribution to Canada's development, prosperity and social justice since our arrival to her shores have been of equal vigor to that of any other group that dwells here. Is our attachment to this country diminished in any way by our millennial attachment to the values, traditions, customs, and religious practices of the Jewish faith or by our desire to transmit that faith to our children?

Does anyone question the attachment of Catholics to Canada on account of their attachment to their faith? Are Catholic children less Canadian for having graduated from Catholic schools? The very notion is absurd.

Is the definition of "Canadian" so meagre in Ontario that it cannot also include the desire and the equal opportunity to perpetuate one's faith? What the religious communities understand, including the Catholic community, is that the definition of Canada is sufficiently expansive and sufficiently exhilarating to embrace the diverse faiths of all who live here and who strive with all their might to build and to benefit this great, bounteous land.

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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Nov. 28, 1949 Paul Shaffer was born in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Since 1982 he has been the band leader for Late Night/The Late Show with David Letterman. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Roux opened can of worms

Like the hero of a Greek tragedy, Jean-Louis Roux's fall from grace was partially his own doing. His candor led to his downfall, a fatal mistake in politics. But he left the political stage, with its back stabbing and treasonous villains, graciously, in a sequence of events that resembled a bad adaptation of *Hamlet.* This episode proved one thing: that something is rotten in Quebec politics. The swiftness of scandal and the virulence of the politically motivated denunciation and accusations against Roux would make even Machiavelli's head spin.

The attacks against Roux reek of a McCarthy-era witch-hunt, something orchestrated by overzealous and opportunistic politicians. It is no secret that many of Quebec's intellectual elites sympathized overtly or secretly with Nazi ideology during World War II, yet for some strange reason none decried or denounced these right-wing ideologues. Because they were Quebec nationalists, their political affiliations of dubious merit were largely overlooked and swept into the dustbin of history.

Was Roux forced to resign because he flirted with fascism, or because he was a member of the opposing camp and an ardent federalist? Was Roux simply a convenient scapegoat, who was targeted by the Parti Québécois in an attempt to discredit Ottawa? In that sense, the Roux affair had all the elements of a televised mini-series. It was a blatant attempt at character assassination.

This coup de théâtre in Roux's political career is a sad story that also says much about the artistic community which chose to remain silent throughout these events. None of his colleagues from the theatre have yet spoken out in support of one of their own. Roux, whatever his inclination during the war years, regardless of his past or his federalist convictions, was and still is a great artist and a man of the theatre. Roux was left alone in those agonizing and humiliating days.

His resignation was not only a bitter personal blow to the man who personalized French-Canadian theatre for decades, but to the entire artistic community of Quebec as well.

All that Roux has done for Quebec theatre over the decades, has been ignored and forgotten. Art is supposed to be above politics. But not in Quebec it seems.

Michael Werbowski
Montreal

Call them what they were – murder camps

The term "Holocaust" is gradually being displaced by the term "Shoah."

Similarly, it has occurred to me that the expression concentration camp has been overused and has lost its impact as a means of indicating why the Jews, and others, were "concentrated" in this way. I suggest that murder camps is a much stronger, more meaningful and appropriate description of the unspeakable agony and deaths suffered by the human victims incarcerated there.

N. Driels
Toronto

Men are victims too

On Nov. 8, I attended a meeting at the Jewish Public Library in Montreal dealing with Yiddish women writers. I enjoyed the Yiddish content and the singing, but was shocked and distraught by the hidden agenda, namely, militant feminism.

In poem after poem men were vilified as seducers, kidnappers, wife-beaters, heartless oppressors. Marriage was captivity enforced on helpless female victims and death was often preferable.

I waited and waited for one redeeming kind word for man as a devoted, truly loving husband and father. It was as if that were a different species that did not exist.

I do not question that women have valid grounds for self-assertion and have been victimized. But the bias in the compilation of material was overwhelming. Men, too, suffer – even at the hands of women and sometimes mothers taking their revenge on their hapless sons. I would also make references to Keats' poem *La Belle Dame Sans Merci,* which describes a heartless woman destroying her entrapped lovers.

Surrounded by a mainly female audience, I felt like standing up and in a clarion voice proclaiming: "Peace – Now!"

Sidney Bazra, M.D.
Montreal

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WISDOM OF THE AGES

"With a good son-in-law, you find a son, with a bad one, you lose a daughter."

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

The funding debate: a chronology of 12 years

June, 1984: Premier William Davis reverses long-standing policy and announces the province will extend public funding to Catholic schools past grade 10 to include grades 11, 12, and 13. Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) hails the move as "a positive and long-needed adjustment," and a first step toward the same treatment for Jewish day schools. At the same time, Davis appoints educator Bernard Shapiro to study the future of private schools.

September, 1984: CJC's Ontario region sets up the Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education (OJAEE) to lobby the government for funding of Jewish day schools.

January, 1985: OJAEE formally calls on the government to fund the general studies program in Jewish day schools, based on a per-pupil allocation. Later estimates say the cost of funding the secular portion of studies would be $25 million to $30 million annually.

July, 1985: The new Liberal government of David Peterson introduces Bill 30, which implements funding for all Catholic grades.

October, 1985: In his report to the government, Shapiro calls Bill 30 discriminatory and recommends that Queen's Park funds private schools, provided they meet acceptable criteria. The Shapiro Report says funding Ontario's 551 private/independent schools would cost about $75 million a year.

Grim-faced Jewish officials face the press following last week's Supreme Court of Canada ruling. From left, parent Susie Adler, lawyer Ed Morgan and Henry Koschitzky and Moshe Ronen representing Canadian Jewish Congress. [Ron Csillag photo]

February, 1986: In a 3-2 ruling, the Ontario Court of Appeal says Bill 30 is constitutional. The court says financing private schools would require a constitutional amendment, adding that educational rights granted at Confederation "make it impossible to treat all Canadians fairly." The decision is appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

June, 1987: In a 7-0 decision, the Supreme Court of Canada rules Bill 30 is constitutional. Saying funding of Catholic schools was part of the historic compromise that led to Confederation, the court rules that relevant provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms do not override the constitutional bargain arrived at in 1867. But the court says nothing about funding other religious schools, leaving the door open to political and further legal action.

April, 1991: Five Jewish parents, the OJAEE and the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools, representing parents of children in private Protestant schools, launch legal action against Ontario's education and health ministries, arguing that funding Catholic schools but not other religious schools violates the Charter of Rights. The action comes to be known as the Adler case, after Susie Adler, one of the parents.

August, 1992: Mr. Justice William Anderson of the Ontario Court (General Division) rules that the five parents' rights to religious freedom and equality under the Charter were being violated. However, he adds that such rights are subject to reasonable limits, and in this case, the "impairment.is within permissible limits." The ruling is appealed.

July, 1994: Ontario's Court of Appeal unanimously dismisses the parents' case, saying their Charter rights were not violated. In a related decision, the court rules 4-1 against the provision of funded health care services in Jewish day schools.

February, 1996: Toronto parent Arieh Waldman takes the case to the United Nations' Human Rights Committee, alleging Canada has violated international law by refusing to fund religious schools in Ontario on an equal basis.

November, 1996: The Supreme Court of Canada rules 7-2 against the parents and upholds Ontario's right not to fund independent schools. The court finds that private religious schools cannot use the Charter of Rights to force the province to give them funding. As well, the court rules 7-2 against public funding of health services in private schools.

– Ron Csillag

What the court said: excerpts from the decision

Following are excerpts from last week's Supreme Court of Canada 7-2 ruling on the funding issue. In essence, the court found that Ontario's funding of Roman Catholic schools, as required by Canada's Constitution, does not impose an obligation on the province to fund other religious-based schools in the name of equality.

The majority decision was written by Mr. Justice Frank Iacobbuci, and agreed to by four other justices. Mr. Justice John Sopinka and Mr. Justice John Major agreed, but for different reasons.

Madame Justice Beverley McLachlin dissented in part, and Madam Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé dissented entirely.

Agreeing:

Section 93 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, is the product of a historical compromise crucial to Confederation and forms a comprehensive code with respect to denominational school rights which cannot be enlarged through...section 2(a) of the Charter [of Rights and Freedoms]. It does not represent a guarantee of fundamental freedoms. The appellants, given that they cannot bring themselves within the terms of section 93's guarantees, have no claim to public funding for their schools. To decide otherwise by accepting the appellants' claim that section 2(a) requires public funding of their dissentient religion-based schools would be to hold one section of the Constitution violative of another.

In order to claim the protection of section 93, it must be shown that there was a right or privilege with respect to denominational schooling which was enjoyed by a class of persons by law at the time of union.

Agreeing (in part):

Some overlap exists between the claims based on section 2(a) and section 15 of the Charter. Neither section is infringed even if the non-funding of private religious schools imposes an economic disadvantage in relation to parents who send their children to secular public school.

The distinction made between the Roman Catholic schools and other religious schools is constitutionally mandated and cannot be the subject of a Charter challenge. Not providing funding for private religious education does not infringe the freedom to educate children in accordance with religious beliefs when there is no restriction on religious schooling.

That the appellants feel compelled to send their children to private school because of a personal characteristic (religion), with the effect that they are unable to benefit from publicly funded schooling, is not an effect arising from the statute.

No government action compelled the appellants to send their children to private, religious-based independent schools. They were free to send their children to secular public schools maintained at public expense. Their decision not to do so was solely a response to their religious beliefs and not a result of any government action.

Madame Justice Beverly McLachlin (dissenting in part):

The argument that the section 15 equality provisions of the Charter was infringed by the unequal funding provided Roman Catholic schools was untenable given the special constitutional bargain protecting funding for Roman Catholic schools in Ontario at the time of Confederation. Section 15 was nevertheless infringed because of unequal funding vis-a-vis funded secular schools. Although the public school system is neutral on its face, the funding system nevertheless results in advance effect discrimination in that it has the effect of denying a benefit to those whose religions do not permit their adherents to send their children to public secular schools. This adverse effect discrimination is caused by the *Education Act* and not by the appellants' religion. The state cannot "blame" the person discriminated against for being of the status or having chosen the status which leads to the denial of benefit.

Madame Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé (dissenting):

The legislation creates a distinction between the appellants and others who are able to access publicly funded education in the surrounding social context. As found at trial, remaining a member of the particular religious communities in question and acting in accordance with the tenets of those faiths required that the children be educated in a manner consistent with the faith and therefore, outside of the public or Roman Catholic schools. Control over education of their children was essential to the continuation of the religious communities in question. The distinction results in the denial of the claimants' section 15 right to equal benefit of the law on the basis of their membership in an identifiable group.

State action which discriminates on the basis of religion cannot be excused on the grounds that religion is a choice and that individuals may choose to avoid the negative impact which arises from the state's response to their religious identity. Discrimination on the basis of religion would become an empty concept.

Given the complete denial of this benefit to those who cannot access it for religious reasons, the equal benefit of a publicly funded education has been denied the appellants on the basis of a distinction which relates to their membership in an identifiable group.

The distinction is capable of promoting or perpetuating a view that the appellants are, by virtue of their religious beliefs, less capable or worthy of recognition or value as human beings or members of Canadian society equally deserving of concern, respect and consideration...Denial of any funding to the appellants constitutes not only a financial prejudice but also a complete non-recognition of their children's educational needs, and the children's and parents' fundamental interest in the continuation of their faith.

Opinions

Jerusalem constantly rebuilds itself

ISRAEL DIARY PART II

Jerusalem has been built and destroyed, burned and buried, resurrected and restored many times. The first city was crouched around the Gihon Spring, at the foot of the hill south of the present Temple Mount. This Jebusite city is revealing itself to the archeologist's spade, along with glimpses of first temple life and Hasmonean walls.

By Jean M. Gerber

We climb, one scorching day, along the side of the hill, looking at the remains of these cities and fortifications and peering down 40 metres into the well of the Canaanites.

We retrace our steps up to the Turkish walls surrounding the present old city and enter through the Dung Gate to the southern wall of Herod's huge temple mount. We are now on steps that the Levites mounted singing their Songs of Ascent facing the Double and Triple Gates through which second Temple pilgrims passed into the Temple Mount where more psalms and pageantry awaited them. We have to come back to the present street to ascend the Mount itself, and when inside, we stand facing the golden dome covering the *even shatiach*, the foundation stone of the world.

Inside the dome is a massive stone around which Jews, Christians and Muslims have woven their web of legends. For Jews it is the place where Abraham stood, knife in hand, ready to slaughter his son Isaac, and Jacob rested here on his way to Haran. For Christians, it is the place where the holy family rested in a cave underneath the stone. In that cave one is reminded of the legend that says when Mohammed rose into the heaven on his horse Barak, the stone attempted to follow. Stopped by divine command, it remains suspended between heaven and earth.

There is enough in the city that is not legend, but historical reality. One can see the stones lying where they fell onto the Herodian pavement when fires set by Romans enveloped the temple. The heat was so intense that the stones literally exploded out of the wall. You can almost hear the screams of the victims and shouts of the victors as the mountain burned.

Further into the upper city is a stark reminder of those awful last weeks of the city in the year 70. Under new buildings of the Jewish Quarter lie the ruins of the city: mansions, mikvahs, city squares where priests and commoners walked. Two stand out. One is the "burnt house." The upper stories are gone, but the bottom floor remains. Pottery and furniture stand where they were buried in the rubble. A spear leans against the wall. When the house was uncovered, the arm-bone of a young woman was found stretched out toward the spear. Nearby you can see a tunnel, perhaps one through which the defenders escaped from the inferno, the survivors reaching Masada where they held out for another three years.

Cross the square and enter another basement where several huge mansions once stood. The mosaic floors are intact, as are the mikvehs, large receiving halls, wall frescos and doorways. Here priestly families lived, only steps away from the temple. One exhibit stands out: a blackened wall, with thick layers of ash covering the floor, evidence of the fires which destroyed the quarter.

But outside is life, in all its variety. A group of haredi families rest while their children play under the shadow of a present-day ruin, the remains of the Hurvah synagogue destroyed by the Jordanians in 1948. A line of Christian pilgrims marches toward the plaza in front of the Western Wall. A youth group from North America heads for the pizza stalls above the Byzantine Cardo. Two *baalei-tshuvah* wearing their *tallit katan* (but no kippot) eat ice cream.

Two tours going simultaneously into the Herodian mansions deserve to stand as a symbol of the Jerusalem of the here and now: One guide explains in great detail the splendor of the original mansions, the strict observance of Mosaic law the mosaics showed (no figures, only geometric designs) and the luxury and wealth of the homes with their private baths, stone vessels and elegant frescos. His group clucks its collective teeth at the destruction. Hard on their heels comes a North American youth group. Look at the conspicuous wealth shown here, their guide laments, while the poor lived in crowded alleyways in the lower parts of the city.

Then both groups depart together for the Western Wall, just in time for Minchah.

Swiss reputation takes a beating

Switzerland's reputation for financial honesty, economic solidity and historical neutrality has been taking a beating in the last several months. After half a century, Switzerland's duplicitous roles in sealing its borders to Jews before and during the Holocaust, collaborating with Nazi big wigs such as Goering, and hiding massive sums of money and securities from Jewish depositors are surfacing in the media.

By Arnold Ages

Even the poets are participating in the painful reconstruction of Switzerland's checkered past. Haim Gouri, an Israeli novelist, journalist and filmmaker has a poem in a recent collection of his works (Wayne State) entitled *Geneva 1947*. In this four-stanza poem, Gouri compares the tranquillity, beauty and wilful ignorance of Swiss society to the horrendous deeds which were being perpetrated against Jews across its borders.

Writes Gouri: "My blood never flowed here. The Rhone bore no corpses. No soldiers beat babies on the cobblestones here." Then comes this poetically stinging rebuke: "You only held your peace, innocent dove. A few miles away black, hungry smoke coiled skyward. Forgive me. My bitter heart. You cannot know, lovely doe. You have not seen Geneva." Gouri may have to revise his poem now in light of the revelations of the last few months about the violence done by the Swiss to Jewish assets.

What is especially ironic about all the attention being paid to Switzerland these days is that Jews all over the world will be shortly commemorating and evaluating that other valuable Jewish asset that has been associated since 1897 with another Swiss city, Basel, for it was there that the first - ever Zionist Congress was held.

In the coming year, books, articles, proclamations, radio and television programs and special events in Israel and the Diaspora will focus on the extraordinary meeting that heralded the official birth of political Zionism. Yet the name Basel in Zionist history conveys much more than just the political apparatus and structure through which the Zionist enterprise was catapulted into the modern world; it conjures up a picture and civilizational change which thereafter affected Jews all over the world.

One of the things that has always puzzled this writer is why Switzerland and particularly Basel, a pleasant but backwater Swiss city, were chosen as the venue for the first congress. That question (and many others about early Zionist culture) has been answered for me by Michael Berkowitz.

Berkowitz notes in his *Zionist Culture* (University of North Carolina Press) that Herzl and the planners of the first meeting wanted a German city in order to accommodate the linguistic preferences of the vast majority of those who were going to attend. However, the delegates could not meet in Munich, their first choice, because opposition to Zionism had been voiced by that city's Jewish religious community, fearing that a Zionist enclave might somehow run counter to German nationalism.

A compromise was reached by selecting a Swiss city in the German-speaking part of the country. Herzl was in favor of Zurich, the great international centre of business, commerce and the arts. But the steering committee of the first congress was afraid that the city's reputation as a hot bed of radical agitation might not sit well with the conservative East European delegates from the interior of Russia.

It was a good choice...Basel provided the matrix not only for the political organization that took place among Zionist delegates, but also for the development of the broader range of Zionist cultural activities – Jewish education, Hebrew language instruction, literature, music and later, a Zionist flag. Berkowitz notes in his wonderfully enlightening essay that the famous Zionist anthem, Hatikvah, was not the first choice of Herzl, because the author of the lyrics, Naftali Herz Imber, had a rather bad reputation in Zionist circles. A competition was launched to select the Zionist anthem, but for sentimental reasons Hatikvah was retained.

One hundred years after the first Zionist Congress and with the painful news about Switzerland's sorry record during the testing years, the essential teachings of Zionism have been confirmed. Only a state under Jewish sovereignty can eradicate the powerlessness that doomed Jews in history.

A classic remembered

The other day, quite by accident, I came across a little book that stirred up long-buried memories. Published exactly 50 years ago in English, it remains a classic of solid argument combined with passion. I remember having read it when I came back from the army a half century ago, and how I was entranced by the style and the logic as much as by the subject. The author was Jean-Paul Sartre, Europe's leading exponent of existentialism, member of the French Resistance and of the post-war government installed by Charles de Gaulle.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

I re-read the 153 small pages in one quick sitting and I learned, once again, why the title, *Anti-Semite and Jew*, which had attracted me at the time, makes its continued claim on anyone who deals with this intractable subject.

Sidney Hook, a leading political and literary analyst of the time, characterized Sartre's little work as "one of the most brilliant psychological analyses of the marginal Jew and of the fanatical anti-Semite that has ever been published." I tend to agree.

You will find no statistics or any of the other material that you would expect in a wide-ranging study of the subject. What you will find, however, is a string of descriptions that tears every anti-Semitic argument to shreds.

The little treatise begins with the kind of irrational statements that anti-Semites are wont to make about Jews and, rather quickly, Sartre comes to this conclusion: "If the Jew did not exist, the anti-Semite would invent him."

Here are some other of his observations: "Anti-Semitism is a problem that affects us all directly; we are all bound to the Jew, because anti-Semitism leads straight to national socialism, and if we do not respect the person of the Institute, who will respect us? If we are conscious of these dangers, if we have lived in shame because of our involuntary complicity with the anti-Semites, who have made hangmen of us all, perhaps we shall begin to understand that we must fight for the Jew, no more or less than for ourselves."

Sartre was of course referring to the dismal record of the Vichy government and its accomplices; he felt shame for those of his fellow countrymen who were all too eager to do the bidding of the Nazis when it came to persecuting Jews.

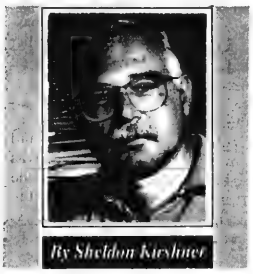
Lastly, some of Sartre's concluding remarks: "We must say that anti-Semitism is not a Jewish problem, it is our problem Since we are not guilty and yet run the risk of being its victims, we must be very blind indeed not to see that it is our concern in the highest degree. It is not up to the Jews first of all to form a militant league against anti-Semitism; it is up to us...Not one Frenchman will be free so long as the Jews do not enjoy the fullness of their rights. Not one Frenchman will be secure so long as a single Jew – in France or in the world at large – can fear for his life."

Go to the library and read this passionate appeal to human reason and decency.

The Kirshner File

The jewel in Diamond's crown

Abel Joseph (Jack) Diamond swept through his airy domain like a whirlwind, stopping here to turn on a light in



By Sheldon Kirshner

the library and pausing there to ask an employee hunched over a computer what she was doing.

Diamond is a hands-on boss, a stickler for details. If he hadn't been, he might not be one of Canada's most distinguished architects.

Working out of a renovated downtown building, the site of Toronto's first knitting mill, Diamond has amassed a body of work that is the envy of his exacting and highly competitive profession.

The winner of four Governor General's awards and the recipient of numerous honors, Diamond has stamped his imprimatur on public and private structures in Canada, Israel, the United States, Europe and Asia.

From the University of Toronto's Earth Science Centre to Jerusalem's City Hall, Diamond's buildings have ensured him a place in the pantheon of great architects.

A consummate professional like Diamond is always busy, and now he and his partner, Donald Schmitt, are in the throes of supervising an eclectic array of new projects.

The jewel in the crown of their portfolio of assignments is Israel's $40-million, 225,000-square-foot Foreign Ministry building in Jerusalem, which Diamond describes as "the best thing I've ever done." Designed in conjunction with the Israeli firm of Kolker Kolker Epstein, it is scheduled to be completed in 1998, the 50th anniversary of Israel's founding. Diamond calls it "a building of state of national and international importance." It will replace a warren of hastily-built shacks that has been Israel's face to the world since the late 1940s.

In Jerusalem, Diamond is also presiding over the construction of the Gateway project, a mixed-use complex consisting of a 10,000-seat stadium, an inter-city bus terminal, hotels and retail space.

And most recently, Diamond, who has been influenced by Ottoman and Mameluk architecture, was invited to enter a competition for the renovation of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial/museum on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem.

Closer to home, Diamond's company has won contracts for the new nursing home for Baycrest's Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto, the School of Journalism at the University of British Columbia, a suite of offices for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Toronto, the Jewish Community Centre in Manhattan, a vineyard in California's Napa Valley and a villa on a Caribbean island.

Apart from suburban subdivisions, of which he is not enamored, Diamond is theoretically open to all esthetically challenging commissions. "Almost any project can be turned into good architecture," said Diamond, an athletic-looking man casually clad in slacks, an open-neck jersey and loafers. "But we won't take on a project unless we can do it well."

Diamond, whose facility for blending the old with the new is one of his greatest strengths, explained that "user satisfaction" lies at the core of his philosophy. But Diamond, who learned from such masters as Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Kahn, also insists on balancing internal and external forces and using natural light.

"The best of the Diamond and Schmitt buildings exhibit graceful proportions, a coherent resolution of design problems and a degree of originality," critic Robert Fulford has observed.

Diamond, who considers himself a secular Jew although his maternal grandfather was the chief rabbi of Finland and then London, likens architecture to Jewish thought.

"There is a creative tension between the spiritual and the material," he said, leaning back on his chair in a reflective pose. "You have to deal with the practical and the here and now and with the symbolic and more profoundly spiritual aspects. And if a project appeals to a higher purpose, then I have a real interest."

Born in a small town in South Africa, the son of a Lithuanian entrepreneur who made and lost a fortune in ostrich farming before the age of 30, Diamond was instinctively drawn to architecture. As he put it, "I never decided to become an architect. I felt I was one in childhood."

At the tender age of four, Diamond was already drawing floor plans (he still has these drawings) and dreaming of being a famous architect.

At the University of Capetown, where he was a rugby star, he studied architecture. But before he graduated with a bachelor degree in that field, Diamond, who categorizes himself as a left-liberal, participated in the anti-apartheid movement and got to know such activists as Ruth First and Albie Sachs.

Offered a safe seat in parliament by the moderate United party, Diamond prepared himself for that task by immersing himself in the study of politics, economics and philosophy at Oxford University (where he met his wife, a mathematician who bore him two children, Andrew, a lawyer, and Suki, an architectual conservationist.)

But when he returned to South Africa from Britain, Diamond grew wary of the prospect of entering politics. "I didn't want to be caught between the extremes of whites and blacks," he explained.

Rejecting the advice and admonitions of his family, Diamond decided to leave South Africa after the 1961 Sharpeville massacre. "You either fought apartheid or you emigrated. My wife and I didn't want to raise children in a fascist country."

Returning to the discipline he loved, Diamond went to the United States to continue his education in architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1964, the University of Toronto beckoned with an invitation to establish a graduate program in architecture. He accepted.

While teaching, Diamond practised his craft, winning commissions to design York Square (which set a standard for renovation) and the headquarters of the Ontario Medical Association.

Since then, he has not looked back, making his mark on the architecture of housing, municiple government centres, university campuses and educational institutions.

And Diamond, whose pencil sketches and watercolors were exhibited at the Italian Cultural Institute in Toronto last spring, has been a visiting professor at Harvard, Princeton and the University of California (Berkeley). Recently, he took up an offer from the University of Pennsylvania, his alma mater, to deliver a series of lectures.

Diamond, an Officer of the Order of Canada since 1996 and an aficionado of chamber and choral music, has been back to South Africa many times to visit family and friends. And like virtually all South African expatriates, he is amazed that apartheid died within his lifetime.

"It's an absolute miracle," said Diamond, who was a member of the Ontario Human Rights Commission from 1986 to 1989. Whites, he said, should be "eternally grateful for the tolerance and forgiveness" blacks have exhibited since the advent of a multiracial democracy in South Africa.

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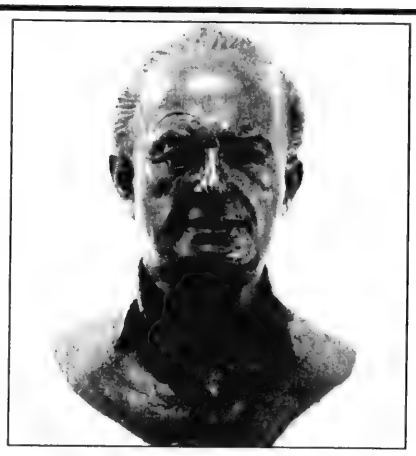
Jewish Life



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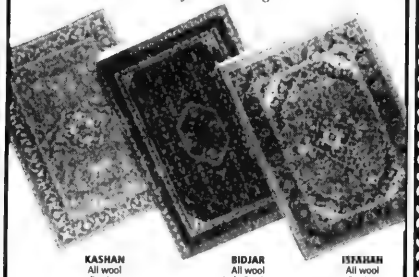

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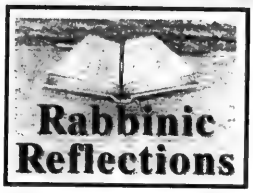


Hugs and kisses

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

I wish I knew what you are thinking. Is what you are saying really what you are thinking? Jacob wondered the same thing when he encountered Esau: Is the hug and the kiss real or is it fake? The Torah hints at the answer by placing dots over the words "he kissed him," suggesting that hugs and kisses can be real or they can be fake.

In a number of places in the Torah, words are written with dots over them. I had a music teacher who used to draw a pair of glasses over the places that needed extra attention – "Open your eyes when you get here and pay more attention," he would be saying. The Torah says the same things by placing dots over the words – "Open your eyes when you get here. There is more than meets the eye."

The Torah describes how after Jacob tricked Isaac into giving him the blessing instead of giving it to Esau, Esau wanted to kill Jacob. Jacob fled for his life.

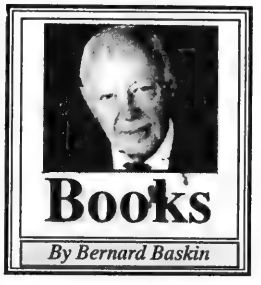
After many years, HaShem says to Jacob: Go back to the Land and I will protect you. Jacob journeys back to meet Esau, wondering whether Esau will put the past behind them and be amicable. Can a brother who once wanted to kill him, now live peacefully with him? When the big moment arrives, Esau runs to greet Jacob, hugs him, falls on his shoulder, kisses him and they cry.

So what is the answer? Does Esau still hate Jacob or is it all in the past? Does he still harbor violent thoughts? Is he merely overcome by the moment, but deep down his real feelings are of hatred? Do we accept a kiss at face value – what you see on the outside is what is on the inside, the kiss on the outside is a sign of love on the inside?

The Torah places dots on each letter of the words "he kissed him." Look deeper; there is more than meets the eye. One opinion in the midrash is that the more than meets the eye is an underlying hatred – he is kissing on the outside, hating on the inside. The other opinion is that he was sincerely overcome with emotion and at that moment felt genuine brotherly feelings toward Jacob.

Life isn't simple – we often do not know what goes on inside the minds of our children when they go through those dreaded rebellions. Is this a genuine rebellion or an innocuous assertion of independence? The debate in the midrash seems to indicate to us that even in the mind of the person involved, there is ambivalence – Esau loved and hated at the same time. He himself didn't know what to think.

If we could see into the minds of others, life would be so much simpler. In the meantime, we live peering, but never really knowing what lies deep inside others.



By Bernard Baskin

Barbara Frum: by Linda Frum
Random House $29.95

In a telephone interview with Linda Frum about this memoir of her mother, I asked, "What prompted you to write the book?"

Her answer was quick and forthright: "To provide an honest and accurate record for my children and for my mother's many friends and admirers."

Barbara Frum was Canada's most popular media personality. As a tough, but fair-minded interviewer for CBC Radio's *As It Happened* and CBC TV's *The Journal,* she conducted over 2,500 interviews, many with luminaries as disparate as Jimmy Carter, Nelson Mandela, Pierre Trudeau and Hosni Mubarak.

Was she a good mother? There were inevitable difficulties, her daughter acknowledges, as Barbara tried to juggle the conflicting demands of career and family. Yet she conscientiously fulfilled her responsibilities as a busy working woman as well as wife and mother. In addition, she had many friends, was an active citizen, a dedicated art collector, a serious gardener and a generous philanthropist.

There appears to be some confusion in many minds: Was Barbara conservative or liberal in her political and social outlook?

Confronted with these questions, Barbara reacted vehemently. "When people call me right wing, I think it's hilarious. I suppose they think that [way] because my son David is right wing, which has made people question 20 years of my work. But we disagree about almost everything. If I thought people were serious in calling me right wing, I would be hurt; I regard myself as a '50s small-l liberal. But people shouldn't know that from watching *The Journal.*"

Linda indicates that her mother always urged her children to hold strong opinions, to defend deeply held convictions and to become articulate and responsible citizens.

What were Barbara's attitudes towards Judaism? Linda describes her mother's outlook as emotional rather than spiritual. She was an unbeliever, but took great pride in her Jewish identity. She was a member of a synagogue, savored Jewish food and responded to the tug of Jewish history.

Linda remembers Passover at home. "My mother prepared lavishly for the Seder. I think of her on the porch one year, shredding potent horseradish by hand, her nose running and eyes tearing as she drolly declared, 'Nothing too good for my kinder!' "

A loving tribute

For 18 years Barbara suffered from a fatal disease. How to live and work with leukemia that could strike at any time was a tragic burden and a terrible secret. What sustained her? Linda feels that it was her busy and rich life, her love of gardening, her concern for family, her interest in collecting art. Illness was shunted aside.

Linda's description of the progressive nature of her mother's physical decline is poignant and touching. "Several times in the months preceding her death, as she grew weaker and weaker, she had warned me that if her disease progressed beyond the point where she could maintain her dignity and independence, she would kill herself." Linda was appalled. Barbara insisted, "I will never allow my life to be a burden to you."

This book is a loving and eloquent tribute by a grieving, yet grateful, daughter for a life that enhanced her own.

David Frum described his grief this way: "It's like standing on the back of a train, and you watch Mum get off. And then the train pulls away taking you farther and farther away from her." A host of Canadians will understand how he felt.

The author and her mother

From left: Long Island genealogist Arthur Menton and his wife Nancy with their Kitchener relatives Howard and Lynda Budd, Paul and Revie Walman and Stan and Esther Budd.

Family discovers its tree may have 12,000 branches

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

In genealogy, as in geography, all rivers run eventually to the sea.

When Revie Walman, nee Budovitch, moved from Frederic-

Roots & Remembrance

ton, N.B. to Kitchener, Ont., in 1982, she met up with her cousins, the Budds, whose grandparents had left St. John, N.B. for Kitchener early in the century. The question was, how were the two families related?

About 18 months ago, Walman and her cousin Esther Budd made a concerted effort to find the answer. Questioning uncles, aunts and other relatives, they ascertained that their respective great-grandfathers had been brothers from the neighboring towns of Lachowicze and Baranowicze, near Slonim, Poland.

As a bonus, a Fredericton cousin provided the names of their great-great-grandparents: Shmuel Bud-owla and his wife Chaya Zlata, née Charlap. As it happened, not only did this add another generation to the tree, it connected the family to a distinguished rabbinical line reaching back into antiquity. Arthur Menton, an American genealogist, had visited Fredericton the summer before to collect details of the Charlap connection.

In remarkably short order, Walman and Budd had charted a family tree containing about 600 names. Last month, more than 100 relatives arrived in Kitchener from as far away as Fredericton, New Jersey and Houston to attend a family reunion. Menton, who came from Long Island, used the occasion to unveil *The Book of Destiny: Toledot Charlap*, his newly published 700-page magnum opus on the Charlap family, of which the Canadian Budd and Budovitch families compose but a small branch.

Menton, a 63-year-old engineer and management consultant, lives in the former whaling village of Cold Spring Harbor, L.I. Over the past decade, he has travelled the world seeking Charlaps with intensity and single-mindedness.

In discovering Arthur Menton, Walman and Budd found an instant link to a family tree bearing some 12,000 names, including relatives living in Israel, Australia, New Zealand and most countries in eastern and central Europe, Britain and the Americas. As Menton explained, their shared lineage crosses the formidable Ashkenazi-Sephardi divide, contains historical figures from medieval Spain and Constantinople, and reaches into ancient times with a claimed descent from King David.

It took Menton some years to follow his river to the sea. At first, all he knew was that his grandfather, Max Ser, had arrived in New York in 1891 from Ciechenowiec, a town midway between Warsaw and Bialystok. From this, he traced the Ser line back to an ancestor, Zebulon Ser, an innkeeper who had changed the name from Charlap about 1805. (Menton cannot explain why he chose the name Ser, which means "cheese" in Polish.)

Charlap is an acronym of the Hebrew phrase, *chacham rosh l'golei Polin*, which translates as "the chief sage of the exiles in Poland." The first rabbi to bear this title was Eliezer Don Yahya, the scion of a prominent Sephardi family who arrived in Tykocin, Poland, from Constantinople about 1600. Zebulon Ser's father, born about 1740, was Rabbi Abraham Charlap, a documented descendant of Eliezer Don Yahya.

Menton possesses fragments of letters that his relatives wrote in the 11th and 12th centuries, and can even explain how the family reached the Iberian peninsula. "One of my ancient relatives was hung by the emperor of Persia in Pumbedita, and his son fled to Spain..."

Independent claims of the descent from King David arose repeatedly during his many interviews with farflung relatives. "These people would pull out ancient scrolls and unravel them for me, to show me how they arrived at this," he said. "They lived all over the place: one family in Tblisi, Georgia, another in Tykocin, Poland... They knew nothing of each other."

Many scholarly articles written on the alleged descent from King David "have concluded that this was one of the few families that could prove that it was so," said Menton, who publishes his own quarterly, *B'rayshit:, The Ser-Charlap Family Newsletter*. Related family names include Cear, Danowittz, Donchin, Ibn Yahya, Kiejsmacher, Kopyto, Kuhr, Kur, Kuropatwa, Lapin, Levine, Lew, Lewin, Mankuta, Packciarz, Parczewski, Pasternak, Podkowa, Rosansky, Sahr, Sharlip, Sier, Sir, Smolarcyk and Tama.

"It came as a total surprise to me that our family was originally Sephardi. But after doing my research, I've learned that such distinctions don't really matter. What my research has given me is the profound understanding that all Jews around the world are part of one united family."

Has some aspect of your family tree research got you stumped? Write to The CJN, *Roots & Remembrance, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York M3B 3K4, and your query may be answered in a future column. Sorry, no personal replies will be made.*

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Bulgarian leaders helped save local Jewish population

BY BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Bulgarian parliamentarian Dimiter Peshev, along with King Boris, church and union leaders, MPs and many others, mounted a campaign that foiled Nazi attempts to deport the country's 50,000 Jews to labor and death camps in Poland, a leading Israeli historian told a Toronto audience at Beth Sholom synagogue recently as part of Holocaust Education Week.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

According to Prof. Michael Bar Zohar, the resistance movement could not prevent an additional 11,500 Jews in territories then annexed to Bulgaria from being shipped to Treblinka, where all but three perished.

Although Peshev was leader of the pro-fascist majority in Parliament in a country allied to Germany, he fiercely opposed the deportation of the Jews. Despite anti-Jewish laws enacted after the outbreak of the war, Bulgaria's Jewish community was well-assimilated into the Bulgarian majority and had lived in harmony with them under Turkish rule for 500 years.

When Alexander Benev, a top-ranking government minister, signed an agreement in March 1943 allowing the deportation of the 11,500 Jews plus another 8,500 from Bulgaria proper, Peshev sprung into action to organize a strong opposition. At first, Benev vehemently denied the deportation plans even as his secretary-lover clandestinely confirmed them. "She couldn't keep the secret to herself and she told her Jewish friends, risking everything by doing so," Bar Zohar said.

King Boris was "a modest, quiet man, very popular, a man of the people," who walked a cautious line between his German allies and the Russians. As Bar Zohar recounted, when Peshev presented his opposition, King Boris cancelled the deportation order, saying: "Not one Bulgarian Jew leaves Bulgaria."

"The ambassador from Germany was livid," said Bar Zohar. "He sent a telegram to Berlin, saying, 'These people don't know what fascism is all about.'"

In Parliament, where Peshev had convinced 43 MPs to sign a petition against the deportations, the prime minister forced him to resign, causing an uproar. Meanwhile, King Boris was summoned to Berchtesgaden to meet with Hitler and his foreign affairs minister, Joachim Von Ribbentrop. "Von Ribbentrop yelled at King Boris, saying, 'There is only one solution to the Jewish problem, that is the Final Solution!'

"King Boris said, 'You're right, but I can't give you my Jews because they're needed for road construction.' Now, I have never seen a road made by Jews in Bulgaria, but there were plenty of work camps," Bar Zohar said, asserting that not one Jew ever died in these camps from mistreatment.

A second agreement with the Nazis authorized the deportation of the country's Jews to Poland in two shipments of 25,000 from Sofia and 25,000 from the smaller cities. Sofia's Jews received notices in May 1943, warning them to be ready to leave within 72 hours. Protests from Peshev and others, however, resulted in a last-minute change in which Sofia's Jews were deported to the country's smaller cities. "Not one was deported out of Bulgaria," Bar Zohar said.

King Boris was again summoned to see Hitler, this time in East Prussia, where "they had a quarrel over whether the Bulgarian army would participate in the fighting against the Russians. The King said that the Bulgarian people regarded the Russians as liberators and wouldn't fight them, and Hitler was in a rage."

Ten days later, back in Bulgaria, King Boris was discovered dead. "The official version in Bulgaria is that King Boris was poisoned by Hitler. It's a big mystery, like the JFK assassination. We haven't found any conclusive evidence, although we've found that two Germans were sent to see the King, who was sick in bed at the time."

Bulgaria's Jewish community was the only one in Europe that grew in number during the war years, Bar Zohar said. Despite warm feelings for the land of their birth, about 95 per cent of the Jews emigrated to Israel after 1948.

The train that took him out of Bulgaria stopped at the Yugoslav border, he recounted, and all 5,000 Jews on board disembarked, looked back at their homeland, and sang the Bulgarian anthem..

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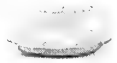

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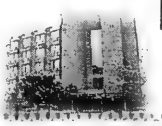

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Greater Toronto Area

Documentary explores kindertransport program

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – When Melissa Hacker decided to make a documentary film about the kindertransport program that took some 10,000 Jewish children, including her mother, out of Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia just before World War II, she knew exactly where to look for rare film footage – and donated funds – to complete her project.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

Since Hacker, a 35-year-old New York-area freelance film editor, once worked as a former stock footage researcher, she knew that film archives at the U.S. Library of Congress and elsewhere would contain obscure footage showing kindertransport children in transit. While most left Europe by train, several hundred Czech children left by plane, and Hacker found unique footage of them waving goodbye to their parents as if leaving for a happy, short-lived adventure.

Other rare newsreel footage shows the arrival of the first 200 children in Britain, which had amended its immigration policy to admit them, and the Bishop of Canterbury making a sombre plea to British citizens to take them into their homes. The young people were between five and 17 years of age; most, despite their fervent hopes, would never see their parents again.

Hacker's 80-minute documentary, *My Knees Were Jumping: Remembering the Kindertransports*, took seven years and more than $100,000 to complete. After a screening recently in Toronto as part of Holocaust Education Week, Hacker explained that her mother, a leading cinematic costume designer, had given her an entree to Barbra Streisand, Dustin Hoffman and other actors who had foundations that assisted financially with the film, which she completed between freelance editing assignments as a labor of love.

Hacker's mother, who also worked on *Taxi Driver, Annie Hall, Tootsie* and *Prince of Tides*, is featured prominently in the film, which is as much an exploration of the mother-daughter relationship as it is about the kindertransports. Besides documenting the historical reality, the film delves into the lingering psychological impact of the kindertransport experience on succeeding generations, and records the first reunion of kindertransport children (now adults) that took place several years ago in Israel.

While the reaction to the film was overwhelmingly positive, one man pointed out that it gives the misleading impression that the kindertransports went only to Britain, whereas Holland and Belgium also received kindertransport shipments.

My Knees Were Jumping: Remembering the Kindertransports received its worldwide premiere at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival in 1995.

'Mixed message' in encyclical

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A long-suppressed 1938 papal encyclical is "not a ringing denunciation of anti-Jewish actions," and there is real doubt that it would have averted the Holocaust.

The surfacing of the encyclical last year in a book published in Paris is important, but Prof. Michael Marrus told a Holocaust Education Week meeting that he does not agree with a published assertion that it would have changed history.

The encyclical was written by an American Jesuit John Lafarge at the request of Pope Pius XII, who died in February, 1939, but it was never made public.

There is a "mixed message" in the encyclical, which he has read in its French version, Marrus told an overflow crowd of 300 at Holy Blossom Temple.

Though it says anti-Semitism is not the way to deal with the Jewish question, the encyclical proposes a "quarantine" for Jews and repeats the long-standing Catholic condemnation of the refusal of Jews to abandon Judaism and accept Jesus as the messiah, Marrus said.

The encyclical, to be available in English in a year, says the Jewish question is one of religion, not race.

"We can only speculate on why it (the encyclical) was never issued. It is clear that Pope Pius XII was a different man and that may be the reason."

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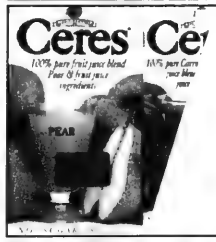

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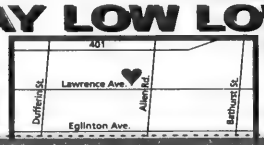

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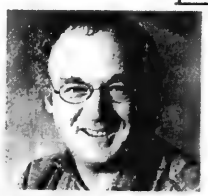

דליה רביקוביץ-כל השירים עד כה

זהו שמו של ספר שמאחד את כל השירים שכתבה עד כה דליה רביקוביץ, הבכירה במשוררות ישראל מאז שנפטרה לאה גולדברג למני דור. יש לה,לאשה היפה והעדינה הזו, קליטה של סרט פילם סופר רגיש עם חוש הומור קטן, כמעט לא ישראלי. בראיון שהתקיים איתה עם צאת הספר היא פירטה את השפלת היום-יום, את סף העוני והדלות שהיא נאלצת להרגיש על בשרה כל יום. ההתנסות היומיומית הקשה שלה עם החוויה הישראלית, עם הצפיפות,הכוחניות, האגרסיביות הולידה את השיר "שני איים מניו זילנד" שבחרתי להביא לכם קטע ממנו:

"כבר אין עוד טעם להסתיר
אנחנו נסיון שלא עלה יפה,
תוכנית שנשתבשה,
פרוקה ברצחנות רבה מידי,
מה לי מאלה ומה לי מאלה,
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מכל מקום רצחנות רבה מידי
לאפריקה לא אסע
ולא לאסיה
ולא אסע בכלל.

בניו זילנד
על נאות דשא ומים
אנשים טובי לב
יפרסו לי מלחמם".

הכמיהה לניו זילנד, שהיא קרוב לודאי הדבר הכי מנוגד שאפשרי בעולם לחוויה הישראלית הרעשנית והאינטנסיבית, היא באיזשהו מקום סמל לכמיהתו של כל ישראלי לקצת שקט. ואולי זה מה שהביא רבים מאיתנו לכאן!

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מה אומר לכם האקליפטוס! כמובן, אותם עצים גדולים מאוסטרליה שיובשו ביצות בארץ ישראל. ועד היום אקליפטוס בארץ אומר שאתה נמצא ליד בסיס צבאי. אז מה פתאום באמצע הסתיו הקנדי צץ לו האקליפטוס! אז ככה: בקיץ הושאלו לגן החיות של טורונטו דובי קואלה שגרמו לכולם חמדה והתפעלות עמוקות. עכשיו צריך להחזיר אותם לסאן דיאגו לא בגלל שקר כאן בחורף, שהרי אפשר לחמם להם את הכלוב, אלא בגלל שהם אוכלים עלי אקליפטוס טריים. כל הקיץ הביאו להם מטוסי "איר קנדה" עלי אקליפטוס טריים מדרום קליפורניה. אבל עכשיו, כשעשו חשבון כספי, הסתבר שעולה להאכיל את הדובים הקטנים האלה יותר מאשר להשביע פיל. להתראות דובים! להתראות עלי אקליפטוס! נעבור חורף קר בלעדיכם.

מקום חובה לילדים שלכם:

אין לי שום ספק שרובינו, אם לא כולנו, רוצים שהילדים שלנו יכירו את החוויה הישראלית ויצמחו בתוכה. מאחר ורובינו לא דתיים, אין כמעט סיכוי שבית הכנסת ומסורת ישראל יניעו את הילדים האלה. אז מה באמת נשאר? בעצם רק תנועות הנוער. אם באמת אכפת לכם איך יצמחו הילדים שלכם, כדאי שתשלחו אותם למחנה החורף של "שומריה". תנו להם שבוע ישראלי עם כיפים של שלג קנדי. המחנות של "שומריה" זולים מאוד בהשוואה למחנות מקבילים. אני מדבר עם נסיון של שלושה ילדים(רביעי בדרך) ש"שומריה" השפיעה על חייהם באופן מאוד חיובי.התקשרו ליהודה בטלפון: 416-736-1339

SHMOOZIN

"During the week of Chanukah it's traditional for Israelis to be having jelly doughnuts, North Americans to be having potato pancakes, and cardiologists everywhere to be having anxiety attacks."

Greater Toronto Area

From Chernobyl to summer respite in Toronto

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eight-year old Elena Drougatchenko can thank insomnia and a late night television broadcast for a six-week respite away from life in the shadow of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor.

Drougatchenko recently spent much of the summer visiting with a Toronto-area family, enjoying the sights, eating real meals, playing like a kid and improving her sad state of health.

She returned to her home stronger and with her spirits lifted thanks to the volunteer effort of Carla Silver and her family.

It was Silver who, more than a year ago, found herself feeling fidgety and unable to sleep at 3 a.m. That's when she decided to do something useful, so while folding laundry she turned on a TV set and watched a CBC *Witness* documentary on how children downwind of Chernobyl were affected by the reactor's nuclear fallout.

"It was quite interesting and it stayed with me for a few days," particularly the scene that showed how children suffering from thyroid cancer didn't have medication or painkillers, she said.

Silver decided to do something about it so, after consulting with the Canadian Relief Fund for Chernobyl Victims of Belarus, she recruited three large corporations to ship needed drugs. After raising funds at St. Clements School, where she's a teacher, Novopharm matched the amount and provided drugs at cost while Apotex sent 4,800 sample drugs including painkillers, antibiotics and a cancer-treatment drug. Astra also provided medication.

Altogether, about 700 to 800 pounds of medication was shipped to a hospital in Chaussy, Belarus.

Elena Drougatchenko (right) with Beth Silver.

From that first, satisfying experience Silver decided to do more. With her husband Robin's agreement she decided to sponsor a child for six weeks, one that would be close in age to her own daughter, Beth.

Elena was chosen, one of 400 children who spent part of the summer in communities across Canada. After the Silvers paid their share of her airfare (about $550), health insurance ($150), visa and administrative costs, Elena was theirs for six weeks.

Although she doesn't suffer from cancer, when she arrived "she looked sick," Silver said. "She was very thin and very pale and she tired much more quickly than my children."

Almost nine, she weighed only 45 lbs., about 15 lbs. less than normal for Canadian children her age.

Because of radiation contamination, much of the land in Belarus can't be used to grow food and malnutrition results.

During her stay in Toronto, the Silvers made sure that Elena ate well. "She went nuts over plums and bananas. She didn't know what a plum was. She liked meat and potatoes and hot veggies. Surprisingly, she wasn't keen on McDonald's," Silver said.

In addition to her nutritional woes, she suffered from terrible dental problems with teeth so badly abscessed, they had eaten through to the bone.

Thanks to volunteer efforts of her friend, Frances Telch, a children's dentist, her teeth were repaired (or pulled) and she was given antibiotics. The family's doctor, Gary Mann, treated Elena pro bono as well.

When she wasn't being examined by doctors and dentists, Elena was a regular kid, accompanying Beth to gymnastics and swimming classes.

On one memorable afternoon, Elena joined 300 other Chernobyl kids for a day of fun at Canada's Wonderland.

When she left for home, Elena had gained five pounds and "she had more color, was prettier and healthier," Silver said.

"She learned a lot of English but she was a quiet, introspective girl who was reluctant to try it out."

Silver, who occasionally serves as a *chazzan* at Temple Emmanuel, said her sense of adventure was her prime motivation in participating in the sponsorship program.

"I'm always in search of an adventure but because I have a two and a 5-year-old, it's not that easy. It's not easy to travel so I bring my adventure to me. It was fun."

The family plans to call Elena around New Year's to see if she'd like to come back. "If she doesn't want to come, perhaps her brother will."

CHRC tribunal to examine Zundel Website

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) has asked a tribunal to determine whether Nazi apologist Ernst Zundel has posted hate material on the Internet.

The move could set a precedent in determining whether the rights body has jurisdiction to prevent the promotion of hatred on international computer networks. Zundel's computer Web site is reportedly based in California, though computers in Canada can easily get access to the material.

Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, the CHRC's deputy chief commissioner, said a precedent exists for the rights body to prevent hate messages entering Canada from the United States. The Heritage Front was ordered to cease telephone hate messages and was found in contempt when it provided hate messages from a U.S.-based message machine, she said.

The CHRC referred the Zundel case to a tribunal after investigating two complaints about his computer site. The complaints, which date back to July and September, originated with the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Race Relations and from Sabina Citron.

Citron, a Holocaust survivor, was responsible for laying criminal charges in 1983 against Zundel under the defunct "false news" section of the Criminal Code. Although Zundel was convicted under that section, the Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional.

The tribunal will investigate the allegation that Zundel promoted hatred or contempt of Jews by alleging the Holocaust never happened or by minimizing its scope.

The move is sure to stir controversy over free speech issues but Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, believes the Internet is not sacrosanct.

"We believe that Canadian law applies to the Internet," he said, adding the case will establish "whether or not the CHRC has the jurisdiction to deal with hate on the Internet."

Chanukah Greetings
in next week's issue of
The Canadian Jewish news

The public is cordially invited to attend a lecture on the topic of:

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE?

Jewish and non-Jewish Responses to the Holocaust

given by

DAVID SILBERKLANG
Chief Historian, Yad Vashem Museum

During his lecture, Mr. Silberklang will analyze the reaction of the Jewish communities in Europe and abroad to the Holocaust. He will also assess the response of the non-Jewish world to Jewish pleas for assistance during this tragic era.

David Silberklang, Chief Historian at Yad Vashem Museum, is an outstanding lecturer and an accomplished historian. He is Editor in Chief of Yad Vashem Studies and a lecturer in Jewish History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, School of Overseas Students. He was also Assistant Editor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies as well as a researcher for the Canadian Department of Justice (1989-1993) and Scotland Yard (1993-1994) assisting in the prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

Thursday, December 5, 1996, 7:30 p.m.

Beth Habonim Synagogue
5 Glen Park Avenue
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ADMISSION FREE

Lecture will be preceded by the lighting of Chanukah candles
and a short presentation from participants in the 1996 March of the Living.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

Deadlines for What's New and About People: Thursday, Nov. 28, is deadline for Dec. 12 issue, and Thursday, Dec, 5, is deadline for Dec. 19 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Nov. 30

MELAVA MALKA

Mizrachi Bayit Melava Malka with **Prof. Martin Lockshin** speaking on Big Mac vs. the Maccabees – Chanukah and Western Culture, 8 p.m., 296 Wilson Ave., upstairs. $5.

Sunday, Dec. 1

HATE ON THE INTERNET

Ken McVay. director, Nizkor Project, discusses Hate on the Internet, 9:40 a.m., Solel Congregation, 2799 Folkway Dr., Mississauga. Co-sponsored by Solel Brotherhood and B'nai Brith Halton Peel Lodge. $3 breakfast. **Joyce Astek** 633-6224.

LEARN ABOUT CHANUKAH

The Downtown Jewish Community School, in cooperation with Bloor JCC, invites all adults to learn about Chanukah with **Aaron Nussbaum** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wallin Lounge. 924-6211.

THE TORAH REVEALED

B'nai Shalom V'Tikvah Congregation, Ajax, in conjunction with Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, presents The Torah Revealed with **Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein**, 9:15-11:45 a.m., Fortune Financial conference room, 335 Bayly W., Ajax (Westney Street South exit off the 401) **Rona** 905-427-3986.

TANYA 200 CELEBRATION

Celebration 220: 200th Year Anniversary of Tanya Publication, lecture for men and women, guest speaker **Rabbi Zalman Posner**, 8 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. $3. 905-731-7000.

FLEA MARKET

Mutually Assisting Residential Community, 6091 Bathurst St., flea market, noon to 4 p.m. Project MARC is under the umbrella of Kehilla Residential Program, affiliated with Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Proceeds go for future tenant programs.

AISH EMPORIUM

Aish HaTorah's first annual Aish Emporium featuring all new merchandise including women's fashions, housewares, toys, jewelry, children's clothing, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill. Proceeds go to Sweet Beginnings, Aish Hatorah's Jewish integrated preschool **Susan Kadis** 905-886-5909.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Selma Sage speaks on Judah Maccabee: The Real Story of Chanukah, 10 a.m. Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling 7:30 p.m. at Beth Habonim 5 Glen Park Ave. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Dec. 2

CANADA-ISRAEL TRADE

The Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement – New Opportunities for Canadian Business seminar, speakers **Ed Morgan**, (relationship between CIFTA, NAFTA and Israel's other trade agreements); **Freddy Faust**, (doing business in Israel); **Yael Varsano-Barzillay**, Israeli trade commissioner and economic council. Chair is lawyer **Alex K. Sweras**. Sponsors are Consulate General of Israel, Israeli Economic Mission to Canada and Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce. At CBAO Education Centre, 20 Toronto St., Suite 200. 5:30 p.m. cash bar, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program $36 CBAO members $46 non-members. Reserve 869-1390.

GIANT RUMMAGE SALE

Tremendous bargains in good used clothing and household items at giant rummage sale at Pride of Israel Synagogue, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

HOW SAFE IS OUR BLOOD

The I. Jeffrey Presement Memorial Lecture public forum on How Safe Is Our Blood? Panelists Rabbi **Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, Beth Tzedec Congregation; **Dr. Irving**

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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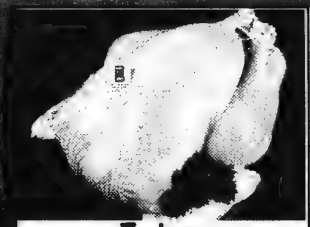

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

Salt, Toronto Hospital; **Dr. Robyn Herst**, Canadian Red Cross Toronto Centre; **Dr. Alan Powel**, Hepatitis C Survivors Society; **John Plater**, Hemophilia Society; **R. Douglas Elliott**, legal counsel for Canadian AIDS Society; **Lynn** and **Gabe Kampf**, members of HIV-T Group. Moderator **Dr. Brian Goldman**, of CBC's *The Health Show*. 7:30 p.m. Beth Tzedec. Joint presentation by Holy Blossom Temple, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am and Beth Tzedec.

LISTEN TO THE LIGHTS

The Jewish Russian Community Centre presents Listen to the Lights with **Rabbi Leibel Groner** 8 p.m. Bnai Torah Synagogue, 465 Patricia Ave. $10 in advance, $13 at door. 222-7105, ext. 29.

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

At Beth Tikvah Sisterhood producer and director of Toronto Jewish Film Festival **Helen Zukerman** and **Shlomo Schwartzberg** talk about the festival, how films are chosen and more. Also a short movie, *Gefilte Fish* by **Karen Silverstein** at 8 p.m. Non members $5.

DISABLED IN JEWISH LAW

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses The Physically and Mentally Disabled in Jewish Law, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

ABOUT COMMUNICATION

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel New Leadership invites you to hear **Evan Solomon**, host of CBC TV's *Future World* , talk about Surviving the Communication Revolution, 7 p.m., Ryerson University, 80 Gould St. For tickets, 488-7649.

JUDAICA COLLECTIONS

The Historical and Exhibitions Committee of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue first program in a series of talks by curators and collectors of Judaica features **Dr. Stephen Speisman** Director, Ontario Jewish Archives, 8 p.m. Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. **Carol** 789-3213.

THE MESSIANIC AGE

Rabbi Joseph Kelman lecture and discussion on The Messianic Age: When and How the Mashiach Will Bring It, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

WOMEN AT MIDLIFE

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood program, Women at Midlife: Taking Charge, speaker social worker **Ruth Goodman**, 8 p.m.

THE FUTURE & THE JEWS

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's Class 5 – The Future and the Jews: Where Will We Be?, 8 p.m. Pride of Israel Synagogue.

NAZIS AMONG US

Itta & Eliezer Zeisler Beth Midrash lecture, Nazis Among Us, speaker **Sol Littman**, 7:45 p.m. Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Thursday, Dec. 5

CHILDREN'S CHANUKAH

The Jewish Russian Community Centre Fabulous Fantasy Funland with jugglers, clowns, arts and crafts, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Associated Hebrew School, 300 Atkinson Ave. Menorah lighting 6:30 p.m. $4/child (adults free) up to $18/family. (food, booths, crafts extra) 222-7105, ext. 21.

CHANUKAH, PAST & FUTURE

Rabbi Abraham Kelman, formerly of Toronto, speaks on Chanukah – A Light from the Past and One to the Future, 8 p.m., Beth Jacob Synagogue, 147 Overbrook Place.

LATKE-FREST

Beach Hebrew Institute celebrates Chanukah with the annual Latke-frest, beginning with lighting the first candle, 5 p.m., Kew Beach Park (Queen Street East and Lee Avenue), followed by Chanukah party at Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave., 6 p.m. Children may bring menorahs to shul to be lit. Latkes and trimmings provided but bring vegetarian main dish or dessert, or both! 694-7942.

And What Else Is New

A CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto Chanukah melava malka, fun with friends, celebration of Chanukah, dessert table, Divrei Torah, entertainment and Nafshenu Orchestra, Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave. $18 in advance, $25 at door. 905-886-5730.

MENORAH LIGHTING

Jewish Russian Community Centre Menorah Lighting at Mel Lastman Square, Upper Level, Thursday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6, 2 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m ; Sunday, Dec. 8, to Thursday, Dec. 12, 3 p.m. 222-7105.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Sunday, Dec. 1, Brotherhood breakfast (see What's New); Sisterhood tea 1 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6, Chanukah party and Zimriyah, 6 p.m. followed by family service; Saturday, Dec. 14, MITY shul-in; Solel Youth Orchestra meets Thursday evenings; Rabbi's Torah study Mondays at noon; Family services Fridays, Dec. 6 and 20, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 28, 10 a.m.; Regular services Fridays Dec. 13 and 27, 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays Dec. 7, 14, 21, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyans 7 a.m. 905-;820-5915.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Myths From Cyberspace: Developing a Feminist Aesthetic for Cyberculture features interactive sculptures and installations by four Canadian artists. Part I featuring **Sylvie Belanger** and **Nell Tenhaaf** runs at the gallery through Dec. 31. Glasgow artist **Martin Boyce's** wall paintings and text-based work is at the Loggia Gallery.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Sunday, Dec. 1, 9:45 a.m., Adult Heder, **Brian Kalishenko,** Russia; Monday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m., Chanukah: Fact or Fiction, **Aaron Nussbaum**; Thursday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m. Opening the Letters, **Rabbi Wayne Allen.**

CHABAD TEEN CLUB

Chabad Teen Club (CTC), headed by **Zev Herman** under the organization of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, has a line-up of fun, interesting and educational events. The next one is a Shabbat weekend in Montreal Nov. 29. Events are open to any Jewish teen regardless of background or knowledge.

CTC is organizing an after school clubhouse and meeting place. If you have a sofa, pool table, computer, TV, Nintendo system, Jewish books, contact Zev at 905-731-3161.

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Kamin Synagogue of Associated Hebrew Schools Chanukah Celebration with Mandell Entertainment, Associated Choir, candlelighting, games, Chanukah bingo, storytelling, latkes, donuts. Sunday, Dec. 8, 1:30-4:30 p.m., 300 Atkinson Ave. Thornhill. $5/person. **Ellen** 905-764-0390.

NESHEF CHANUKAH

Tzavta and Hashomer Hatzair Neshef Chanukah, 8-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre with a play, singing, Israeli folkdancing, refreshments. $5/person, $15/family. 736-1339.

LOVE, DATING, MARRIAGE

Aish HaTorah/Discovery Love, Hate and Marriage seminar, Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Organized by Pride of Israel Singles/Young Couples group. Oneg Shabbat service before lecture at 7 p.m. 226-0111.

BEREAVEMENT GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Dec. 4; Young Widows/Widowers Group for individuals under 60 who have recently lost a spouse. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

For Seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, Nov. 28, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.Video from the forum Seniors Under Attack: Fighting for Social Justice. Discussion to follow. **Goldie Leibman** 635-2860.

Monday, Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m.Beth Tzedec Synagogue, board room. Speaker **Dr. Fred Weinberg**, honorary Judaic advisor to Beth Tzedec Museum. Topic-Why Collect Judaica? The Cecil Roth Collection.

LZA Seniors Club Chanukah party live entertainment, latkes, fun, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Sunday, Dec. 1, *Swing, Swing, Swing*, the music of the '40s, Daemen Theatre, Buffalo, plus shopping. Reservations being taken for Israel March 5-26 trip and 17-day kosher Arizona trip leaving Jan. 7. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: free blood pressure check-up Dec. 3; Chanukah dance Dec. 8; *Beauty and the Beast* Dec. 11; New Year's dinner dance, Dec. 31. *Ragtime* Feb. 12; Saturday night dances discontinued until March. Membership open to all seniors. $12 per year 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Florida at Sagamore Hotel on the ocean, efficiency, entertainment, pick-up at airport. One month $1,668, two months $2,735. **Helen** 635-6343.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays, 15 Hove. St. (B'nai Brith Building). **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Sunrise Group Porto Plata, Dominican Republic, Dec. 7-21 (or two weeks) **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

George Monticone, Advocacy Centre for the Elderly, discusses The Landlord and Tenant Act Thursday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m. **Sheila Zane.**

Chanukah candlelighting Dec. 6-13, 11:15 a.m.

Chanukah luncheon and concert Wednesday, Dec. 11, noon, featuring **Shlomo Aviv** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, members $8. Concert at 1:30, members $2, non-members $3.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Dec. 4 program is a movie. **Anna.**

Movie *The King and I*, Sunday, Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m.

Songs in many languages by **Lenka Lichtenberg** Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC presents Centre Court Cabaret, an evening of literary readings, dance, film, comedy and music in celebration of Chanukah hosted by arts journalist **Marc Glassman** and featuring author **Stuart Ross**, Oma Dance Company, award-winning novelist **Morley Torgov**, animator **Ellen Besen**, poet **Ronna Bloom**, plus music and comedy, Thursday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club tour of Walter Carsen Centre, the new home of the National Ballet, Thursday, Dec, 5, departing JCC at 1:30 p.m. by TTC. Reserve by Dec. 2. **Judy** 924-6211. Chanukah party Dec. 12, 1:30 p.m.

BJC is booking birthday parties for ages 3-8 in the new Children's Fun Centre. Package includes invitation and mailing, food, cake, loot bags. 636-1880, ext. 248.

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Sheila Browne - 667-8372
Maureen Feder - 638-7800, ext. 202 (JF&CS)

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If you have an opportunity to direct your trading through CIBC Wood Gundy on Tuesday, December 3, 1996, we at Jewish Family and Child Service ask that your designate **Jewish Family and Child Service** as the **Children's Charity** of your choice.
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United Way United Way

New shlichah talks tachlis

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Miri Gur

TORONTO – If prospective *olim* have no second thoughts about leaving Canada to move to Israel, Miri Gur will do her best to ensure they have considered every angle.

The recently appointed regional director of Toronto's Israel Aliyah Center – which serves all of Ontario, Winnipeg, Alberta, Rochester and Buffalo – sees herself as an adviser. "You have to be realistic. It's my job to tell them what reality is, to ask 'What are you going to do there? Where do you plan to live? How will you pay your rent?' These are things that people sometimes don't think about."

The Israeli-born Gur has been doing just that for the past year as an assistant *shlichah* (emissary) in the Aliyah Center. Her predecessor, Udi Savion, returned to Israel in October after almost three years as aliyah *shaliach*.

A high school teacher by training with a Master's degree in counselling from the American University in Washington, D.C., Gur worked with new *olim* in Israel from 1990 to 1995. She spent two years as director of ulpans in Petach Tikvah and three as supervisor and inspector of some 250 ulpans in Israel's central region including Tel Aviv.

In the latter position, she established workplace ulpans, in an innovative project she refers to as her "baby."

Gur's husband, Baruch, now a special emissary for United Jewish Appeal, began working with Soviet Jews in the 1960s. "I've been married 27 years; I was always in this atmosphere of Jews that came to Israel," says Miri.

For prospective olim who seek the new *shlichah's* advice, Gur recommends a pilot trip. Her office, with the help of an affiliated "job developer" in Israel, can assist in arranging job interviews.

"Everything starts and finishes with a job," she says. "If you have a job, you have a normal life."

Even so, she is particularly careful about assessing the needs of people who want to make aliyah because of job prospects in Israel. "Maybe it will be better in Israel, however, when people are going as immigrants they have to consider the whole picture. Life in Israel is different from here. We have security problems. You have to really want to go and live in another country with everything that comes with it."

"It's important for the Jewish community to know what real life is in Israel. I would think it makes them even more Jewish. Even if you're not religious in Israel, you are very Jewish in your being. You live a Jewish life."

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Greater Toronto Area

Kirshblum celebrates 30 years as shul's cantor

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – In his 30-year career at Adath Israel Congregation, Cantor Eli Kirshblum has overseen hundreds of singers – children, teens and adults – who made up his choirs. Of those alumni, six have followed in Kirshblum's footsteps and are serving as cantors at other congregations in North America.

Cantor Kirshblum

This weekend, the 59-year-old cantor will be honored at Adath Israel on Shabbat morning, when Cantor David Bagley will be guest cantor, and on Sunday night, when the Toronto Council of Hazzanim will present a gala cantorial concert.

Featured guest cantors at the concert will include Tibor Kelen of New York City, Ben Zion Miller of New York City, Yaacov Motzen of Montreal and Israel Rand of Ramat Gan, Israel. Local cantors David Bagley, Louis Danto, Paul Kowarsky, Yehudah Rottner, Efraim Sapir and Benjamin Maissner will also appear.

A former president of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim, which includes Orthodox, Conservative and Reform cantors, lyric tenor Kirshblum is equally at home in the world of Jewish education. With a master's degree in education, and cantorial training by the late Cantor David Koussevitsky, he could have pursued a career in either field and had already begun PhD studies in education when he was offered the position at Adath Israel.

He left his graduate studies behind to move here from his native New York, but reconnected formally to the world of Jewish education in 1975, when he became educational director of Adath Israel's congregational school.

Kirshblum laments the decline of traditional chazzanut in North America, but says "the problem lies "as much with us as professionals as with the community in general."

He believes there has to be opportunity for congregant participation in a service and is a strong proponent of choirs, which are "almost entirely passe" in the United States, to his displeasure.

Kirshblum's professional choir sings every Shabbat from September to June. The choir is enlarged by three volunteer choirs – teen, adult and children's – five times a year.

Kirshblum includes female soloists in his choirs, but sees female cantors as violating halachah. He was one of at least 10 Conservative cantors in Ontario who broke away from the movement's Cantor's Assembly following their 1991 decision to admit women.

"A chazzan is a *shaliach tzibur* [emissary of the congregation]," says Kirshblum. "There are specific parts of the liturgy which by tradition a woman cannot lead. The parts she is given as a solo [in the choir] do not violate the law."

Choirs, he says, brings participants closer to the synagogue. "From these groups come future rabbis and cantors."

Cantor Gary Zener of Calgary's Beth Tzedec Congregation, an alumnus of Kirshblum's choir, credits Kirshblum for inspiring his own career. "He is a chazzan's chazzan," wrote Zener in a recent letter.

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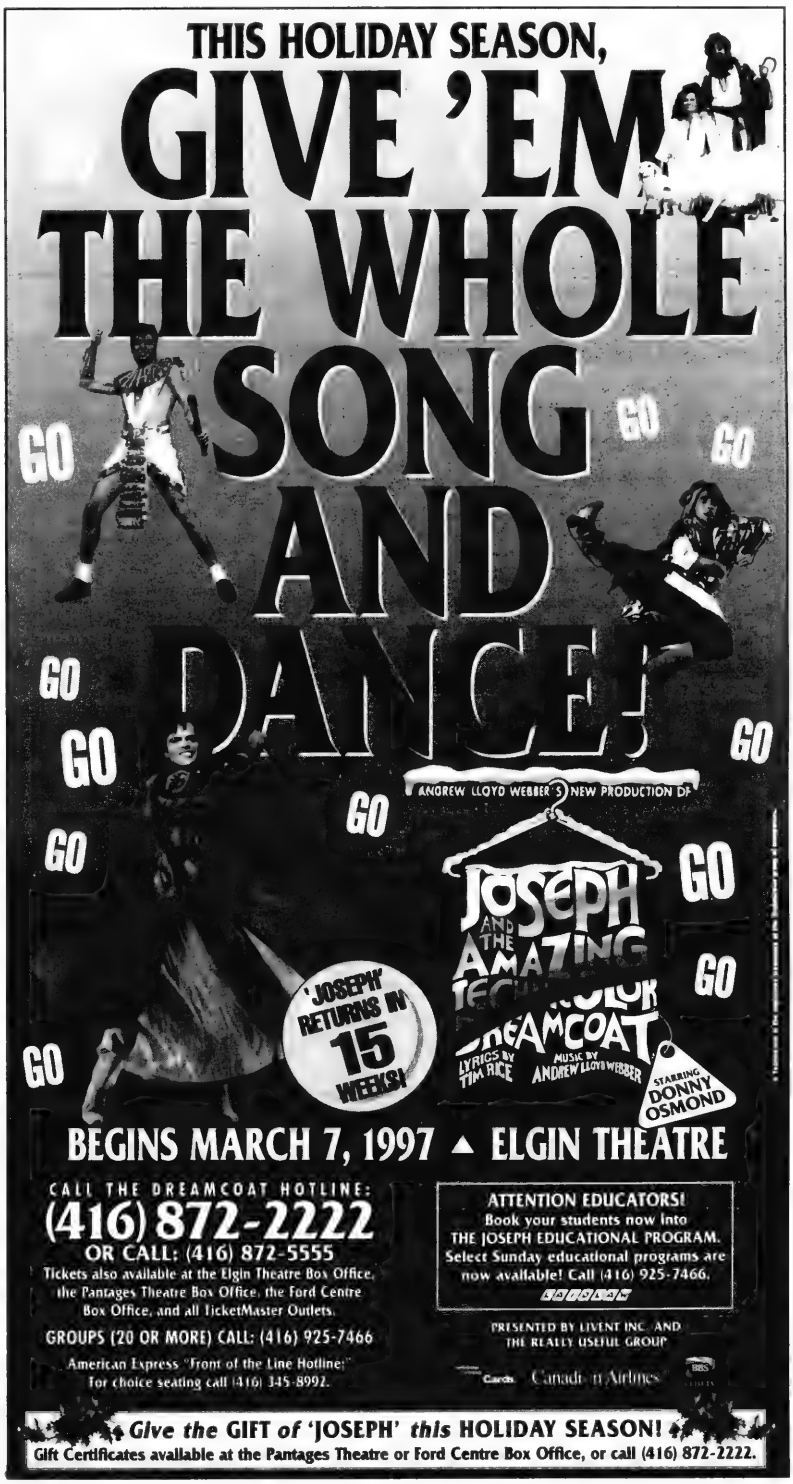
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BOYS TOWN HONORS LESLIE DAN

Boys Town Jerusalem last week paid tribute to Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan by awarding him the Jan Zwartendijk Humanitarian Ethics and Values Award. From left, Dr. Michael Berenbaum, director of research at the United States Holocaust Memorial; Michael J. Scharf, national president, Boys Town Jerusalem Foundation; Leslie Dan; and Rabbi Ronald Gray, executive vice-president, Boys Town Jerusalem Foundation. The award is named for the little-known Dutch honorary consul in Kovno, Poland, who issued exit visas to Curacao to 2,200 Jews, many of them Torah scholars, during the Holocaust. There is now an effort underway to have Zwartendijk officially recognized as a Righteous Gentile. Founded in 1949, Boys Town Jerusalem provides academic, religious and technical education to over 1,000 students from troubled and impoverished backgrounds. [Randy Zelcer photo]

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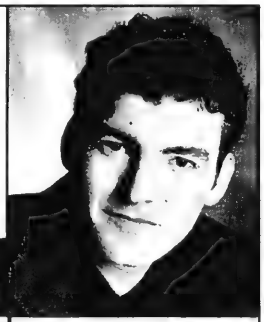

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How safe is blood supply?

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Canada's blood supply is as safe as it possibly can be, says the head of infectious diseases at Toronto Hospital, General Division.

"Contracting the HIV virus from a blood transfusion is getting a lot more publicity than it deserves. With testing, there is now a one in 250,000 chance of being infected," says Irving Salit.

Salit will form part of a public forum to be held on Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Congregation. Entitled How Safe is Our Blood?, the program is co-sponsored by the AIDS committees of Holy Blossom Temple, Beth David Synagogue and Beth Tzedec.

Forum members will include Beth Tzedec's Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl; Dr. Roslyn Herst, a medical officer of the Canadian Red Cross, Toronto Centre; Dr. Alan Powell, founder, Hepatitis C Survivors Society; John Plater, Toronto and Central Ontario Region Hemophilia Society; R. Douglas Elliott, lead counsel for the Canadian AIDS Society; and Lynn Kampf, who tests HIV-positive. Moderator will be Dr. Brian Goldman of CBC's *The Health Show*.

Salit says there are about a dozen fairly common things that can potentially be transmitted through blood transfusions, including regular bacteria, malaria and syphilis. But most people are concerned about the transmission of viruses like hepatitis or HIV.

"Nothing is 100 percent safe – there is always something that can slip through. The risk, however, is very low," he says.

When faced with a possible blood transfusion, says Salit, one must balance one risk against another.

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Greater Toronto Area

Instilling pride for 25 years

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – There is no reason why people who are mentally handicapped should not enjoy many of the same things that everyone else does, asserts Suzanne Agasee.

This is not just an idealistic sentiment for Agasee. Since its founding 25 years ago, she has been associated with the Kadima Centre, a social, recreational and educational centre for mentally handicapped people 18 years of age and up, which meets at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

"We just lost our oldest member," Agasee told *The CJN* in an interview in her Downsview home. "He was 80."

Participants can come for the Tuesday Supper Club, which meets every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:30. For a nominal $6.00, they get a nutritious meal and a program. On Sundays from 2 to 4, there are different events, such as movies ("They really loved *The Bear*," Agasee said), bowling or other sports.

There is a glee club and special programming for holidays – a mothers' day dance, a model seder, Purim and Chanukah parties, and a fathers' day barbecue.

As well, the group goes on special trips to places such as Canada's Wonderland, the Science Centre, the Zoo and baseball games.

"We are so grateful for the volunteers who help us, especially the Leonard Mayzell Lodge of B'nai Brith, and the Sons of Jacob, Shalom Lodge."

When Agasee decided to return to the workforce after her children were born, she began to work with the Metropolitan Toronto Association for the Mentally Retarded (now called the Metropolitan Toronto Association for Community Living) in nursery schools.

Twenty-five years ago, when Rabbi Joseph Kelman of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation and a group of parents agitated for somenlace for their handicapped

:n to go, Agasee joined them
olunteer. Thirteen years ago,
:came Kadima supervisor.

/erything we do instils pride and confidence," she said.

For instance, after seeing a performance by the Famous People Players, they sold buttons to help them raise funds. "They felt they were contributing to the community – not just taking from it."

When asked how she got involved with Kadima, the atmosphere changed, as she told about her own life. "I was born in France,"

Suzanne Agasee (in hat and sunglasses) rests with a group of Kadima members at Canada's Wonderland.

she said, then added almost, but not quite, matter-of-factly, "When I was two, [the Nazis] took my parents away, first to Drancy, then to Auschwitz. I never saw them again."

She and her brothers were taken by the underground and hidden with a Catholic family during the war. Later, they were sent to an orphanage, until they were brought to Canada, as part of the contingent of over 1,000 orphans rescued by Canadian Jewish Congress.

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ProMontreal makes a difference for Quebec's young Jews

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – The referendum and all the events that have followed, from matzhahgate to the recent Roux affair, have made ProMontreal's task as tough as it's ever been.

ProMontreal was launched by FEDERATION CJA in the spring of 1992, with one main agenda: to give Montreal's young adults an incentive to work and thrive in a Jewish community unique in the world.

Leaders of ProMontreal, such as co-chair Robert Zittrer and founder Susan Levine, point to its successes that have earned its attention and inspired similar initiatives worldwide, including its much-imitated and award-winning *In Montreal* magazine, the Contact ProMontreal career-find program for recent graduates, and a range of other social and community-related activities.

Yet they also acknowledge that Quebec's unprecedented level of political uncertainty, the perception of the Parti Québécois government as increasingly hostile towards ethnic groups, and the incidents involving the Jewish community in particular, have not made their job any easier.

For all its success, it's also no secret that the community is facing a stepped-up outflow of its most mobile segment – its young.

Zittrer and other Pro-Montreal leaders are sometimes even confronted by parents who say the group is doing younger Jews a disservice by encouraging them to stay in a place where they, at least in these parents' view, have no future.

> *'There is a quality of life here you can't duplicate'*

For Zittrer and Levine, interviewed recently by *The CJN*, this is a completely false depiction of what ProMontreal has been about.

While ProMontreal has been about giving younger Jews reasons to stay in Quebec and live committed Jewish and Jewish community lives, they said, it has never been about leading people on or giving a false picture of the Quebec reality.

"We are not propagandists," Zittrer said. "If people decide to leave, we want them to know what they're leaving, what they're giving up, based on the facts.

"People have been under a lot of stress and strain, but the reality is that whatever the problems, there is a quality of life here that you can't duplicate. We are here for people who choose to stay."

If anything, Levine and Zittrer said, ProMontreal's record points to high levels of youth involvement in the Jewish community, in all capacities, and the community malaise has only served to convince FEDERATION CJA and ProMontreal to redouble its efforts.

It is expected, for example, that ProMontreal will become a permanent part of the federation's structure (and budget), instead of being classified as a special program. With a predicted annual budget of at least $300,000 it will also be an obvious priority.

Levine and Zittrer also pointed to several facts that they feel give a more balanced, and accurate, picture of the situation here, despite the recognized problems:

- The level of enrolment in Jewish day schools is up, meaning that younger Jewish families, including a new generation of immigrants, are indeed planting roots here.
- Student Federation, a pilot project of ProMontreal launched in the fall of 1992 and aimed at 18 to 25-year-olds, has mushroomed to over 3,300 members and is involved in all aspects of community life.
- ProMontreal's social interaction committee includes representation from 20 burgeoning young adults groups, ranging from Israel-based organizations like Alliance Weizmann and Israel Bonds, to YAD, Camp B'nai Brith, the Communauté Sépharade du Québec and the Sephardic Education Centre.
- The much-emulated *In Montreal* will continue to be a ProMontreal centrepiece, with plans including a resource guide. ProMontreal itself is also gearing towards a spring "young adult fair" and planning to launch a hotline that would serve as a sort of one-stop shopping number for young adult group activities.
- Campaign revenues from the younger generation are way up and young adults continue to come to ProMontreal programs.

If there appears to be one message Levine and Zittrer want to get across, it is that the Jewish community will maintain its "concerted effort to reach its young."

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From coast to coast

Federal government discloses case against suspected Nazis

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – On paper, the words take on an almost sanitized air.

Yet, these same words are hardly innocuous for the first two Quebecers the federal government is seeking to strip of Canadian citizenship and deport for covering up their alleged involvement in wartime atrocities.

The details of mass murder and cruel brutality, as well as the allegations of false representations the documents contain, will comprise the weight of evidence against Vladimir Katriuk, 75, and Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, 81, when their hearings come up in Federal Court next spring.

In the same court recently, government lawyers filed a wealth of material – including substantiating documentation and lists of possible witnesses from several countries – to prove its claim that each man should no longer have the legal right to call himself Canadian and should be expelled to the countries from which they came.

Both men have denied the allegations and are fighting their deportations.

Essentially, the documents say that the Hungarian-born Csizsik-Csatary (a former resident of NDG who moved earlier this year to Toronto), while an officer with the Royal Hungarian Police stationed in German-occupied Kassa, Hungary (now Kosice in the Slovak Republic), participated in the round-up of its ghettoized Jews for their deportation to Auschwitz and other concentration camps in the spring of 1944.

"For at least two transports," the government alleges, "the Respondent (Csizsik-Casatary) was present for the embarkation, checking the Jews' names on a list."

Furthermore, "The Respondent has admitted that he was present on one occasion during the loading of Jews onto trains bound for the concentration camps."

In 1947, a "People's Court" in Kosice (formerly Kassa) issued a warrant for Csizsik-Casatary's arrest for crimes related to his collaboration in the "confinement and mistreatment of Jews and their deportation to Auschwitz." He was tried in absentia , convicted, and sentenced to death in June 1948.

Katriuk, a beekeeper who lives in the Rosemont area of Montreal but spends most of his time in his country home in Ormstown, is being accused of having committed actual atrocities in 1942 and 1943 against civilians while serving as an SS squad leader with the notorious Schutzmannschaft no. 118.

The government alleges that Katriuk, who was born in Lujani, Romania (now part of the Ukraine) but claimed Yugoslavia as his birthplace, was a member of the SS battalion when it committed numerous mass murders of civilian and Jewish populations in various parts of the Ukraine and Belorussia.

"The Respondent participated in operations involving his battalions in Chmelevichi, Guba, Khatyn, Veleika and Osovy," the government alleges.

"During these operations, over 100 civilians were killed, mostly old people and children, and numerous homes were set on fire. In many cases, civilians died after being trapped in their burning structures."

Through the spring and summer of 1943, the government further says, Katriuk was a member of the same SS battalion, then part of a larger Kampfrugruppe Gottberg SS unit, when it killed thousands of innocent civilions, including 33,000 in Minsk. One-third of them were Jews.

According to a 1987 Tass report, Katriuk was also tried in absentia and found to be the commander of a death squad.

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From coast to coast

Education in two religions incongruent: CCRJ

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – Children of interfaith couples should no longer be allowed to enrol in the Reform movement's day or supplementary schools or participate in life cycle events like bnei mitzvot, if they are also receiving formal education in another religion, the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) resolved at its recent 20th biennial convention.

The resolution, similar to one adopted by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), sparked the most debate and was passed by a vote of 39-12.

The CCRJ will encourage its 24 member congregations "in the strongest possible way" to adopt this policy.

Educating children in both Judaism and another religion, as some parents wish, is "incongruent with the mission of Reform schools... Without diminishing rights of parents in determining the religious education of their children, our Reform religious schools must, nevertheless, insist on fulfilling the purpose of making committed adult Jews out of Jewish children," the resolution states.

The movement will continue to encourage intermarried couples to send their children to Reform schools and to study for bar/bat mitzvah, but only if they have decided to raise them as Jews "exclusively."

Some intermarrieds are now educating their children in both parents' religions, a situation which the CCRJ finds insupportable. "It is theologically inconsistent for a person to identify as both Jewish and Christian (or as an adherent of any other religion)," it says, and such a psychological burden on children that it may "imperil their healthy spiritual development."

Judy Wubnig of Kitchener's Temple Shalom objected, saying the policy was "restrictive and narrow-minded. "If parents want to teach their children two religions, it's their business."

Dave Abbey protested that the Temple Beth Tikvah school in Regina only has four students now. Other objectors felt the issue should be left up to the school boards on a case basis, or that it is wrong to "close the door" on those who want to learn about their heritage.

Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz of Hamilton's Temple Anshe Sholom also wanted the resolution tabled, not because he was opposed, but because it had already been adopted by the UAHC, of which the CCRJ is a region, and a negative vote would only put Canadian congregations "out of step," while a vote for would "only aggravate those against it."

A resolution on "inclusion of gays and lesbians" was amended, at the suggestion of Abbey, to include a clause requesting Reform rabbis in Canada to "study the question of same-sex marriages or commitment ceremonies to provide us with guidelines as to what Judaism offers gay and lesbian Jews." The resolution passed by a majority.

Rabbi John Moscowitz of Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple later said the matter is already under discussion, but no consensus has been reached. "There are strong feelings on both sides within the rabbinate."

Elsewhere, the resolution called on member congregations to encourage the "full inclusion and participation of gay and lesbian Jews in all aspects of synagogue life and to continue advocacy to gain equality in civil and legal rights for gays and lesbians in Canada."

The CCRJ also strongly stated its opposition to a bill before the Knesset that it says will "severely restrict" the ability of non-Orthodox converts to make aliyah.

The CCRJ says such a law will harm the relationship between Israel and the Diaspora and is a "contradiction of Israel's own basic values of equality, freedom of religion and conscience."

The bill would make no conversion legal unless it received the approval of "the highest religious court in Israel of the religion to which the aforementioned wishes to join."

The CCRJ thinks this amounts to forcing prospective olim to seek the approval of the Chief Rabbinate. "If the conversion document is not signed by Orthodox authorities, the request would most certainly be denied," according to the CCRJ.

About 200 delegates attended the convention of the CCRJ which represents 8,800 Reform Jewish families.

Art Benjamin of Toronto was elected CCRJ president, succeeding Charlie Rothschild of Waterloo.

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From coast to coast

Loftus looks at Nazi war criminals in Canada

By MOURA WOLPERT
Special to The CJN

HAMILTON – "American and Canadian Jews don't have a clue about their own history," said attorney John Loftus, a former prosecutor with the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations and author of *The Secret War Against the Jews.*

Loftus was the guest speaker at a recent State of Israel Bonds-B'nai Brith Hamilton breakfast at Temple Anshe Sholom, where the honoree was Sheldon Frank, former United Jewish Appeal (UJA) chair and president of A.J. Frank & Son, Inc. Frank Pipe Company.

Appointed by the Jimmy Carter administration to find and prosecute Nazis living in the United States, Loftus later resigned, he said, when he discovered that the people he was supposed to prosecute were working for NATO intelligence.

Charging that war criminals had been shipped by Britain to Argentina, Canada and Australia, Loftus noted that "second to Argentina, Canada has the largest number of war criminals

Loftus spoke of how, during the 1948 War of Independence, "when no country in the world would sell arms to Israel," British newspaper tycoon, Robert Maxwell, spied for the Soviet bloc in Britain in exchange for Czechoslovak arms for Israel.

"Oil is more important." Loftus declared "The bottom line is to keep Arabs happy."

But "Israel has won," he said. "Israel is strong and American and Canadian Jews are the strongest."

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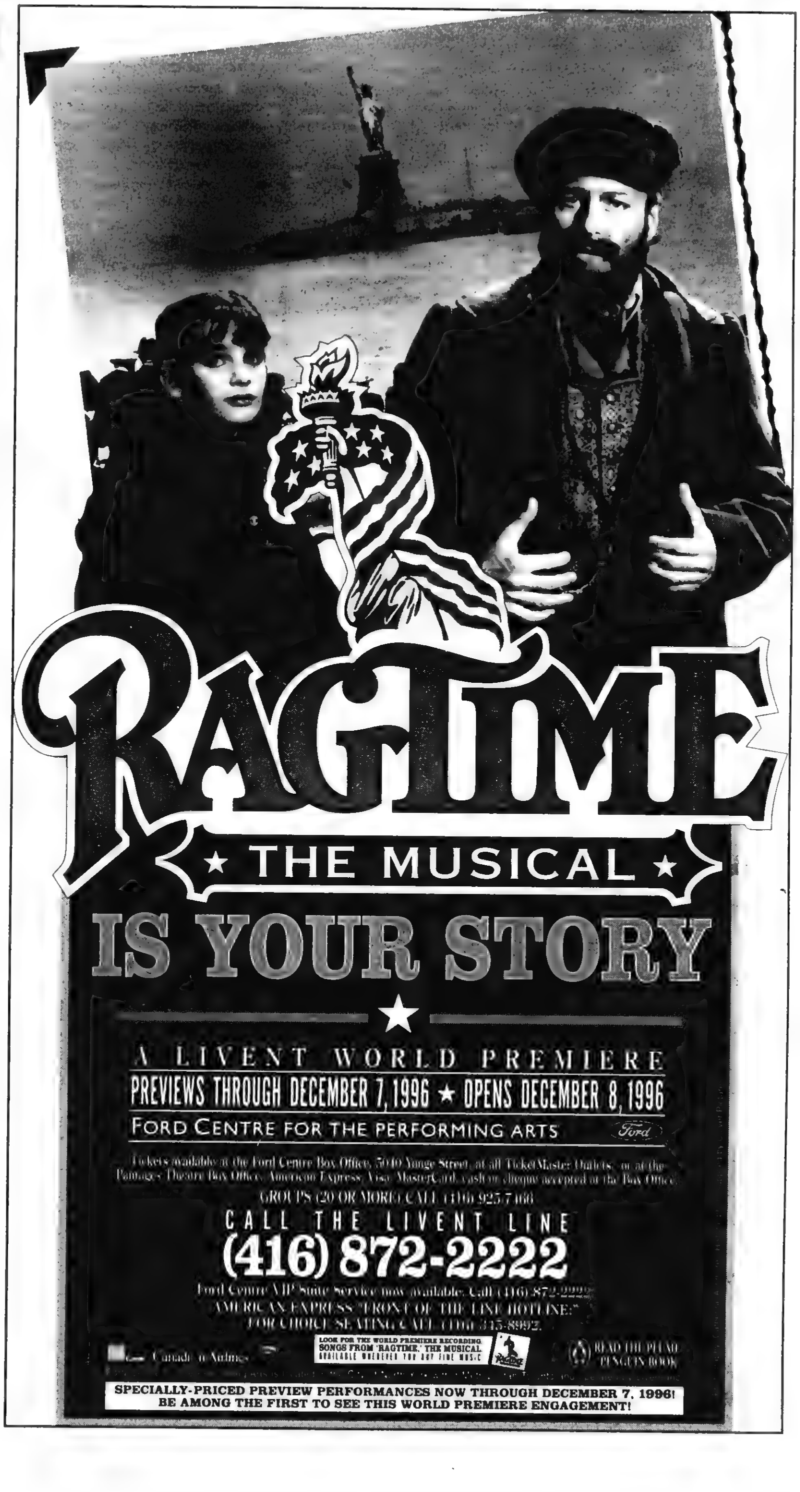

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Levy to visit Canada

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy is scheduled to pay an official visit to Canada next month as part of a heightened effort by Israel and Canada to "expand their relationship," newly arrived Israeli ambassador David Sultan announced here last week.

Sultan, speaking at a local reception to welcome him and his wife, Adina, to Canada, said the visit by Levy will include the signing of a planned agreement on cultural exchanges. Sultan did not specify the exact date

Levy will be in Canada just before the two countries' Free Trade Agreement (FTA) goes into effect.

As a sign of the improved ties between Israel and Canada, Sultan said Levy's visit may well be followed by a reciprocal trip to Israel by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, and by mutual "exchange" visits by delegations from each country's parliament.

As well, Sultan said, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will be seeing each other at a future meeting of world leaders in Portugal.

All these elements, Sultan suggested, are signs that Canada and Israel are in the process of nurturing their relationship.

"In short, prospects are good," Sultan said. "There is a new era in the relationship between the two countries," a sentiment he said was also echoed by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc upon accepting Sultan's credentials in Ottawa.

Sultan said the enhanced relationship will also include an intention to "intensify the political dialogue" with the Canadian government vis-a-vis the Middle East peace process.

Sultan said he hoped to see trade with Canada double to the $1 billion level by the year 2000.

He described as a priority the need to increase the level of political dialogue between Israel and Canada.

Sultan, whose previous posting was in Cairo, has already found the Canadian Jewish community's "warm and receptive" welcoming of him "beyond expectations."

Israeli tourist drowns in Lake Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – Israeli metal worker Mihai Scintee's first visit to Manitoba came to a quick and tragic end in the waters of Lake Winnipeg on Sunday, Oct. 20.

Originally from Romania, Scintee immigrated to Israel five years ago after the fall of Communism in his native land, and married the sister of an Israeli living in Winnipeg.

Scintee and his wife arrived in Winnipeg from Calgary on Oct. 19 and went with his in-laws to a cottage on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Sunday dawned beautifully and Scintee decided to borrow his brother-in-law's red canoe to go fishing.

When Scintee hadn't returned by 2:30, his brother-in-law set off to look for him. After two hours of searching for any sight of the red canoe or Scintee's bright red jacket, he went to the local RCMP station to report Scintee missing. He claims that the lone RCMP officer on duty sloughed him off.

(RCMP Staff Sargent Ken Allen reports that the matter is being "reviewed" by area managers.)

A friend directed the brother-in-law to the Coast Guard, which organized a search. Scintee's body was found by a local fisherman at 3:00 A.M. tangled in some netting.

Scintee's brother-in-law thinks his visitor suffered a heart attack when he hit the water. "We will never be sure exactly what happened," the relative says. "He no doubt lost his balance somehow. He was a strong swimmer though – he was in the Romanian navy for four years – and he was still wearing his lifejacket and his boots when he was found. If he were conscious, he would have kicked off the boots to try and swim. The water wasn't cold enough for hypothermia."

Scintee's body was flown to his home town in Romania for burial according to the wishes of his son from a previous marriage who still lives in Romania. Burial took place Nov. 13.

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From coast to coast

Canada Roundup

Multiculturalism Report

VANCOUVER – More media coverage of the benefits of pluralism and multiculturalism programs and policies in Canada should be encouraged by the federal government, says an 80-page report evaluating multiculturalism.

The report commissioned by the corporate review branch of the Department of Heritage and compiled by Brighton Research was released to *The CJN* by Multiculturalism Minister Hedy Fry, a Vancouver MP. It was issued to mark the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of a Canadian multiculturalism policy by then prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

Despite restrictions on the federal government's direct involvement in education, the report suggests there is a range of activities open to government in this field, such as curriculum materials which cover Canadian citizenship, human rights and public issues.

The report proposes that direct funding of ethno-specific organizations should not continue in its present form. Activities carried out under the banner of multiculturalism should be conducted directly by public organizations "that shape the life of Canadians," rather than through institutions or agencies representing sub-groups, as at present. The Department of Heritage should be a clearing house for organizations seeking government support. – **Maurice Lucow**

Jewish School to Host Farewell Reunion

WINNIPEG – With the consolidation of private Jewish education at a campus in south Winnipeg planned for next September and the resulting turmoil in the north Winnipeg Jewish community, the parallel closing of south Winnipeg's elementary Ramah Hebrew School has received little notice.

Under the co-chairmanship of 1969 Ramah graduates Shelley Werner and Marcia Cosman, the school is hosting its own farewell celebration and reunion on the weekend of April 19 and 20 for all alumni and anyone who has ever been involved with the school.

Ramah grew out of the Shaarey Zedek night school program. It was moved to its present site in 1958.

Cosman says organizers are expecting more than 500 people to attend the farewell reunion. She notes that the event is also a fundraiser for a new Ramah Judaica Collection, with funds going toward buying Jewish books, resource materials for teachers, computer software, games, puzzles and music. – **Myron Love**

News and Schmooze

HALIFAX – *News and Schmooze*, a half-hour radio program of interest to Jewish students and the wider Jewish community, has debuted on CKDU, Dalhousie University's low-watt radio station.

Host Viva Press, a Dalhousie student, and member of the Atlantic Canada Jewish Students Federation (AJSF), says the news and music show, with six programs already on air, highlights Jewish issues and offers interviews with local Jewish leaders. She is also programmer and technician.

"It takes a while to produce this show. I spend an hour downloading information from the Internet to use in the news segments (Jewish news from the local area, Canada and Israel), and a couple of hours to put the whole show together. We've done a show on Kristallnacht and interviews with people in the Halifax-area community, like Jon Goldberg (Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) executive director), Yakov Feig (AJC programmer), Erin Sperling (AJSF president), and Rabbi Mendel Feldman of the Chabad Lubavitch congregation.

Press, a columnist with *The Canadian Jewish News*, says she started the program, which airs Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., "because there are three Arab programs on the station now. It is important to have balance."

She laughs and says, "People at the station love the music," which includes the Habonim Youth Choir of Toronto and Winnipeg's Finjan.

A program of Jewish interest aired Sunday mornings for two years on CKDU in the early 1990s, hosted by Doreen Gordon of Halifax. – **Joel Jacobson**

JNF Education Shaliach Completes Tour

VANCOUVER – Itzhak Efron, eduction *shaliach* for the Jewish National Fund (JNF) in Canada, has just completed a 29-day tour of Jewish education facilities in Western Canada. The tour wound up in Vancouver and Victoria.

In a statement to *The CJN*, Efron said he met with teachers, educators and boards to distribute materials and he held workshops to discuss how to blend JNF material into school curricula.

"The next two years," he said, "are very significant in modern Jewish history. In 1997, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress in Basel and in 1998, we mark the 50th anniversary of *Medinat Yisrael*." – **Maurice Lucow**

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From coast to coast

Court slams bid for publicly-funded day schools

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Supreme Court said rights to public funding of religious education are limited to those who enjoyed them at the time of Confederation.

The court also ruled 7-2 against the provision of publicly-funded health care services at private and independent schools.

Pledging that the battle isn't over, Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's Ontario region, told a news conference that the next step is "to dance the political dance with the government" and continue to press for funding. "Perhaps this is the right time for the government to look at eliminating this inequity by including in its reforms a correction."

That may not be as unlikely as it seems from a Tory government intent on cost-cutting. Last week, Ontario Education Minister John Snobelin said he "is willing to talk" about funding private and independent schools, once other priorities are squared away. "I have met with them in the past. I will meet with them in the future and we will discuss the historic grievances they have," Snobelin told reporters following announcement of the court's decision. "I believe it warrants special consideration, but I don't have a solution."

For many, the court ruling was a bitter letdown. Susie Adler, one of the parents who petitioned the courts and after whom the case has come to be known, told reporters she was "terribly disappointed and somewhat stunned by the inequity that continues in this province. The situation is morally wrong." Adler's two children attend Bialik Hebrew Day School at a combined annual cost of over $14,000.

Henry Koschitzky, chair of the Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education, said the Jewish community "held out hope that our highest court would recognize the glaring inequality of government fully funding one religious school system to the exclusion of all others. Sadly, this did not occur, and the message religious minorities take home is that here in Ontario, all are equal, but some are more equal than others.

"We hoped at the very least that the court would have placed independent and religious schools on an equal footing with public and separate schools in the area of health support services. For students with physical disabilities, the decision is a double blow."

Despite having exhausted all legal avenues, the battle "is far from over," Koschitzky pledged, adding that the community "takes heart" in Snobelin's recent statements.

Representatives of the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools used somewhat stronger language, saying the Supreme Court has "established secularism as the national creed, beyond the reach of the Charter. Students attending religious-based schools will continue to be treated as second-class citizens, both in education and health care. We believe this is shameful discrimination."

Ed Morgan, the lawyer who represented the five Jewish parents before the Supreme Court, said he hopes Ontario will follow the example of six Canadian provinces which fund private and independent schools to varying degrees.

In the meantime, Anne Bayefsky, an expert in international law, told *The CJN* she believes Ontario's current funding structure "clearly violates" international conventions.

In a little-noticed development last February, Toronto parent Arieh Waldman took the funding case to the United Nations Human Rights Committee, arguing Canada has violated international law because Ontario does not fund its religious schools on an equal basis.

Bayefsky said the UN is not bound by Canada's Constitution, and she feels Ontario will be found to have violated human rights laws. "It may take a few years, but it will happen."

She pointed out that on at least one occasion, Canadian law was changed after the UN found that Canada had breached international human rights agreements.

Schools funded outside Ontario

Alberta: Accredited private schools receive about 35 percent of the cost of education – between $1,620 and $1,880 per student per year.

British Columbia: Most private schools receive funding varying from 35 percent to 50 percent of operating costs.

Manitoba: Per-pupil grants in the private system amount to 63 percent of those in public schools. Other funding, such as Resource Grants and Textbook Grants, are also in place. Public schools may also share transport, resources, facilities and health services with independent schools.

Newfoundland: All school systems – public and denominational – are equally funded.

Quebec: On average, the provincial grant at private elementary, secondary and collegial levels is about 62 percent of the cost for the same level in the public schools.

Saskatchewan: Eight private high schools receive funds amounting to 55 percent of grants to public schools, and 20 percent of the cost of any capital project.

Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and **Prince Edward Island:** No direct support of independent/private schools. In Ontario, private schools are exempt from paying tax on their properties.

– *Ron Csillag*

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Israel denies report it plans to expand Golan settlements

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – The Israeli government has denied reports that it approved plans for the construction of new settlements on the Golan Heights.

"There is no approval for the construction of new communities," said a statement from the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"Any step to build a new community requires a decision by the government, and no discussion of this sort is imminent."

The denial came after the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot* reported on the planned construction of some 900 housing units in three new Golan settlements.

According to the newspaper, lands were already being prepared for construction by Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, with the knowledge of Netanyahu.

The paper said the project was the initiative of the Golan regional council, which set a goal of adding 2,500 new homes on the Golan by the year 2000.

Golan council leaders said that after the initial reports, they were inundated with calls from dozens of young couples who were interested in the project, which would enable them to build sizeable homes with the help of attractive government grants and loans.

Syria's official press reacted sharply to the reports, accusing Israel of pushing the region toward war.

The state-run *Tishrin* daily said, "Israel's moves to build more settlements and to bring thousands of Israelis to the Golan shows that Israel, under Netanyahu and the extremist rabbis and generals, is deliberately trying to escalate tension in the region."

Syria has demanded the full return of the Golan Heights as a condition for a peace treaty with Israel.

Argentine police on alert to prevent neo-Nazi summit

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUENOS AIRES – Police in southern Argentina spent last weekend cordoning off roads in an attempt to prevent a clandestine gathering of neo-Nazis.

Security officials in the southern Argentine province of La Pampa went on high alert after large signs were posted hailing the "Nazi Summit of the Americas" and inviting locals to receive the "new Fuhrer."

A local judge, Maria Garcia, initiated an investigation into who hung those signs as well as flags bearing swastikas. She then ordered area police to prevent the militants from meeting.

Authorities would not say which group called for the gathering.

But an official with the local branch of the Argentine Intelligence Secretariat said it suspected "an Argentine group with strong contacts with neo-Nazi organizations in Chile, Brazil and the United States."

Police also were apparently searching for neo-Nazis at isolated ranches. No arrests were reported.

The La Pampa office of DAIA, the Argentine Jewish umbrella organization, received "full guarantees" from the local government that the police "will prevent the meeting from taking place."

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This Journey Lasts A Lifetime

Budget cuts won't reduce military strength: IDF

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – There will be no reduction in the armed forces' fighting capability next year, despite the cuts agreed to by the military and the government, senior IDF officers said last week.

The 1997 budget already has been decided and will contain an NIS 825-million cut, the officers said during a briefing for journalists in Tel Aviv.

"We will not get involved in arguments with the Finance Ministry," said one officer. "The only issue on the table is Israel's security needs, and that means the size of the army and the extent of its activities."

The 1997 Defence Ministry budget stands at NIS 30.45 billion, some of which will go to non-IDF activities.

The IDF still is considering an increase in its spending on war preparation and standing security, despite the cuts. The cuts, it says, will have to come in other areas.

One of the largest savings will come when Rafael, the Armaments Development Authority, becomes a government company. Currently a wing of the IDF, Rafael has accrued a deficit of more than NIS 1b., much of which is met with IDF funds. The IDF also is interested in transferring the Merkava tank-parts production line into government control or the private sector.

The Treasury has agreed that an additional budget cut of NIS 2b., likely to be added to the total NIS 4.9b. currently being discussed in the Knesset, would not fall on the defence establishment, one officer said.

"The size of the IDF today is just enough to allow us to defend the country. However, I would feel far more relaxed if we had a larger stockpile of equipment," the officer said.

In stressing the steps taken by the IDF to economize, officers listed a variety of measures, including slowing the promotion process, reducing the number of hours spent in training and scaling down the amount of food distributed at breakfast and in the evening.

The IDF intends taking a close look at the wage structure of its permanent staff, where it says there are numerous discrepancies, such as senior doctors earning more than military personnel of the same rank.

WJC seeks Polish restitution

[Cont'd. from page 1]

small remaining Jewish communities in Poland.

Agreements to this effect have been negotiated in recent months with the governments of Hungary and Slovakia. Romania and Latvia have also expressed readiness to enter into relationships with a similar foundation.

Cimoszewicz's letter came in response to a memorandum from the World Federation of Polish Jews and the Association of Polish Jews in Israel.

It also came after Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski told Jewish leaders in New York during the summer that he looked forward to working with world Jewish groups on the restitution issue.

The organizations submitted the memorandum to the head of the Polish council of ministers, Leszek Miller, after his recent visit to Israel and his meeting there with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The memorandum demanded that legislation now moving through the Polish parliament be amended to include mention that the restitution will be made to the foundation.

Cimoszewicz ignored this demand in his reply.

Instead, he said that the existing Polish Jewish communities are "the only competent body in Poland to represent Jewish religious interests and to act as heir for the communal properties."

He wrote that there are nine such communities.

But Naphtali Lau-Levi, deputy chair of the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO), a spinoff of the WJC, said in an interview that six of the nine supported communities are "in effect fictitious."

He said the prime minister's position effectively held Poland's Jews, most of whom are elderly, for "ransom."

The prime minister's letter said restitution would cover 1,000 cemeteries, 228 synagogues, 70 prayer houses and several dozen other communal buildings.

Lau-Levi said this was a vast underestimation of the total property, adding that the WJRO's records indicate that there are alone 7,000 synagogues to be covered in a future restitution arrangement.

Some 3.5 million Polish Jews perished in the Holocaust. According to the WJC, there are now some 8,000 Jews in Poland.

Meanwhile, Swiss government and banking officials are said to be ready to come up with a sizeable restitution sum even before the conclusion of ongoing investigations into the extent of unclaimed Jewish assets still being held in unnumbered Swiss bank accounts.

Their readiness to move on the issue comes after the WJC and U.S. officials have launched a steady barrage of accusations that Swiss banks have hidden behind their secrecy laws in an effort to block the return of assets belonging to Holocaust survivors or their heirs.

It also comes after the WJC unearthed a series of recently declassified documents that it says proves that Switzerland, far from being neutral during the war, helped finance Hitler's war effort by laundering money for Nazi Germany.

In the wake of its disclosures, the WJC has called on Switzerland to make a full accounting of its financial role during the war.

Earlier this month, a probe by Swiss banks reported that it found little more than $8,000 (US) in unclaimed accounts possibly belonging to Holocaust victims.

Jewish officials counter that the total could reach into the billions.

Informed sources here said they expect ongoing informal negotiations with Jewish leaders to result in a "without prejudice" interim settlement by the Swiss government and banks early in 1997.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Seven Israelis missing in Ethiopian airliner crash

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Seven Israeli passengers on the hijacked Ethiopian airliner that crashed last Saturday are still missing.

The Boeing 767, with 175 people aboard, cartwheeled into the Indian Ocean as the pilot, struggling with three hijackers, tried to bring it down off a beach after it had run out of fuel. Officials said 52 people survived the crash.

One of the hijackers was thought to have died in the crash. The other two survived and were arrested.

Members of the Israeli task force that landed Sunday afternoon at Moroni, near the site of the crash, dispersed immediately on different missions, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said Sunday night.

The only confirmed Israeli survivor, 23-year-old Lior Fuchs, was released from hospital Sunday, Israel Radio reported. He told Israel Radio that there were three Ethiopian hijackers, who spent the flight in the cockpit and threatened to blow up the plane with a hand grenade. They spoke English, French and Amharic, and identified themselves as members of the Ethiopian political opposition who had just been released from prison.

He said nobody aboard had expected a crash landing, but instead thought there would be a refuelling stop, since the hijackers had demanded to be flown to Australia.

Fuchs said he had been in contact with the seven other Israelis on the plane until the crash and had worked with them to calm the other passengers and devise an emergency plan during the expected refuelling.

The missing Israelis are Israel Aircraft Industries employees Shraga Ben-Nissan, Amram Ben-David, Yehuda Soroka and Gad Levy; two businessmen, Yehezkel Raz and Elazar Levkovitz; and student Ya'acov Baron, who was traveling with Fuchs.

Although Israel does not have diplomatic ties with the Comoro Islands, the Muslim state in which the plane crashed, the Israeli task force was given permission to operate freely. The medical team left for the hospital, while the technical team went to help with the search for the missing passengers. At the same time, an attempt was made to set up a communications centre from the island.

Zvi Mazel of the Foreign Ministry, who is heading the team, was due to report back to the ministry's situation room – which continued to function for the second consecutive night – but, at press time, the lines had not yet been connected and the satellite connection with the Comoros was not operating.

Survivor Fuchs saved woman and baby

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM – Lior Fuchs, the only confirmed Israeli survivor of the hijacked Ethiopian Airlines plane that crashed off the Comoro Islands last Sunday, told Israel Radio how he rescued a woman and her baby after the plane hit the water and broke apart.

Fuchs said at one point the pilot announced he had run out of fuel and lost an engine and would lose the second within minutes.

"He made an emergency landing on the ocean. I felt a great jolt and was thrown out of my seat. Water came rushing in to the plane. Somehow I got out, I don't know how," he told Israel Radio from his hospital bed.

'I felt a great jolt and was thrown out of my seat'

Fuchs, who was returning home at the end of a six-month, post-army tour of Africa, said he fought his way up to the surface through water and pieces of debris. He said he does not know what happened to his travelling companion, student Ya'acov Baron.

"I saw a woman with a baby who was caught. I swam to her, released her, and inflated her life jacket and her baby's," Fuchs said. "We got into a boat together.

"There were a few more survivors and I think two-thirds of the plane was still floating. I don't know about the rest."

THE CHIEF PILOT
Major General Eitan Ben-Eliahu, the newly-appointed commander of the Israel Air Force. Ben-Eliahu succeeded Major General Herzl Bodinger who retired last month. [Isranet photo]

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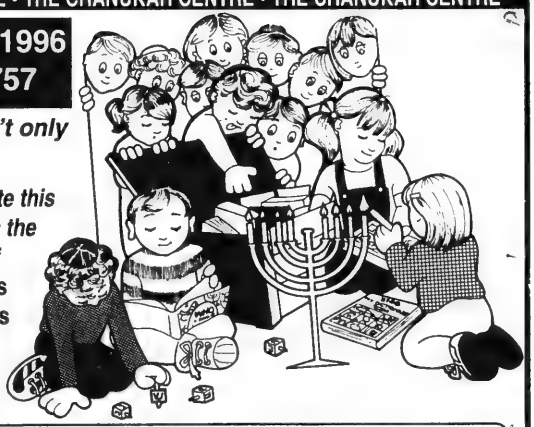

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Israel & the Jewish World

Student journalists learn to Do The Write Thing

By VIVA PRESS
Special to the CJN

SEATTLE – Jewish student journalists gathered for Do The Write Thing, offered for the seventh year, at the recent General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

GA '96 in Seattle

Of the 40 participants from Canada and the United States who came to discuss issues related to Israel, World Jewry and Jewish media, six of us were Canadians.

Among the leading figures and journalists in the Israeli and American Jewish community we got to meet, were Shimon Peres, Gad Ben-Ari and Avrum Burg.

The two main themes of the conference were Zionism and religious pluralism. Here is a synopsis of some of the sessions we had.

Ben-Ari, press secretary to Yitzhak Rabin, spoke about Zionism and democracy in the 21st century. The Jewish state, as envisioned by Theodor Herzl, Ben-Ari said, was to be a model democracy inspired by Jewish values.

"Israeli democracy made us proud throughout the years of war," he said. "It was a wonderful model. Today in Israel, democracy is not a model. Today it's worse than the day after Rabin's assassination."

Ben-Ari suggested that rather than dwell on the legacies of Rabin, we should learn a lesson and try to see where we went wrong along the way.

Peres also stressed the need to maintain a democracy in Israel. "We have to have a democracy that allows our differences," he said.

Gary Rosenblatt, editor of New York's *Jewish Week*, spoke of the importance of unity in the Jewish community.

Jewish journalists have a tougher job than those in the secular press, Rosenblatt said. "We're always walking a fine line."

We have an ethical responsibility not to embarass the Jewish community and we also "have to show the community we can deal with delicate issues," he said.

Burg, chair of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel, described Zionism as a state of mind, asking, "If Zionism is post-Judaism, then what is post-Zionism?" His answer: "Judaism, in a different way."

"We can't compare whose system [Reform, Conservative, Orthodox ...] is better," Burg said. "We are united in being Jewish."

In another session, Avrum Infeld, the founder and president of Melitz, the centre for Jewish and Zionist education, said our goal is to decide on what being Jewish means.

He maintained that pluralism is "giving legitimacy to different interpretations of the same commentaries and of the same memories."

We must have a common memory, have a common language, see Mount Sinai as the central brick to Judaism, have a state in the land of Israel, a home to the Jews, use Hebrew as a spoken language, Infeld said.

PM's backers, opponents protest

SEATTLE – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was unable to attend the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations, but his supporters and adversaries came.

Netanyahu was scheduled to address the delegates on Nov. 14, but the situation in Hebron, kept him in Israel.

Three rallies were held outside the Washington Trade Centre in Seattle. Chanting, cheering and singing sounded through the crisp air. To one side of the Trade Centre, the Pro-Netanyahu rally gathered. Across the road, organizers of Peace Now and the Arab Alliance of Washington rallied their supporters.

"By Israel giving away more parts of Judea and Samaria and Hebron, this will not bring peace," said Morton Klein, head of the Zionist Organization of America.

From the Arab Alliance of Washington, chants of "No Peace, No Justice," were directed towards the pro-Netanyahu rally.

Former Hebron resident Ramsey Ahman carried a sign that read: Zionism is Terrorism.

With *Oseh Shalom* playing in the background, Seattle resident Ruti Kadesh paced back and forth with her sign that read: Sound Bites are not Enough.

"Netanyahu speaks really well, he makes good sound bites, yet nothing seems to happen," Kadesh explained. "He's a very polished politician. But, he's all talk."

Klein reminded his listeners that the world didn't say a word about Hitler's threats. An uproar of "Shame," rose from the crowd.

The bitter history of Jews is that we must believe the words of those who hate us, Klein said. "From Adolf Hitler to Louis Farrakhan to others we've learned that terrible words against Jews end up in bloodshed against Jews.

"We must speak out with strength to the world," Klein said. "And we must always remember that truth and justice and God are on our side."

- V.P.

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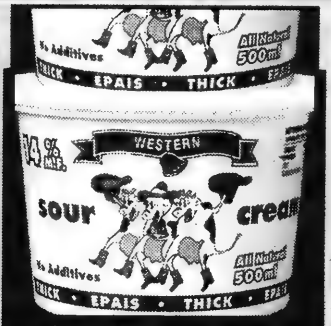

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Hebron negotiations seen as an acid test

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Eight weeks have elapsed since Israel and the Palestine Authority got down to serious talks over Hebron. But an agreement has eluded the negotiators, despite intimations by Israel and the United States that an accord was imminent.

The discussions, which began after a spasm of unprecedented violence in the territories and a subsequent summit in Washington called to defuse the bitterness, are widely seen as an acid test of the viability of the Oslo peace process.

If the negotiations succeed and Israel redeploys from Hebron, final status talks can begin as scheduled. But if no progress is registered, the diplomatic gains Israel has made since the signing of the 1993 Declaration of Principles may well be jeopardized, plunging the region into dangerous uncertainty.

The talks have unfolded in an exceedingly tense atmosphere. Israel has accused the Palestinians of procrastinating, claiming that their tactic is to persuade the United States to exert pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu now that President Bill Clinton has won re-election and is no longer beholden to voters. The Palestinians have charged Israel with trying to modify a much-delayed agreement that was essentially ready for implementation with the promulgation of the Oslo 2 pact in September 1995.

But this is only part of the problem.

• The Palestinians are furious that Israel is expanding its settlements in the West Bank, branding the move as a breach of the Oslo accord. In the past few weeks, the Israeli government has approved plans for the expansion of two religious settlements, Emmanuel and Kiryat Sefer, which have been granted permission to build an additional 3,200 new housing units.

• The Israeli army has been on alert for the past month, ever since receiving information that Islamic Jihad planned terrorist operations to mark the slaying of its leader, Fathi Shakaki, who was killed in Malta last year, reportedly by Israeli agents. Last week, Israel smashed an Islamic Jihad cell in Hebron, but warned that others still exist, thereby heightening the fears of the 450 Jewish settlers in Hebron.

• Egypt, the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel, is warning Netanyahu that a prolonged impasse over Hebron will worsen Arab-Israeli relations , further isolate Israel in the Arab world and unleash a new wave of suicide bombings, the last series of which, in the winter of 1996, demoralized Israelis, damaged the peace process and contributed to Likud's victory in last May's general election.

In addition to juggling these variables, Netanyahu is under immense pressure from his constituents and his caucus to walk away from the Hebron talks.

Proponents of this view, including the Chabad movement, have staged several noisy demonstrations in support of the settlers in Hebron. And no less a personage than Netanyahu's brother-in-law, Hagai Ben-Artzi, has suggested that he will be acting against Israel's national interests if he orders the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all but Hebron's Jewish enclave. Netanyahu can shrug off this imputation to his integrity, but how will he deal with colleagues, cabinet ministers and political allies opposed to any Hebron agreement?

Uzi Landau, who heads the important Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, is one of the rejectionists. So is Ze'ev Begin, the science minister and son of the first Likud prime minister. He has advised Netanyahu to renege on Israel's solemn commitment to evacuate the Arab-populated sector of Hebron. Meanwhile, Michael Kleiner, a member of Foreign Minister David Levy's Gesher faction, has declared that a withdrawal from Hebron would be "a sad milestone in the history of Zionism." The National Religious Party, which holds nine Knesset seats, has implied that it may leave the governing coalition if the agreement goes through.

Netanyahu, who has been fighting for a better deal on Hebron, does not underestimate the strength of his zealous adversaries. Further delays in reaching an accord, twice postponed by the previous Labor party government, will make it easier for "right-wing opponents" to thwart it, he warned a meeting of European Union ambassadors recently.

In a bid to find a solution, Israel and the Palestinians have moderated some of their positions. But the main stumbling block remains – Israel's demand of " hot pursuit," or its insistence on pursuing suspected terrorists into Palestinian-controlled neighborhoods in Hebron. Netanyahu said last week that he intends to stand firm on this issue.

Under the Olso accord, Israel has the power to "engage" suspected terrorists in Palestinian autonomous areas. The Palestinians' interpretation is different, and as they they see it, Israel has no such right.

This dispute, however, has not affected the Israeli army's preparation for a withdrawal. It is ready to pull out of Hebron at a moment's notice.

The Week in Israel

Nov. 18

• A Hamas activist was killed in the West Bank, apparently by a bomb he was preparing for use in a suicide attack in Israel.

• The Israeli consul general in Egypt met with an Israeli Arab citizen who has been jailed in Cairo on suspicion of spying for Israel. Azam Azam, a Druze from the lower Galilee, told Yehuda Gabai that he was innocent of the charges against him.

Nov. 19

• Finance Minister Dan Meridor said the government would have to cut as much as an additional $700 million (US) from the 1997 budget if it wants to meet its deficit target. The government has already approved a cut of about $1.6 billion despite stiff resistance by both opposition and coalition members.

• Two border police guards who were filmed beating and kicking Palestinians trying to sneak into Israel north of Jerusalem to find work, were suspended and detained. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denounced the behavior of the police guards. *(Later in the week the guards were criminally charged.)*

Nov. 20

• Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky postponed a trip to Russia scheduled for next week due to the death of his brother-in-law.

Nov. 21

• U.S. Senator Arlen Specter delivered a message to Israel from Syrian President Hafez al-Assad that there was no escalation on the Israeli-Syrian border. Specter had earlier carried a message from Israel urging the resumption of peace talks.

• At least three Palestinians were killed by an explosion in a West Bank village near Jenin. An Islamic militant, possibly preparing to launch a suicide attack against Israel, was killed in the same area last weekend when a bomb exploded in his hands.

Nov. 22

• In an interview with the daily newspaper *Ha'aretz*, Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan said that thousands of Jordanians have submitted applications for work in Israel, but their applications have gone unanswered by Israeli authorities.

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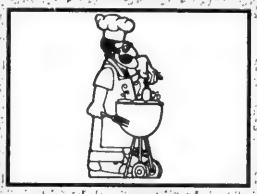

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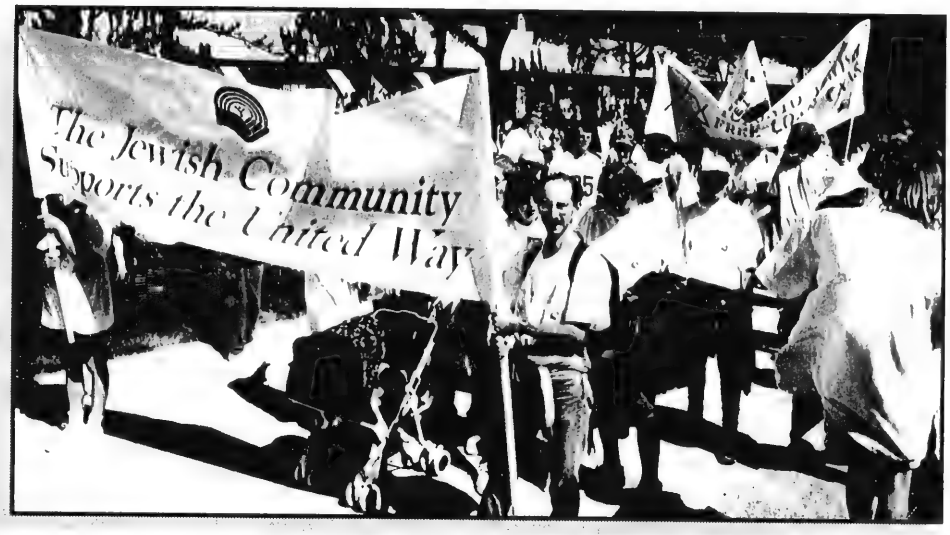

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United Way

Holiday Gifts

Doctor's hobby a successful business sideline

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dr. Larry Bacher's prescription for fun is Picture Chase Card 'N Dice Activity Game, his own award-winning creation that resulted from his frustration with some of the slow-moving board games played by his three children.

A family practitioner with an office in Scarborough, the 40-year-old Toronto native is also medical director of a nursing home and works at emergency rooms in two hospitals. He figured if he was going to pursue a hobby in his spare time, it made sense to pursue one that could include his family.

His wife Pauline and children Janice, 12, Jeffrey, 10 and Corey, 7, who have "played this game more times than most other kids will ever play it in their life," were his main testers. He refined the game for over a year before launching it himself in 1995 with a 10,000-game run produced by his company Creative Thought and distributed by Abalone Games. A third run is now in the works, and Bacher's hobby has become a business sideline.

The educational matching game for ages five and up, based on three-part sets of illustrated animal cards, won an Award of Excellence from the Canadian Toy Testing Council, which named it one of its 10 best bets for 1996. Recently it received the Parents' Choice Award in the United States.

Bacher is almost ready to launch his next project, an inexpensive hand-held brain teaser called Dot Challenge. Other projects of his include a game called Emotions, on which he worked as part of a team and subsequently produced. It is used in a number of North American schools to help young children discuss their feelings.

Picture Chase, sold mostly at small, independent stores, comes in two versions: African Animals and Pre-historic Animals. Part of its appeal lies in the vivid animal card illustrations. "I wanted as illustrator who understood children," Bacher said in a recent interview. He admired the work of Brenda Clark, who had illustrated Franklin the Turtle, but as a fledgling game manufacturer was hesitant about calling her.

His office nurse took it upon herself to contact Clark, who drew the African animal illustrations. A second Canadian artist, Steve Pilcher (Norbert Nipkin), stepped in to illustrate the prehistoric animals when Clark became too busy to continue.

"They both provided their artistic flair to the project," said Bacher, who is reluctant to take full credit for the game. "Yes it was my idea, but there was a lot of professional input and information gathered from my kids and friends."

Fine-tuning included eliminating a game board and incorporating a small (pencil case-size) vinyl carrying case to build in portability and increase the number of locations where the game could be played. One of the few complaints Bacher has received came from a consumer who needed the dice replaced after playing on a concrete sidewalk. (The pieces were subsequently modified to prevent the problem from recurring.)

Bacher takes pride in the quality of the game. "I don't know how many we'll sell," he said (he's "pretty close" to breaking even on his investment), "but whatever we sell will be exceptional. The main thing is that it's fun."

As a physician, Bacher has also sought creative solutions. He has become an emergency room storyteller, spinning his own interactive, treatment-related tales about the fictional Princess Dermis while he sutures little patients. "One of the problems in the emergency room is that young children lose it really quickly. Once they get upset, they don't want to talk to you," he said.

Bacher has been telling stories about Princess Dermis for about half of his 13 years in medical practice.

He doesn't see himself giving up medicine to enter a more creative field, however. "I enjoy medicine. It's, again, a problem-solving profession."

Dr. Lary Bacher and his game. [Frances Kraft photo]

Holiday books of all genres are available to read or give as gifts for Chanukah

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

With Chanukah almost upon us, publishers are churning out the usual holiday books.

The volumes under review range from cookbooks to children's stories.

Jewish Holiday Feasts (Raincoast Books) covers not only Chanukah but all the major holidays.

The recipes, compiled by Louise Fiszer and Jeannette Ferrary, are nothing if not eclectic. They range from couscous with saffron and vegetables to Passover biscotti.

The Children's Jewish Holiday Kitchen (Random House, $25) is tailor-made for kids drawn to the pleasures of the palate. Joan Nathan's compendium consists of 70 child-centred, mouth-watering recipes.

The Story of Hanukah (Random House, $4.25) is simply told and expertly illustrated, ideal for children ages five to eight. Words are by Bobbi Katz, while pictures are by Dockey Graves.

Jenny and the Hanukkah Queen (Penguin, $17.99) is a story of family, love, the power of imagination and the pull of society at large.

Jean Little's text pulses with charm and Suzanne Mogensen's illustrations brim with vitality.

Chaim Potok, best known for *The Chosen* and *My Name is Asher Lev*,, has written his second children's book. Entitled *The Sky of Now* (Random House, $21.50), it tells the tale of a boy who confronts his fear fearlessly. Recommended.

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Holiday Gifts

Now there's chicken soup for the soul at work

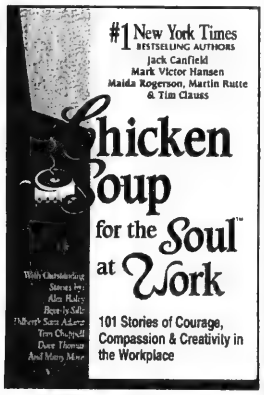
By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB news editor

If someone you know, or perhaps even you yourself, needs a little inspiration to get through a day of work, then *Chicken Soup For the Soul at Work, 101 stories of Courage, Compassion and Creativity in the Workplace* may well make a perfect gift.

The latest in the bestselling *Chicken Soup For the Soul* series, this is really a "title-tells-all-book."

The 101 reminiscences and anecdotes from people in all walks of life, have the power to move the reader in a way made for TV tear-jerkers can only try.

A long-haired, unshaven, dirty, obese man with a black motorcycle jacket is wheeled into the emergency room one night. The nurses view him as an untouchable: "Please let this one not be mine to tend to," was their unspoken cry.



The head nurse, Bonnie, decides to handle the situation herself rather than delegate it. As she tends to the patient's wounds and bathes him, she decides on a whim to give him a back rub. "This is what this place is all about," she thinks. "A place to heal."

After she has rubbed him down with baby powder, the man looks up at her and says, "No one has touched me for years. Thank you I am healing."

This and the other 100 true stories provide courage and strength. Maybe if we read one story a day with coffee and bagels in the morning, we might all go to work with a more positive attitude.

Put together by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Maida Rogerson, Martin Rutte and Tim Clauss, the book published by Health Communications, Inc. is available nationwide.

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Acting game a treat for film buffs

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB news editor

TORONTO — Just last week, a new game was waiting for me at the reception desk.

I opened it in front of the receptionist, the two of us started looking at it, and before we knew it, almost an hour had passed.

Targeted to 25 to 40 year-olds, Act One is a fun "party" game that draws on people's fascination with guessing lines from movies and television shows.

In a nutshell, the game involves one player picking out a movie or TV show card and acting out one of three scenes written on the card. The opponent has a set time in which to guess the name of the film.

One movie card for example has this scene: (James Earl Jones, playing Darth Vader, in a muffled sinister voice breathing heavily): "You have controlled your fear. Now release your anger. Only your hatred can destroy me."

The scene, of course, is from *Star Wars.*

Other movies you could act from include *Apocalypse Now, Forrest Gump,* (I thought I was going back to Vietnam, but instead they decided the best way for me to fight the Communists was to play ping-pong.) and *2001-A Space Odyssey.*

Some of the TV shows include *Melrose Place, Fantasy Island* (Hey Boss, Dze plane. Dze plane.) and *Seinfeld.*

"The overall goal of the game is to have fun," said David Mikelberg, 37, one of the game's creators. "People don't just play the game, they relive the associations they have with these television shows and movies."

Mikelberg's partner, Danny Wilchesky, 36, first conceived of the game while attending a play, which lucky for him turned out to be awful. (We won't mention the play's name.) He realised that while the actors had little talent, they enjoyed being on stage and performing.

Wilchesky and Mikelberg both hail from Montreal and are now living in Toronto. The pair spent six years working on and revising the game.

Mikelberg and Wilchesky recently found a financial backer and have struck deals with Blockbuster Video, Toys R Us and Dufferin Game Room for national distribution. There is discussion of creating a television show based on the game. It retails from $34.99.

A cross between *Name That Tune* and *Charades*, the game can be addictive and fun. Definitely a sure hit at any university residence.

Scene 1: (Woman with European Accent)
They say that nobody dies here. They say that your factory is a haven. They say you are good.

Scene 2: (Liam Neeson compassionately, crying, desperately)
This car. Why did I keep the car... 10 people right there... 10 people... 10 more people. This pin. Two people. This is gold. Two more people... at least one. One more person. One more person. I could have got one more person... one more person... and I didn't.

Scene 3: (Ben Kingsley quietly)
The list is an absolute good. The list is life.

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Wrong Number!

Those computer gremlins struck again in last week's Party Planner. In the picture of clown performer Raafi, on page B 16, the phone number should have been 905-886-7697.

Holiday Gifts

Two new Paul Zim albums strike different notes

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – *A Yiddish Delight* and *The Magic of Chanukah* are two new CDs released by U.S.-based singer/song writer Paul Zim.

Magic has all the traditional melodies found in any child's Chanukah repertoire. Accompanied by The Dreidelettes and The Candlelites (children's choruses), Zim offers playful renditions of familiar tunes such as *I Have a Little Dreidel* and *Y'mei Hachanukah*.

His performances of melodic songs, such as *Mi Y'maleil* and *Maoz Tzur*, are respectable and at times soothing as a result of the combination of his rich, tenor and the children's clean, soprano voices.

The CD falls short, however, in its attempt to provide new, contemporary Chanukah tunes.

Zim composed the music and wrote the lyrics (along with Sy Kleinman) for many of the songs. While the music is often enjoyable, such as the lullaby *Festival of Lights*, the lyrics lack sophistication and *Festival of Lights* fails to develop any of the holiday themes. Instead, it uses cliché Chanukah images to produce strained rhymes, such as, "Give a gift each night – To each girl and boy / Make your dreidel start to spin – Chanukah means joy." Zim's contemporary works underestimate children's ability to enjoy and understand mature songs with in-depth meaning.

Included on this CD is Peter Yarrow's (of Peter, Paul and Mary) *Light One Candle*. This song, with its emphasis on remembering is a model for contemporary Chanukah tunes, capturing one of the many meanings behind the holiday in a haunting melody. Its maturity shines amongst the other songs.

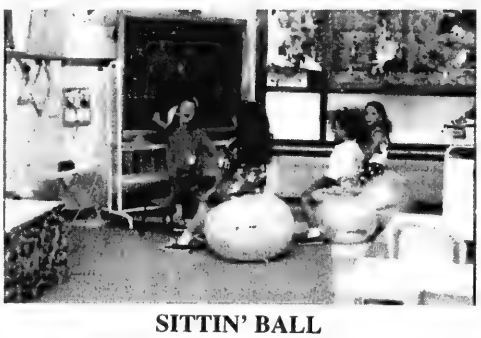
To his credit, Zim tries to include an assortment of music. Both *Chanukah Chag Yafeh* and *I Have a Little Dreidel* segue into "rap lyrics."

To get a real taste of Zim's talents, though, listen to his CD *A Yiddish Delight*. Subtitled *The funniest Yiddish songs ever recorded*, it is a repertoire of both popular and less well known Yiddish folk tunes. All of the songs focus on the positive aspects of life, even in times of trouble.

Amol iz geven a Yid tells the story of poor couple who have to scrounge for Shabbat wine, fish and meat. Through a light, energetic melody, the song emphasizes the couple's joy in celebrating Shabbat, rather than the sorrow of their poverty.

A Yiddish Delight features The New York City Klezmer Jewish Jazz Band. Adding extra flavor and skill to Zim's powerful voice, the band provides sophistication to his recordings. Particularly notable are Ted Nash and Howie Lees, whose saxophone and clarinet (respectively) are so animated, they appear almost as backup singers.

This CD better showcases Zim's musical abilities. While spanning a wide vocal range, Zim performs the songs with gaiety and enthusiasm.Through his energy, he keeps alive and well the tradition of Yiddish music.



SITTIN' BALL

These kids are strengthening their muscles while sitting down. See story on page 44.

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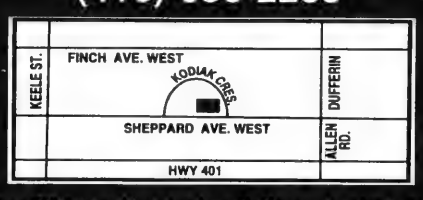

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Holiday Gifts

Helping kids is motivation behind record label

By HEATHER SOLOMON
Special to the CJN

MONTREAL— Wendy Wiseman thought she had put her music behind her when her father Sam died of cancer when she was 17.

But the birth of her daughter Sara, two years ago, gave her back the will, not only to make music, but to help the world's children while doing it.

That, in a nutshell, is the motivation behind Canada's fastest growing children's recording label, powered by the talent of Wiseman and her songwriting partner Sari Dajani.

The two met in 1980, the year Wiseman made her tentative re-entry into music, writing popular tunes.

"We became so prolific, that in 1994, my husband Mark Diamond, advised us to form a company. Dajani's spouse came up with the name Kidzup – like 7-ketchup – Kidzup," Wiseman said.

Diamond negotiated a small business loan and invested some of his own money to acquire 40 percent of Kidzup. Sara's birth prompted him to give all of his shares back to children. "So, he formed the Kidzup Foundation, dedicated to helping children around the world." Juvenile Diabetes, Sun Youth and Children's Wish Foundation have benefitted from the foundation.

In addition, the record company's mandate is also to put out affordable products that are equally within reach of low-income families. It has just done that with five energy-packed albums appealing to various age groups.

Rock a Tot, the first collaborative effort between the duo, is a soft-rock style album featuring songs like *I Got the Runny Nose Blues* and *I Love My Milk*.

Last year, they landed a distribution deal across North America.

"By July we had 10 albums," Wiseman says. As the listener will quickly attest, quantity is not at the expense of engineering quality on the digitally mastered releases, 20,000 of which have so far been sold.

Bodywise, is a Kidzup aerobics album that makes food groups funky; *Let's Talk Music* speaks to the computer generation in rock terms and advises youngsters to say no to drugs and prejudice.

Other albums include *Sleepy Time Rock-a-Byes* and *Animal Nursery Rhyme Time*.

All Kidzup albums are released simultaneously in French with other vocalists taking Wiseman's place beside the multilingual Dajani. Major department stores, supermarkets and catalogue companies are all providing fertile ground for sales, as are the music stores, children's boutiques and toy stores.

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Holiday Gifts

Eitz Chaim Boys choir issues beautiful music cassette

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Many schools create choirs. Some even manage to be good enough so that not only parents and grandparents enjoy them.

Eitz Chaim Schools has accomplished this feat. In fact, the Eitz Chaim Boys' Choir, under the direction of Yehuda Gilden, has recently issued a tape, called simply, *Toronto's Eitz Chaim Boys Choir*. And a fine piece of music it is.

The choir, consisting of 44 boys and a backup mens' section of six, displays polish, enthusiasm and talent. Several of the tunes, especially *Hinai Lo Yonum* and *Yismach* display an excellent command of that very difficult choral skill, harmony.

The Nafshenu Orchestra, which provided the musical accompaniment, should be commended for not overpowering the singers, but instead adding to the beauty of the songs. The flute passages in *Od Yishomo* were especially effective.

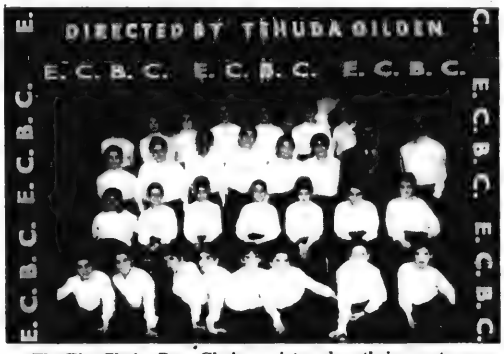
Besides training the choir and producing the tape, Gilden composed all the music. *Dror Yikrah* and *Yihee Sholom* were especially beautiful, with lilting, emotionally moving melodies, and kids will certainly enjoy the upbeat, drum-accompanied *V'Alu* and the military-like beat of *Ma Yedidus*.

Gilden also blended Sephardi undertones with the predominantly Ashkenazi musical tradition, at times seamlessly blending one into the other.

What one would have liked is for Gilden to have included in the cover of the tape the soloists on each song. They deserve that accolade.

Toronto's Eitz Chaim Boys Choir is the first tape by this very talented group. One hopes it won't be the last.

In Toronto, the tape is available from: Aleph Bet Judaica, Israel's, Matana Judaica, Negev and Sforim Warehouse.



The Eitz Chaim Boys Choir as pictured on their new tape.

When desperate for gift ideas...

By SHERYL HALPERN
Special to The CJN

MONTREAL – Maybe a great miracle has happened here and you've already wrapped up and hidden the children's Chanukah gifts. Maybe you're set for all eight nights. Or maybe – bet a few chocolate coins and a spin of a dreidel on this – you're desperate for gift ideas and dreading the inevitable dozen trips to the mall.

Stock up on wrapping paper – ribbon, bags of chocolate gelt, boxes of menorah candles and plastic dreidels – and try these gift-a-night suggestions. Perhaps they won't make every Chanukah moment a miracle, but they should make that expectant pause between menorah lighting and latkes easier to take.

Try tradition: Start your gift-shopping in stores which stock Chanukah menorahs of all sizes (some suitable for the Knesset and very large picture windows, some for birthday candles and 5-year-old fingers.) You can buy a big, sculptured one as a gift for the family, or a one tiny one, with candles to go, for each of the kids (bonus here: no more fights at candle-lighting time). Look for books, games, tapes and videos on the story of Chanukah too.

Buy stacks of books: Don't feel obliged to buy educational books (though books on dinosaurs or computer tips might fit the bill for someone). For a horror fan, get paperbacks in the *Goosebumps* series – a book a night should be about right. Or get one per night from the *Babysitters' Club* series (give the video of *The Babysitter's Club* on the last night as a tie-in.) For science fiction fans, paperback Star Trek novels or the latest SF bestsellers are good bets.

Check the magazine stand: Magazines and comic books are also possibilities. Find the latest in superhero comics on the book sale tables, and top off several nights of magazines – children's and teen mags, hobby and crafts mags, computer mags packaged with CD-ROMs, with a note announcing a subscription to one favorite magazine.

Bring home the movies: Videotapes are expensive, but you can [illegible] movie tapes for big gifts and add some shorter, cheaper tapes (of film classics or of favorite television shows) to fill in on other nights.

Don't panic: Don't give in to your Chanukah gelt complex. Factor in the gift from grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins and friends of the family. If necessary, make a few old-fashioned gifts: Twist white, blue or gold tissue paper round some oranges or clementines, tie ribbons at each end so that they look like wrapped candles, and stud with polished real coins or chocolate coins. (Glue or tape these on.)

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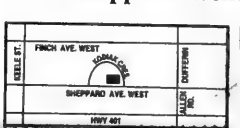

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Trio still chugga-chugga-ing along for kid fans

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – It's rehearsal time for Sharon, Lois & Bram, but there are no microphones handy. The veteran children's entertainers decide to hold pens as substitutes, and the show goes on, with interruptions to fine-tune a dance-step here, a hand motion there.

Eighteen years after the launch of their spectacular career — the likes of which didn't exist before — Sharon Hampson, Lois Lilienstein and Bram Morrison are still chugga-chugga-ing for their little fans – and the children's parents.

The trio's current show, called *Elephant Party*, is based on their new album of the same name, a slightly modified re-release of 1988's *Happy Birthday*. The show will run for eight performances at the Hummingbird Centre, Dec. 5 to 8.

"The show is about a party, so we [sing] about everything you do related to a party," said Hampson.

I am a little latke

"Of course, an important part is food," interjected Morrison. And with that, the conversation immediately turned to the pan of decadent home-made brownies with which Lilienstein had breezed into rehearsal. (The recipe can be found on the trio's Internet site.)

A culinary element of the new show is the song *I'm A Little Latke*, complete with a recipe set to music.

It's hard to imagine now that anyone hasn't heard of Sharon, Lois & Bram, but in 1979, when the trio was invited to perform at the Vancouver Children's Festival following the release of *One Elephant, Deux Elephants* the previous year, they were "blown away," recalls Hampson. They had envisioned the album, which grew out of their work with Mariposa in the Schools, as a one-time project. "We couldn't imagine anyone had heard of us."

They attribute much of their success to CBC Radio. "Part of CBC's mandate is to expose Canadian artists. We mourn its dying the death of 1,000 cuts," said Morrison.

Today, 65 episodes of the trio's award-winning *Elephant Show* can still be seen in television syndication, they've been national ambassadors for Unicef since 1988 and their 16 audio recordings have sold three million records in North America.

Candles Long Ago, their Chanukah mini-album released three years ago, includes a Chanukah song written for them despite their protestations that it couldn't be done. "We said, 'Don't be silly, you can't write a Chanukah song, it has to grow out of the tradition,'" recalled Hampson. The first time the trio heard the song, however, they were moved to tears.

Although they're known for old standards like *Skinnamarink* and *One Elephant*, they are always collecting new songs, said Morrison. Their newest one was written for them recently by songwriters Amy Sky and Mark Jordan in honor of Unicef's 50th anniversary.

Sharon Hampson, Bram Morrison and Lois Lilienstein rehearse for their newest stage show. [Frances Kraft photo]

Morrison and Hampson, who preceded Lilienstein to the pre-rehearsal interview, made a point of raising what has on occasion been a sticky issue regarding the charitable organization they represent. There is still "a mistaken notion," said Morrison, "because of the association with United Nations, that Unicef somehow is anti-Jewish and anti-Israel."

Israel was a beneficiary of Unicef from 1948 to 1966, and is now a donor country, Hampson pointed out. (According to a Unicef brochure, the organization's mandate is to "help children without regard to race, creed, nationality, status or politics.")

Sharon, Lois & Bram will perform at Unicef's 50th anniversary celebrations to be held Dec.11 in New York. Their tour of *Elephant Party*, which began in Barrie and Ottawa, will take them to West Palm Beach, Florida this weekend, Niagara Falls in December, Kitchener in February and Oakville in April.

Their mandate — for want of a better word — has always been "to find the best songs we could and have as much fun making good music as possible," said Morrison.

"Music for children and their families," added Hampson.

"We've never wavered from that," said Lilienstein.

Friends on and offstage ("We couldn't do this if we weren't," said Lilienstein), they still enjoy making music together.

At an age ("over 50") when others might be entertaining thoughts of retirement, they're still just entertaining. A new television series — as yet in the very early stages — is being planned, and earlier this year they joined the Internet generation: their colorful Web site had 11,000 hits shortly after it was launched.

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TAB news

Trainer gives Geena Davis killing machine look

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – In the recently released action flick *The Long Kiss Goodnight (LKG)*, a blonde Geena Davis plays a muscle-clad, hard-bodied CIA assassin. But it's Amir Roizman, Davis' on-set certified personal trainer, who is really making a killing.

Roizman, 25, who owns the company EPOC-Toronto, started working as a personal trainer three years ago after graduating from McMaster University with a degree in kinesiology.

Since then, he has become a fitness guru to the stars by designing dietary and physical regimens for Ottawa Senators' goalie Damian Rhodes; Oliver Miller, a Toronto Raptor; and Gino Berti, a dancer and choreographer.

But Roizman faced his greatest challenge when he was chosen to physically mould a svelte Davis into a lean and mean killing machine when *LKG* was being shot in Ontario last winter.

Aside from being allotted only five months to train Davis, Roizman encountered difficulties unique to working with those in the film industry.

"Anyone can look good in clothes. But when you're exposed on the screen, everything has to look good," he says.

Subsequently, in order to prepare Davis for the film's scenes, Roizman created a customized program for her which included a strict no-fat diet and strenuous training.

However, the enormous physical strain Davis underwent performing countless push-ups and arm curls was minimal compared to the psychological pressure placed on Roizman to get Davis into top physical shape.

"If you screw up, they screw up. But if they do really well, it looks really good on you; so you have to work together."

In addition to working on a one-to-one basis with Davis, Roizman's expertise was sought on the set of *LKG* to assist co-star Samuel Jackson of *Pulp Fiction* fame in warm-up exercises and to advise Davis' director husband Renny Harlin on how to shoot several of the film's action scenes.

In fact, Roizman became so involved in the film's production that he was assigned a small part as a bad guy who must lift a plastic-wrapped corpse in a freezer off of a meat hook.

However, the corpse, which was covered with spray-on ice, kept slipping out of Roizman's hands, forcing cameramen to shoot the same scene almost 15 times.

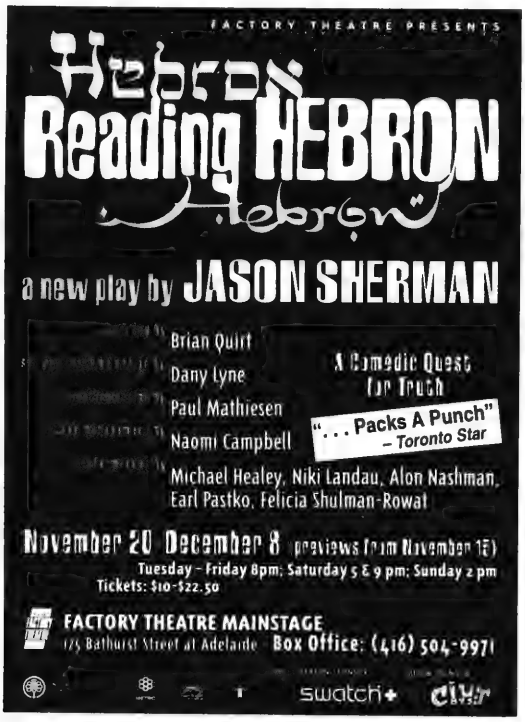
"I nearly dropped [the corpse] on Geena," says the personal trainer-turned-actor with a chuckle.

What Roizman won't allow to slip out of his hands, he says, is the opportunity to physically prepare Israeli young men and women for the army. Having spent the past summer in Israel, where his parents lived for several years, Roizman discovered that young Israelis lack the training resources to physically qualify themselves beforehand for particular branches of the army.

But Roizman doesn't believe that it is only actors, athletes and Israeli soldiers who should attain peak physical performance levels. Rather, his vision includes setting up training centres within individual corporations so that employees can enhance their lives and productivity by temporarily trading in their cubicles for a gym.

"Would you give up a coffee break and a cigarette if you knew a personal trainer was going to come and take care of you for 15 minutes? I think most people, after they try it once, will say yes," Roizman speculates.

Although lifting a cigarette has always been easier than lifting a barbell, Roizman remains committed to bringing his clients to the highest levels of physical fitness possible. And in the film industry where the absence of cellulite equals celluloid celebrity, Roizman is discovering that the measure of a leading lady's waistline can be the start of a flourishing career as a personal trainer.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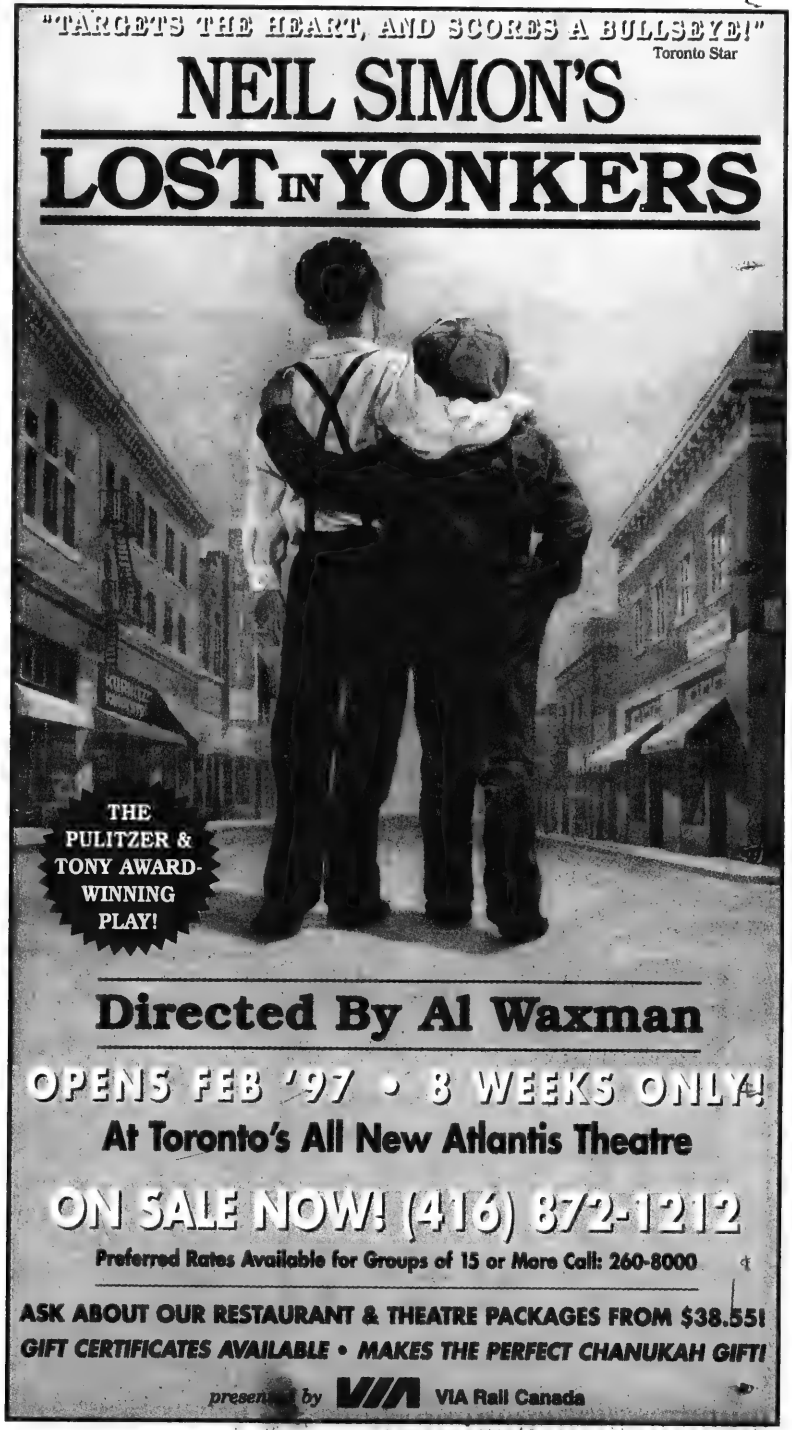
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TAB news

Israel may close loss-making companies, source says

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The government will close down many of the state-owned, loss-making companies, rather than privatize them, a senior government source said recently.

The Prime Minister's Office is also considering asset-stripping El Al, which is expected to report a $100 million (US) loss for 1996, the source said.

Full details of the government's privatization plans are expected to be announced at a media conference in the coming days.

"I hope we'll be able to [announce] this before the end of November, or by the very latest in the first week of next month," said Moshe Leon, in charge of privatization in the Prime Minister's Office.

The government has already begun the privatization process, according to the source.

"We have no intention of waiting for a press conference to begin work," said the source, who is one of those responsible for the privatization program.

So far no one in government is prepared to say which companies will be closed down, but it seems likely the smaller, loss-making businesses will be the first to go.

The sectors in which companies are reporting the biggest debts are agriculture, industry, trade and chemicals, with the biggest losses of all in the defence industries. Those reporting the largest losses in 1995 included Israel Chemicals Ltd., Rotem Industries Ltd., Agricultural Bank of Israel Ltd., Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd. and TAAS-Israel Industry.

The government also owns non-profit-making companies such as Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Ltd., the Israel Wine Institute and the Israel Consumer Council. These too could be subject to closures.

The government has set a target of owning no companies at all, but also is making clear it is physically impossible to begin work on all the companies next year.

The large monopolies, such as the Israel Electric Corporation, will almost inevitably be tackled last, the source said.

In general terms, the government still favors selling shares on the markets, initially through Tel Aviv. However, according to the source, it is neither practical nor likely that all company shares will be sold this way.

"In some cases flotation just isn't appropriate," the source said. "Some on the list won't be floated at all, some will take the form of international flotations, and some by way of competitive tenders."

It is also becoming increasingly clear the government will not adopt the options method of sale initially introduced, highly successfully in the Czech Republic and proposed in Israel by former finance minister Avraham Shohat. The program involves distributing to the public, free options vouchers that could be used to purchase, at a discount, a package of shares in firms that stand to be privatized.

Poverty on the decline

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF

JERUSALEM — The proportion of poor families in the general population declined for the first time in six years, according to the government's definition of poverty.

It dropped to 16.8 percent in 1995 from 18 percent the previous year, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said at a press conference here recently.

In real terms, however, last year's figures – 208,000 families – are higher – by 3,000 – than they were in 1994. The total number of "poor" individuals stood last year at 738,000 people, of whom 329,000 were children.

Yishai said he preferred not to bask in the relative decline, noting that the figures were still high.

"There is no reason for celebration here," he said.

The government's findings are based on a survey conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

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TAB news

Reading Hebron's humor offensive

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO –It is sad that a play about such serious subjects as the massacre at Hebron and Palestinian-Israeli peace should be sub-titled, "A comedic quest for truth."

For *Reading Hebron* by Jason Sherman is not a true comedy, though the playwright uses the ability of Jewish people to laugh at themselves as a way of hurting them.

Since the hype sent to the media in advance states clearly that Nathan Abramowitz has come to the conclusion tht the Israeli government condoned the massacre of 29 Palestinians by Dr. Baruch Goldstein, how can the play be viewed as an honest examination of the tragedy.

It is all very well to say Abramowitz is a Canadian Jew searching for his identity, but not, in this reviewer's opinion, is it legitimate to use the Jewish penchant for self-criticism to clothe his search as comedy. I found it offensive when Abramowitz , in a burst of repartee, said "there's no business like SHOAH business."

Sherman has tapped once again into the mother lode of poking fun at Jews, which strikes a responsive chord with some theatre audiences. In *League of Nathans*, Abramowitz is disillusioned by what he finds in Israel. Now, some years later, the playwright has raised the stakes and blames the Israeli government for the Hebron massacre.

Along the way he overdoes the stereotypical Jewish mother's concern for her son and two grandchildren. Sure, this brings laughs, but for what purpose?

The acting by the five-member cast headed by Michael Healey is formidable, the direction by Brian Quirt ingenious, even brilliant, the set design by Dany Lyne clever and efficient. The wailing from inside the Tomb of the Patriarchs sets the stage crisply.

It's too bad that such a witty, and densely-layered script examining the conscience of one Jew is built on a fault line.

Mother Night an unconventional film

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

"Be careful what you pretend to be because in the end, you are what you pretend to be."

The writer of these precious words is Howard Campbell Jr., an American playwright living in Berlin who broadcasts anti-Semitic and anti-American diatribes on German radio during the course of the Third Reich.

Campbell, in fact, is a loyal American who has been recruited to spy on Nazi Germany. But nobody knows it upon his return to the United States after the war, and Campbell, being a ham, milks it for all it is worth.

This, in bare outline, is the plot of the film *Mother Night,* now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres. Based on a black comedic novel by Kurt Vonnegut, *Mother Night* is full of ironic turns and bizarre characters.

The movie, which stars Nick Nolte, begins in Israel as a van deposits Campbell (Nolte) in a Haifa prison courtyard. Campbell has been abducted by the Israelis to pay for his crimes. While awaiting his trial as a war criminal, Campbell writes his memoirs, which enables *Mother Night* to unfold in a series of seamless though rather lengthy flashbacks.

Campbell, who is married to a German actress (Sheryl Lee) who is killed in a bombing raid, settled in Berlin in the 1920s and was astonishingly successful. One day, while sitting on a park bench, he is approached by an American intelligence agent (John Goodman) and persuaded to masquerade as an arch Nazi.

On his broadcasts, Campbell lambastes Jews and snidely refers to the American president as "Franklin Delano Rosenfeld." He is certainly convincing as an anti-Semitic propagandist.

After the war, in New York City, Campbell wallows in poverty, shunned by all except an eccentric artist (Alan Arkin) and a white supremacist who considers him an icon of unbridled racism.

As might be imagined, one has to suspend one's sense of realism to embrace *Mother Night.* But if you're prepared to submit to its wicked humor and offbeat figures (a black Nazi stormtrooper, for example), you may well enjoy Keith Gordon's sometimes ponderous film.

The performances are fine, with Nolte suitably befuddled and Arkin perfectly caustic.

Being an unconventional and quirky film, *Mother Night* won't attract a wide audience. But for those who revel in such movies, *Mother Night* hits all the right notes.

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TAB news

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

New & Reviews

Chanukah Play for Children

• *The Chanukkah Guest*, a story by **Eric A. Kimmel**, focuses on Bubba Bryna, an old woman who makes a batch of delicious latkes for the rabbi and is surprised after a mysterious guest eats them instead. Minkler Auditorium, Seneca College, 1750 Finch Ave. E. Dec. 1, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. $6.50. 416-491-8877.

Ragtime Author in Town

• The acclaimed best-selling author **E.L. Doctorow** reads from his Pulitzer prize-winning novel *Ragtime* and is interviewed on-stage by **Greg Gatenby**. Dec. 5, 8 p.m. Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W., Harbourfront. $12. 416-973- 4000.

Theatre News

• Thanks to excellent reviews, *Still The Night*, the sad musical drama about the Holocaust starring **Theresa Tova** and **Liza Balkan**, has been held over at Theatre Passe Muraille (16 Ryerson Ave.) two more weeks to Dec. 8. 416-504-8988.

• The opening date of *Froth: A Spectacle about Shopping and Hysteria*, has moved to Nov. 29, 8 p.m. 318 Queen St. W., 2nd floor. 416-979-2661.

• *It's All True*, a new **Jason Sherman** play about Orson Welles, workshops with 16 actors from Necessary Angel at Harbourfront's Studio Theatre in late February and early March. The idea is to get the work-in-progress, one of three to undergo such treatment, into shape for a world premiere the following season. Sneak passes for all three previews, $35. 416-973-4000.

• **Al Waxman** has been cast as Willy Loman in **Arthur Miller's** *Death of a Salesman*, to open Stratford's Avon Theatre next June.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• The Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture returns to Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Aug. 25 to Sept. 1. In the meantime, the festival is sponsoring courses at the Bloor JCC in klezmer, Yiddish, Yiddish theatre and various holiday programs. The Chanukah program, Out of The Shadows & Into The Light, offers a workshop in which participants make sets, props and costumes, and a "shadowplay between the forces of darkness and light." Dec. 8, 2 p.m. 416-924-6211.

Magazine World

• *Shmooz Magazine*, a newly launched publication based in the New York area, is being billed as "an avant-garde publication for the quintessential Jewish reader." The mag features cultural, political, business and social content – everything from literary contributions to celebrity profiles to a health and fitness column. In other words, something for everyone.

Although initially available only around New York, distribution may eventually go international. A Web site is also planned: e-mail inquiries to [shmooz @aol.com].

• The fall issue of *Lilith*, the New York-based independent Jewish women's quarterly, explores the identity crisis common among children of black-white interracial couples when the white parent is Jewish. The question they must decide is: "Are you black or are you Jewish?" This issue, which marks the start of *Lilith's* 20th season, includes a pull-out poster of Jewish feminist highlights throughout 5,000 years of history.

In the Spotlight

• Toronto arts and copyright lawyer **Aaron Milrad** has been busy as ever lately. He has just written a major section on electronic publishing – *The Business Reality For A Virtual Reality World* – for a book the University of Toronto Press plans to publish next year. Also, Milrad and **Susan Agnew**, his law partner, have just been commissioned by the American Society of Appraisers to write a comprehensive guide to the purchasing, selling, gifting and appraisal of works of art, antiques and collectibles. The working title of the book is *The Law of Treasures in North America.*

"As Canadians, we're thrilled to be chosen to do this book," says Milrad. "It will deal with the ownership of works, importing and exporting of artworks, stolen objects, the markets, authentication of artworks, taxation and the impact of NAFTA in three countries."

Milrad, an avid collector of post-war artworks from Canada, the United States and England, has written legal works about the art market before. *The Art World: Law, Business and Practice in Canada*, which he co-authored with Agnew in 1980, remains a key reference tool for collectors and professionals alike.

An assortment of some 80 ceramic works and a large selection of abstract paintings from Milrad's collection is on display at the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University, Niagara Falls, N.Y., until Feb. 2.

Sports news will return next week

THE END OF DAYS
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"This is history in the tradition of Barbara Tuchman and Simon Schama – full of vivid human detail with a driving narrative power. It is also a profound reminder that to learn from the past we must not repeat the mistakes of the past." – Phyllis Grosskurth

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TAB news

Vibrant symbol of Jewish rebirth

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

BERLIN – For Jewish visitors, Berlin is at once intimidating and inviting.

Berlin, the seat of the Third Reich, is replete with Holocaust memorials and lingering memories of the darkest period in Germany's history.

Berlin, the capital of modern Germany, is a vibrant symbol of the rebirth of Jewish life in this nation.

The days when Berlin was home to 170,000 Jews are long gone. But today some 10,000 Jews live in this elegant city of 3.5 million inhabitants, and with the continued influx of Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union, the community is growing.

There are synagogues, day schools, kosher restaurants and clubs. Berlin's Jewish community, considered dead and buried by the mid-1940s, is back again, like Berlin itself.

Berlin has not tried to conceal its Nazi past. Berliners, like the vast majority of Germans, have tried to come to terms with this evil period.

In a sense, the Holocaust originated in Berlin, in a cream-colored villa – known as Wannsee House – where the decision to implement the Final Solution was taken at a conference of 15 top-ranking Nazi officials on Jan. 20, 1942.

Exactly 50 years later, the infamous building was converted into a museum and educational centre. Since then, about 250,000 visitors, 60 percent of them Germans, have filed through the premises, according to Norbert Kampe, one of the directors.

Ingeborg Huntzinger's memorial.

Wannsee House, on the shores of a bucolic lake in a leafy Berlin suburb, documents the Holocaust with methodical completeness through the medium of stark photographs, posters and illustrations. The most chilling exhibit is under glass, the yellowing minutes of the 1942 meeting which doomed European Jewry.

Back in central Berlin, on Grosse Hamburgerstrasse, there is a simple monument to the memory of 55,000 Jewish Berliners who were deported to concentration camps. Around the corner is an empty lot, the locale of Berlin's first Jewish cemetery, uprooted by the Nazis in 1943. Nearby, on Heidereutergasse, lies the unadorned site of the city's first synagogue, built in 1714 and levelled by an Allied bombing raid in 1942.

Close by, in a parkette in a drab neighborhood on Rosenstrasse, a visitor comes upon a haunted ensemble of red sandstone stylized sculpted figures. This is Ingeborg Huntzinger's memorial to the little-known Rosenstrasse incident of February 1943.

In the only recorded case of mass civil disobedience during the Nazi era, a group of courageous German women defied the government, pleading for their Jewish husbands' lives. The men were to have been shipped to death camps, but thanks to their indomitable wives, the order was rescinded. Indeed, several Jews who already had been sent to Auschwitz were returned to their spouses.

In a city full of Holocaust memorials, one of the most striking is on Lewetzowstrasse, in a playground just minutes away by car from the Tiergarten, the city's largest green space. A rusted-steel cattle car, adjacent to a leaning construct which lists the dates of the deportations of Jews from Berlin between 1941 and 1945, speaks volumes.

A visitor should also drop in at the Topography of Terror exhibit on Wilhelmstrasse, which catalogues the brutality of the Nazi regime, and the Check Point Charlie Museum on Friedrichstrasse, which partially documents the persecution of German Jews.

Visitors, too, may wish to walk through the disused Jewish cemetery on Schonhauser Allee, where some of the greatest personalities in German Jewry were laid to rest.

On Potzdamer Platz, a bleak no-man's land which symbolized Berlin's political and geographical division until unification in 1990, numerous new corporate office buildings are rising skyward. Called the busiest construction site in Europe, Potzdamer Platz, currently a tangle of cranes, will be the site of Berlin's central Holocaust memorial.

Berlin's new Jewish Museum, presently under construction on Lindenstrasse, is only one or two years away from completion.

The New Synagogue, on Oranienburgerstrasse in eastern Berlin, was rededicated in May 1995 after seven years of painstaking work. Torched during Kristallnacht, and heavily damaged by a 1943 bombing raid, the golden-domed New Synagogue, or Centrum Judaica, was restored at a cost of nearly $50 million.

Now a beautifully designed cultural centre, within walking distance of the magnificent Permagon Museum, the New Synagogue contains photographic displays of the restoration effort and of Berlin Jewry, past and present.

The Jewish community centre on Fasanenstrasse, in the western sector, is the acknowledged hub of Berlin Jewry today. Constructed on the ruins of a Reform synagogue which was destroyed on Kristallnacht, the nondescript building – a mere block away from the Kurfurstendamm, Berlin's Fifth Avenue – contains a library, lecture and exhibit halls and a theatre.

Until mid-December, the community centre is hosting a photographic exhibition entitled *Jewish Berlin*, a survey of pre-Nazi times.

Berlin has several functioning synagogues. The neo-Romanesque temple on Pestalozzistrasse, where I attended Friday night services, was gutted on Kristallnacht and rebuilt in 1947. It is in the Charlottenburg district, one of Berlin's former Jewish neighborhoods. A plaque over the door leading into the shul's inner sanctum reads: "To the six million."

I also visited the Moorish-style Rykerstrasse synagogue, the sole remaining shul in eastern Berlin. The Nazis spared it only because they feared that the fire would engulf neighboring buildings.

***

Further information can be obtained from the German National Tourist Office in Toronto. Lufthansa Airlines has daily flights to Germany. Lodgings in Berlin were provided by the Hotel Steigenberger on Los Angeles Platz.

LifeStyle

Advertising Feature

Advertisement

Dollars For David Gifts From Canada Brighten Lives Of Israeli Children

Ami Finkelstein of Montreal has an emotional encounter with Israeli children who are looking forward to receiving their *"Dollars For David"* Chanukah gifts from Canada.

One hundred and twenty delegates to the Na'amat Canada Convention last month in Jerusalem learned how important Na'amat is to Israel's children.

"When I held the children in my arms at Na'amat's Residential Home for parentless children,' said Ami Finkelstein of Montreal, "my heart broke. I'm so glad that I can help make a difference in their lives." Finkelstein is one of 19 young leaders from across Canada who participated in special seminar activities held in conjunction with the Convention. "It's not enough to clothe and feed these children. We have to show them how much we love them. I never really appreciated before how important it is to send them *"Dollars For David"* Chanukah presents from Canada. It must make them feel very special to know that people way over here care about them!"

Newly-installed National President of Na'amat Canada, Erika Bloom of Montreal, explained that visiting the children at some of Na'amat's 850 day care centres helped all of the delegates to understand the psychological needs of the more than 25,000 children whose parents trust Na'amat to look after them each day.

"Na'amat's day care centres really change the futures of children from Israel's deprived areas," Bloom said. "First, we make it possible for both parents to work without concern about their pre-schoolers, so that the living standards of the whole family can be raised.Then we make sure that the children get both the hot nourishing food that they need for physical growth and the intellectual stimulation that will give them the head start necessary to guarantee their own future sucesss in life.

"But what we consider most important is to make the children happy and emotionally strong. That's where Dollars For David comes in. It would be really devastating for a child to be overlooked at Chanukah. We see to it that that doesn't happen to our kids!"

"Dollars For David" is a fund established in 1973 by Goldie Burstein of Toronto to buy Chanukah gifts for Israeli children who might otherwise be disappointed at gift-giving time.

To avoid singling out needy children from their peers, Na'amat gives a toy or book or doll, along with a candy treat, to each of the 25,000 children in their day care centres and Residential Home.

The money to pay for this is raised entirely in Canada, over 50% of it from readers of The CJN who respond to the orange envelopes that are enclosed in the paper. Thirty percent comes from Jewish school children in many cities across Canada, with the balance made up by donations from Na'amat Canada's 4,000 members and their friends.

Advertising Feature

LifeStyle

Homestyle Gefilte Fish worthy of Strub's name

It was only a matter of time before Strub's, the leaders in beet horseradish, dill pickles and herring, added gefilte fish to their compelling selection of traditional products.

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The tradition continues. Look for Strub's to introduce more items in '97.

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What makes the J.S.R. so successful is our concept of allowing singles to select for themselves who they would like to go out with. By reviewing detailed and comprehensive biography profiles on each member, **including photographs**, members are provided with a clear "picture" of what their potential partner is all about. The J.S.R. process is very much a two way street. Members are given the freedom to be the selector, the selectee, or both. Once both parties give mutual consent, phone numbers are then exchanged. This system enables members to make informed and quality dating choices, without relying on others to decide for them. There **is no matchmaking here**.

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The J.S.R. concept has been so successful that the service is **averaging an engagement every six weeks**. Hundreds of dates are arranged monthly, with thousands of selections made each year. With new members joining on practically a daily basis these figures are expected to rise even higher in the days and weeks ahead.

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Another important factor which J.S.R. members benefit from are long office hours. Our office is open six days a week, including evening hours and Sundays. A professional and dedicated staff ensures that J.S.R. members are well taken care of on each visit. Members can make appointments as many times as they wish, and may choose as many people as they would like, throughout the year. **Most new J.S.R. members are usually dating within one week of joining the service.**

Jewish Continuity Is Our Business

With intermarriage still on the rise, J.S.R. accepts the challenge of being Toronto's number one Jewish dating service and continues to play a large role in the Toronto Jewish community. Whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship, or even marriage, now is the time to sign up with the Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto. Call us today at **(416) 398-7068**. E-mail: **JSREG@ACCENT.NET**

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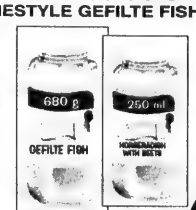

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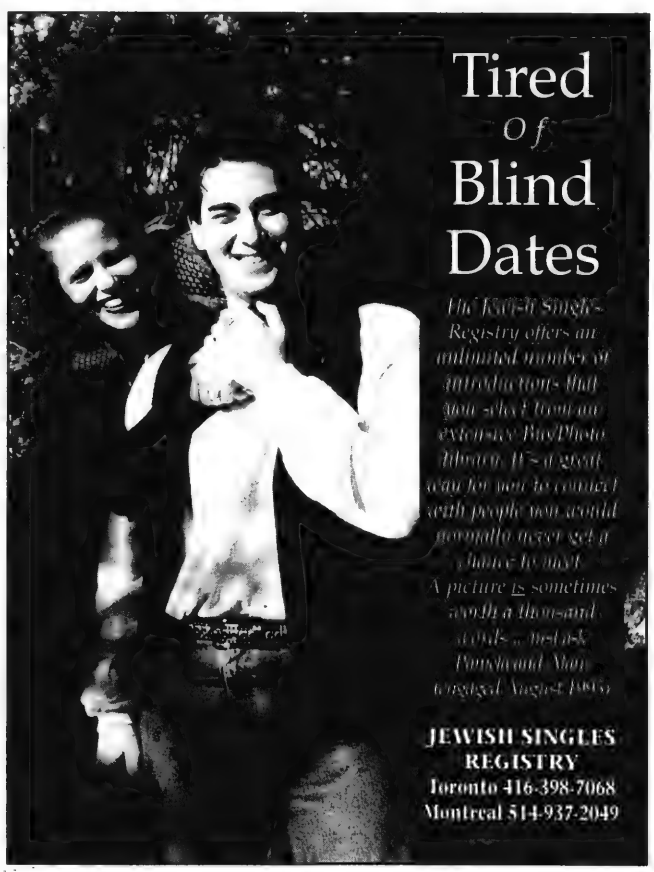
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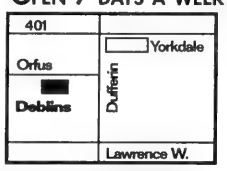

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Study examines children of survivors

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Children of Holocaust survivors have either very much more intense personal relationships or very much more distant ones than the general population, a recent study has shown.

Dr. Danny Brom, of the Ezrath Nashim Sarah Herzog Memorial Hospital in Jerusalem and director of research at Amcha, a support, counselling and documentation organization, told *The CJN* that the study also showed that, contrary to popular belief, there is not more psychopathological behavior.

"This is important, because it takes away the guilt many survivors feel about how they brought up their children," he said.

This study, the first done especially on the second generation, he said, was a double-blind one – the interviewers didn't know they were interviewing second generation survivors, the survivors didn't know they were being interviewed because of that status, and neither knew the whole interview was actually to study the psychology and behavior of the second generation.

They all believed that the interviews were about coping mechanisms, he said.

The basic problem had been, he explained, that clinicians believed that there were serious problems with Holocaust survivors and their children: they were over-involved with each other; the children were unable to become fully independent; the parents were not able to regulate aggression in a healthy way; and they transferred their unresolved traumatic experiences to their children.

Most research had not corroborated these beliefs. However, Brom said, earlier research was conducted superficially, and did not include, as his study did, personal interviews.

Dr. Danny Brom

The interviewees, women between the ages of 30 and 45, were divided into two groups, matched exactly for such characteristics as age, birth order and educational status. The only difference was that one group was comprised of second generation survivors and the other was not.

The organizers, Brom said, then tried to discover if the study actually was blind – if the interviewers, for instance, realized what was really going on.

"Only one caught on – and she was a second generation survivor herself," Brom said. Interestingly, her results were the same as those who were unaware.

They then went to the survivors, and scored the severity of their parents' experiences during the Holocaust, he said.

"We were shocked to find an almost exact correlation between the severity of the parents' experiences and the difficulty the child had in creating a separate life."

Brom and his associates at the Laytner Institute of the Herzog Hospital are doing more research. One study is to correlate their research with a study done in New York's Mount Sinai Hospital of institutionalized second generation survivors. Another is to study amnesia in Holocaust survivors.

"Some survivors, including child survivors, have blocked out whole parts of what happened to them, trauma that has been fully documented," he said.

One woman, for instance, Brom said, told her therapist she had spent the war years in Indonesia. She had indeed spent time there – but she had returned to Europe, and had been sent to Auschwitz, where an aunt had found her.

Child survivors, he said, may have no recollection of the moment at which they were separated from their parents.

This is especially important, Brom noted, with Holocaust deniers claiming that survivors' memories are implanted by therapists, the so-called "false memory syndrome".

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Neuropsychology chair named

TORONTO – Dr. Fergus Craik, one of the world's eminent researchers in the field of memory and aging, has been appointed to a new chair in neuropsychology at the University of Toronto (U of T) and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, a position jointly funded by both organizations.

The Baycrest Chair in Neuropsychology in the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Science, U of T, will promote scholarly links with the Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Centre, and will strengthen research and teaching in neuropsychology at the university.

In his new position, Craik will have more time to devote to his research on aging and memory at Baycrest, but he will continue to teach undergraduate and graduate courses at the university.

"The chair is dedicated to maximizing research in neuropsychology, particularly the effects of aging on cognitive functioning," says Dr. Donald Struss, director of the institute.

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OFFICE SPACE/MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON
Freestanding bldg w/7 car parking.
Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

PRESTIGIOUS ROLLSCOURT $1,588,000
6,000 sq. ft. of luxury to be built 79'x156'.
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JUST REDUCED $699,900 — HURRY
Lovely 4,200 sq. ft. home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW GLEN, HUT LOT, PRIVACY $349K
4 br + main floor family room + fin. lower.
O. Guvenal* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

ARNOLD & YONGE, CUSTOM HOME, $899,900
Approx. 5,000 sq. ft. 5 br +++ Being built.
O. Guvenal* 226-1987

"MASTERPIECE"! BATHURST/ELGIN MILLS
Gorgeous 3,530 sq. ft. home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK "ELEGANCE" 2 BDRM, 2 BATH
Fam. rm + sol. Approx. 1,775 sq. ft. P. Grossman* 226-1987

SKYMARK "ZENITH" 2-3 BDRM + FAM RM
2 baths, approx. 1,711 sq. ft. P. Grossman* 226-1987

REDUCED TO SELL 3 BDRM TOWNHOME
Yonge/Eglinton - all new, 2 prkng spots.
B. Westbrook* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

OCEAN FRONT PENTHOUSE CONDO $1.5 M
6,000 sq. ft. ultra-modern. M. Cowan*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

FLORIDA ON THE RIVIERA WILLIAMS
Island *Lifestyle* M. Cowan*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

MAGNIFICENT GULF COAST PROPERTY
Golf, marina, fishing. M. Cowan*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

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ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

LOWER VILLAGE — FABULOUS LOT!
Perfect for entertaining! Enormous principal rooms, grand foyer & marble floors, cornice mouldings, 4 bdrms., 6 baths, finished basement. Motivated vendor! Call *Susan Shainhouse.

FOREST HILL "UPPER VILLAGE" ASKING $548,900.
Large 4 bdrm., 2 storey, fin. bsmt., 4 baths, 54' wide lot, main floor fam. rm. *Leon Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248.

BATHURST & CLARK! WON'T LAST!
Magnificent custom built home, neutral decor, greenhouse kit., large lot, fin. bsmt., pool & much more! $499K. *Al Sidofsky.

BATHURST & CLARK "H & R" HOME ON HUGE LOT!
About 4,200 sq. ft., stunning 5 bdrms., 5 baths, huge kit., ceramics, strip hardwood & parquet floors. *Carey Rosenzweig.

BATHURST & CENTRE — BRAND NEW!
Custom built home over 3,600 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 9 ft. ceilings, upgraded top to bottom. Call *Sarah Tamin.

BATHURST & STEELES CUSTOM HOME
Brick/stone exec. home, hardwood, ceramics, pick your interior finishings. Call *Carey Rosenzweig.

BATHURST & STEELES, REDUCED TO $369,900.
Attractive 3,000 sq. ft. home loaded with skylight, 5 appls., built-ins and much more! *Allen Sidofsky.

BEAUTIFUL LOT ON ARNOLD AVENUE!
Mature trees, steps to Bathurst, renovate existing bungalow or build a new home on 100 x 180 ft. lot! *Sarah Tamin.

"ROSEDALE NORTH" $329,900.
Fantastic 4 bdrm. over 2400 sq. ft., finished basement, skylight, appliances & much more! *Allen Sidofsky.

BATHURST & YORK HILL — JUST MOVE IN!
Stunning, totally renovated 4 bdrm. on quiet crescent, new kitchen, new windows, separate entry to basement. *Sarah Tamin.

BATHURST & CLARK $278,000.
Lovely 4 bdrm. home, finished basement, double garage, appliances, air, security +++. *Ted Waxman.

BATHURST SOUTH OF STEELES — ONLY $244,900!
Spotless large semi b/split, spring possession. *Sarah Rovet.

CONDOMINIUMS

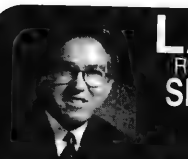
BAYVIEW & JOHN TOWNHOME $141,500.
End unit, 3 bdrms., appliances, fin. basement. *Ted Waxman.

BATHURST & STEELES — LUXURY BUILDING!
$187,000. Large condo with 2 parking spaces, overlooks park, 5th floor, 2 full baths, very bright & sunny, must sell quick! Call **Berta Kogan (905) 881-7248 or (905) 764-7200.

BATHURST & STEELES "7 TOWNSGATE"
Immaculate large corner unit, beautiful kitchen, 2 parking spaces & locker! Must see to appreciate! *Sarah Tamin.

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200



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Power of Sale - $159,900. Potential for 6 units. Oakwood/Eglinton. Must Sell!
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Paul Slavens

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FINE HOMES

LOWER VILLAGE CONDO — 1ST AD
Spacious & elegant 2 BR. suite boasts crown mouldings, french drs, gourmet kitchen & w/o to balcony, 2 pkg spots. *Carol Cotton

• • •

FOREST HILL — $479,500.
Attractive centre hall. 4 BRs. + main flr. den & powder rm. Master w/ens. Reno'd kitchen + brkfst area. Fin. l/vl. CAC. Garage. **Don Wagman

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE — BUILDING LOT
Great opportunity to build new home Kilbarry/Dunloe. 50 x 140 ft. lot. Land value only. *Edith Weiss

• • •

CASTLEFIELD/CALDOW — $277,000.
Charming 2 bedroom bungalow on excellent lot. Build a new home or renovate. Great opportunity. Call *Stephen Waisberg

• • •

GLENCAIRN AVE. — $549,000.
Centre hall. 4 bdrms. Updated baths & kitchen. Beautifully finished lower level. Private drive, single garage. *Faith Goldman

• • •

LYTTON PARK — $710,000.
Stately 5+ BR. Large principal rooms. Main floor den. 2nd flr. family rm. Finished lower level. CAC. Betz pool. *Barbara Kaplan

• • •

ARMOUR HEIGHTS — $438,000.
Stunning 4 bdrm home in fabulous location. Main flr. family rm. Huge kitchen + brkfst. rm. Fin. l/vl. Deep south garden. *Heather Sherman

• • •

JUNEWOOD CRES. — $935,000.
Spectacular Californian contemporary on a gorgeous landscaped lot. 5 BRs., stunning fam. rm., soaring ceilings. Truly one of a kind. *Carol Cotton

• • •

YONGE MacPHERSON — SALE OR RENT
Renovated 3 bedrm. Main floor den with walk-out to deck. Skylite on landing. Fireplace. CAC. Private garden. *Donna Taylor

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BATHURST/SHEPPARD $229,000
1st time offered, 3 bdrm, L-shaped liv. & din., fin. bsmnt. w/priv. entr., A-1

• • •

FINCH/BATHURST CONDO $98,900
2 bdrms., liv. & din. comb., w/out to balc., appls. , pkg.

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BATHURST/WILSON
Ideal starter SOLD bdrm., 2 baths, fin. bsmnt. Don't miss!

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BAYVIEW/HWY 7 CONDO
$137,900, 2 bdrm., 2 bths, lndry ensuite, appls., balc., A-1.

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WILMINGTON/FINCH
5 bdrms., 4 bths. + fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble. drive, gar.

• • •

SHEPPARD/BATHURST
3 + bdrms., 4 bths., fam. rm., den, lge. kit., w/outs, fin. bsmnt., dble. gar.

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BATHURST/STEELES
2 bdr T.H., large model, fresh painted, bleached oak flooring, designer window coverings, new kit. counter, new bath & kit. fixtures. $192,900.

7601 BATHURST
2 bdr. condo, 2 full baths, freshly decorated, new carpet.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
3 bdr bungalow + in-laws suite, double garage, thermo windows, new appliances, too many extras to recall. $329,000. Please contact

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- Palladium 2 br, 2 wr, 5 Appl., Sun. white kit.$147,900.
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BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View.

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$175,000. Large 2 bedroom condo + enclosed solarium, 5 & 5 piece bath, move-in condition.

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Get a winner & buy 4.5% mtge. $229,000 asking. 4+ bdrm, fin. bsmt. 2 storey semi det. Move-in condition.

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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

EGLINTON-BATHURST, 3 bdrm., 2 storey, fin. rec rm., **G. BARON R.E. 665-3044.**

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Charming, renovated & decorated, 4 bdrms., family room, hardwood floors, only $289,000. definitely will not last at this price! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow on 50x134 ft. lot. Prestigious location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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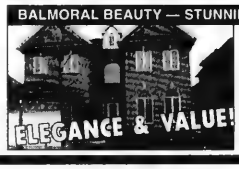

4 bdrms., 4 baths, large rooms, stained glass doors & windows, dream kit., stone fireplace. An architectural masterpiece — MUST SEE! Reduced to $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / SHEPPARD – OPPOSITE EARL BALES PARK Det. bung. on huge 88 x 103 ft. lot, possibility of severance, fab. location, country in the city! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE – HOME RENTAL – REDUCED! Spacious 4 bdrm. ranch bung., gorgeous 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rooms, finished basement, reduced to $1695 / month. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES – PRIME UNITS!

CHOICE OF 2 UNITS
1. Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $209,000.
2. 2 bdrm., approx. 1,100 sq. ft., mint, freshly painted, only $162,900. **Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.**

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AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN
• 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.
• 50 x 134 foot, only $369,000.

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NORTH

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - SPECTACULAR
$1,618,000 New 6000' custom built. Superb location & deep lot. Unique street presence, state of the art constr. Elegant prof. decor. Tr. Gar. Arlette Carmona*

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $689,000
Very sought after area! 4-bdrm., gorgeous, grand main flr. fam. rm., & den, w/o bsmt to pool. Jean Zinman*

WILSHIRE/WESTMOUNT - ELEGANCE
Stunning 4-bedroom home, completely decorated. Must be seen! Only $329,000. Call Andrea Shulman*

ATTENTION FIRST TIME BUYERS!!
One year old 3-bedroom gem SOLD out from kitchen.Only $218,900. Maxine Povering**

CENTRAL

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
23 Kelway Blvd. $529K! Listed & Sold w/multiple offers for 100% price! IS YOURS NEXT? Call Sandon!

1ST ADS! YONGE/BLYTHWOOD!
$529,000 Walk to Yonge & shopping! 3 bdrm., walk-out fam. rm. to stunning garden. Bright light principal rooms. Dbl. Gar. 35' x 150' - Hurry. Arlette Carmona*

MELROSE AVE. - TOP VALUE $449,000
New construction on existing foundation. 3 bdrm., 4 bath, combined kit./ fam. rm., fin. bsmt., 40' x 107'. Huge deck, dble drive, sgl. gar. - Act Now. Arlette Carmona*

1ST AD! GLENCAIRN/BATHURST
3 bdrm. updated raised bungalow. In-law apt. Lot Size: 50'x132'. Please call Olga Schrage*

1ST ADS! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
400 Brooke Ave. $259K! 3+1 br., 2 bth., 60'x130' lot.
247 Patricia Ave. $229K! 3 br., on fab. 50'x132' lot.

WELLINGTON/YONGE $179,000 .
Luxury condo. 1183 sq. ft. Lge. 1 br. & sol. ens. laundry, 5 appls., pkg. sec., full rec. facilities. Gert Kerbel*

LEASED! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
259 Joicey Blvd.! $1,550/mth! Listed & Leased 100% of price! IS YOURS NEXT? Call Sandon.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

4 yr. old backsplit, **Bath./Wilson**, close to all amenities, bsmnt. apt., large Passover kitchen, all appl's. Must see! Call 741-9886 for appointment.

Bath./Clark, immac. 3 + 1 bdrms., 148 Gailcrest Circle, 416-743-1908 (days) or 905-881-0340(evgs./wknds.). **Open House** Sun. Dec. 1st. 12:30 - 3:30 pm.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath. s. of Steeles, Beautiful luxury 3 bdrm. modern house, many, many extras, avail. Dec. 1st. $1800.+/mo.416-665-4043.

Bath./Lawrence, 3 bdrm. + bsmnt., occup. Jan. 665-3050.

Bath./York Downs, Kosher large home for rent, with a finished bsmnt. apt. Please fax 416-638-1504 or call 416-636-6366.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST

CONDOS
JUST LISTED
2 BR, 1173' - $165,000
2 BR, 1173' - $163,000
SKYRISE 1855' - $290,000

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STEELES

Call *Paul Hegarty*
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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Finch, 2 bdrms. in lux. hi-rise,built-ins,$1100. 736 8007.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Egl., spac. 2 bdrm. to share with male,furn. 497-6196.

Bath./Steeles area, 2 bdrm., male, kosher, $400./mo.,nr. TTC & shopping. 665-1388.

Free room in Forest Hill home, for retired female, in exchange for companionship & light duties, 489-1768.

Looking for a flat mate to join an existing arrangement, Bath./Steeles/Finch, 780-0229.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
Highrise.
Only 6 apts on each floor.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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1 bedroom apt. in small fireproof building. Balcony, elevator, handicap secured entrance. 2 car park. Steps to T.T.C., synagogue & Lawrence Plaza. **$650** monthly. Call Mrs. Riggs **782-0479.**

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student, n/smokers. 782-0774.

Bath./Lawrence, 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, close to shul, nr. TTC, well kept, 416-787-4487.

Bath./Shepp., furn. bsmnt. apt., sep. entr., pkg., alarm system, n/smoker, suits 1 or a couple. 633-2189.

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Thornhill, spacious 3 bdrm., 5 appls., avail. Dec. 1. 497-6196.

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HOLLYWOOD - QUADOMAINE
Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished, SE corner, oceanview, 24-hour security, restaurant, 2 swimming pools. Owner motivated - $135,900.
Call **Margaret** *or* **Carol**
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Fabulous 3/2½ pool home with double lake view in prestigious Boca Grove Country Club. $369,999.
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Spacious 2 bdrm/2 bath corner condo - Miami Beach
Magnificent view of ocean & bay. Large pool, fitness room, close to everything. Will pick up at airport.
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REMAX ULTRA REALTY GROUP

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

South Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700.U.S. 416-783-3288

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aquarius-Hollywood, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn. condo. on ocean, exc. views, avail. Jan. 6th, min. 3 mos., $2,000/mo. U.S. 416-223-1606.

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 bath, main flr., close to club house, nr. all amen.,3 mos. Call 638-4070.

Get away from the Snow!! Disney World/Epcot, fully furn., condos w/kitchen, 2 bath, etc. 1 bdrm (4 ppl) from $600./wk. U.S., 2 bdrm (6-8 ppl) from $750./wk. U.S. For info./res. call Rebecca Coen (310) 551-1510.

Hallandale/La Mer, luxury 2 1/2 bdrm. apt. on beach, fully equipped, low floor. Avail. Jan. 8th - April 8th, n/smokers, 2 mos. min. 416-223-0511.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & *pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

Inverary in Lauder Hill, beautifully furnished large 2 bdrm., 2 4 -pce. baths, balc., golf, tennis & more on premises. Avail. Jan., min. 2 mos. 914-634-9191 (evgs).

Longboat Key, Exclusive beachfront & tennis resort, 2 bdrms., 2 baths condo., new furniture, fishing, swimming pool, starting Dec. Seasonal/monthly. Phone/Fax (216) 248-2747.

Magnificent Villa, Ft. Lauderdale, 3 bdrms., 3 baths, 5 TV's, hot tub, sports, shops, kids rec. Ideal for family/2 couples. Wk./mo./Xmas. (other homes worldwide). 416-445-6200.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hollywood, Oceanfront, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths. Avail. Feb., Mar. & April, $2,000/mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358.

Snowbirds Special! Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. area, spac. 2 bdrm., 2 baths condo., furn., carpeted, amen., 3 mos. min., $600./mo. U.S. 202-364-6669.

Two - one week stays at the **Hollywood Beach Tower**, on the ocean, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, Maid Service incl. 1st wk. Jan. 18-25/97, 2nd wk. Feb.8-15/97. 416-650-5680.

West Palm Beach, Lands of the President, 2 bdrms. 2 bath, with or without golf, Jan. 3 - April 22. Call 905-731-5626.

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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, avail now, flexible times, 2 bdrms., all conv., central, 944-1188, Hanna.

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Accountant for downtown C.A. office. Should be computer literate & have Canadian exper. in personal & corporate tax preparation. Must have ability to prepare working paper files & financial statements. Fax resumé to 416-364-0901.

Exper. sales staff, PT, for Judaica Book/Gift Store, must have Jewish book knowledge & able to read Hebrew. Call Joyce, 256-1010.

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***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

All Purpose Cleaning, avail. for Holidays, dinners, parties, open houses, guests, waiters & renovation. Call **Toronto Home Care,** 416-620-9240, Mariola.

Babysitter/Housekeeper, live in/out, reliable, Sonia 654-6974.

Cleaning lady with own car, looking for houses and apts. to clean, exper. good work, call Brzena, 763-1524, after 6 pm.

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Caring, kind, honest, energetic, legal nanny, seeks FT job, live-out, 656-6974.

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Cleaning lady/caregiver seeks position, refs. avail. 269-7202.

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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora. 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Companion needed to join elderly lady for 4 mos. in Florida, exc. conditions, gen. housekeeping duties. Call 905-856-0400(day) or 905-833-4316 (evgs./weekends).

Woman wanted to take care of child in mornings, Downsview area, refs. req. 631-6015.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA (certified) willing to take care of elderly days/nights, reliable, energetic and self-organized, refs. 749-0527.

Exper. HCA is looking for a job working with the elderly. Nursing/retirement home exper. as well as private care. 747-8900.

Exper. Male & Female (nurse) are looking for work to take care of sick/elderly people.633-4929.

HCA with car, exper. with refs., PT/FT, 667-0819, pgr.378-4026

259 SENIORS

COMPANION FOR SENIORS AVAILABLE. Responsible, mature, and caring 28 yr. old female is avail. 7 days/wk., 3 yrs. exper. with excellent refs. Honours B.A. in recreation & leisure studies. Please call Amy Geller, (416) 785-8573.

259 SENIORS

Elderly parents in Israel? Want to be more involved in their care? For more information, call **INTERNATIONAL CARE MANAGEMENT** (416) 236-6857 or 1-888-377-3222. Israel: (06) 786138.

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BIRNBOIM, Meyer (Meir) Harold - in Albany, New York at the age of 66 on the 26th of October, 1996. Son of Menashe and the late Shifra Birnboim. Remembered lovingly by his wife Alma, his children Sharon (Sid Lerner) of Winnipeg, Rachel and Yosef, and his grandchildren Shira, Aliza and Max Lerner. Survived by his brothers Chaim (Shirley) of Ottawa and Roy (Ronna) of Toronto. Meir received his B.Sc. from the University of Manitoba, M.Sc. from the University of British Columbia and Ph.D. in physics from the University of Wisconsin. He subsequently trained at the Carnegie-Mellon Institute and joined the staff of Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute in 1967; he was a visiting scientist at the Weizmann Institute of Israel. He was a respected teacher and researcher in the areas of rheology, polymer physics and non-linear optics. He was a kind and caring man, devoted to his family, and will be dearly missed as a son, husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish National Fund for a Special Project in Israel.

GOTTLIEB, Martin - on November 13, 1996.
ZWIEBEL, George - on November 13, 1996, late of 3555 Bathurst St.
ENGEL, Ella - on November 14, 1996.
BUZAGLO, Amelia - on November 15, 1996, late of 130 Dunn Ave.
LUTSKY, John (Jack) - on November 16, 1996.
GOLDSTEIN, Annette Yvette - on November 18, 1996, late of 11 Elise Terrace.

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PERLMUTAR, David - on November 6, 1996, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.

HIRSH, Eva- on November 7, 1996, late of 115 Antibes Dr., #804.

GLICK, Anne - on November 11, 1996, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #505.

BUCKSPAN, Annette - on November 12, 1996, late of 775 Steeles Ave. W., #803.

MILLER, Dr. Irving - on November 13, 1996, late of R.R. #3, Comp. #120.

SPRACKMAN, Bill - on November 13, 1996, late of 100 Antibes Dr., #1501.

RADOMSKI, Izak - on November 14, 1996, late of 4300 Bathurst St., #513.

NYMAN, Alan - on November 14, 1996, late of 517 St. Clements Ave.

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WINER, Elaine - on November 7, 1996, late of 5950 Bathurst St., #310.

CARBELL, Ron - on November 8, 1996, late of 32 Sandale Gardens.

KOHM, Dora - on November 9, 1996, late of 28 Wigan Cres.

UNGAR, Leslie - on November 10, 1996, late of 37 Heathdale Rd.

SCHWARTZ, Larry - on November 10, 1996, late of 5444 Yonge St., #1803.

WYNSTON, Bertha - on November 10, 1996, late of 44 Tofino Cres.

BAUMAL, Amy - on November 10, 1996, late of 93 Denlow Blvd.

ZAIDMAN, Anna - on November 10, 1996, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #1108.

DAWIDOWCZ, Joseph - on November 10, 1996, late of 55 Meadowbrook Rd.

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The Inside Back

Chanukah Greetings in next week's issue of

The Canadian Jewish news

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I have an 88-year-old grandmother who lives in a hospital. She resides with three other people in the room. Two of the three people are loud and mentally unstable. As a result of these women my grandmother seems to be in a confused state. We spoke to the Head Nurse, with no action being taken. What should I do?

S.E.

Dear S.E.,

You might suggest a meeting with the people who work in the department to discuss your grandmother's state of health from their vantage point. If you are still not satisfied with the results, then address a letter to the director of the hospital, with a copy to the president of the board of director stating your concerns. A response should be received within a limited period of time.

The next step would be a letter to the Ombudsman's office in the Health and Social Services department of your provincial government.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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1/3 cup chopped scallions
1/3 cup fresh parsley sprigs, packed
1/2 lb. feta cheese, crumbled
Fresh-ground pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients for the vinaigrette and reserve. Combine all the ingredients for the salad. Add the vinaigrette and mix thoroughly. The vinaigrette can be added well in advance of serving. Yield: 6 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Meuchzavim feel 'betrayed' by Netanyahu

By BILL HUTMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

They call themselves "the disappointed" and "the betrayed." No one can count their number exactly, but they are out there, feeling gloomy and distressed, when they had hoped to be basking in the glory of a great success.

Opinion

The *meuchzavim*, as they are known in Hebrew, are an apparently growing number of hardcore backers of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who voted for him because they opposed the Oslo agreements, but who in recent months have had second thoughts about their support.

Now, the *meuchzavim* face a major decision about how they should vent their opposition to Netanyahu.

For most of them, it is a question of whether to take to the streets again to protest against the government, as during the Rabin and Peres regimes. For a smaller minority of extremists, violence also is considered a potential tactic.

Security officials have issued repeated warnings that redeployment in Hebron is likely to spark a violent reaction in extremist Jewish circles, and that the prime minister himself might be a target.

Still, the *meuchzavim* are for the most part law-abiding citizens who are upset with the government and struggling with how to express their opposition.

"You promised, we believed, you betrayed" is the title of a statement released this week by the Women in Green, a group that was among the most vocal opponents of the Labor government and a strong backer of Netanyahu during the election campaign. Nadia Matar, the group's leader, says the slogan sums up the feeling today of many Netanyahu supporters who count themselves among the *meuchzavim*.

Representatives of a variety of right-wing groups, including Zo Artzenu and Women in Green, have been meeting in recent weeks to come up with a formula for, as they see it, "getting Netanyahu back on track." The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza also has been considering possible action.

The decision is far from simple. Protesting against Rabin and Peres was intended to benefit the political opposition. Today, despite the anger against Netanyahu, no one on the right wants Peres or anyone else in the opposition to return to power. The complexity of the decision the *meuchzavim* face explains the council's flip-flop in recent weeks.

At a heated emergency meeting three weeks ago, the council made what was presented as a dramatic decision to demonstrate against the planned redeployment in Hebron and the slowness of settlement development. The next day, the threat to take to the streets was dropped after a meeting between council heads and Netanyahu. Council of Jewish Communities members left the meeting saying they were promised settlements would be freed of restrictions on development.

Yet when the settlement restrictions were not lifted – at least not as much as the council wanted – it again voiced its threat to demonstrate against the government. Last Friday, there was a small sit-down strike by council members outside the Prime Minister's Office.

But the plans for wide-scale protests made at the emergency meeting remain on hold. Council leaders say they are reluctant to enter a public confrontation with Netanyahu and prefer to continue quiet lobbying to change government policy.

"You can't hold demonstrations every day," said council director-general Aharon Domb, in an interview this week in *Ha'aretz*. "You can't ignore the fact that the situation has changed. The tools that are used must reflect the situation. Public pressure is not just demonstrations. Organizing Likud Central Committee members can be just as effective."

The council, however, is under pressure to act. Under Rabin and Peres, grassroots groups were the first to call for big public protests, with the settlers' council eventually following. That may again be the case.

"Many in the national camp are slow to wake up," said Matar.

This week, the Women in Green came out strongly in favor of public protest against Netanyahu's policies in Judea and Samaria.

"Certainly, we can wait no longer, when all indications are that by silence, and by not criticizing Bibi, we are blindly showing support for a man who has not at all proven himself as yet to be a strong and inspirational leader," their statement said.

"While we do not in any way wish to partake in bringing this government down, we have decided that it is beneficial to the national cause to raise our voices in vigorous protest when we see the ominous signs of the direction which the present government is taking. Accordingly, we have decided to take decisive action criticizing Netanyahu for his failure to date to carry out what he had promised the Jewish people."

Matar said her breaking point came well before talks advanced on a Hebron redeployment, when Netanyahu agreed to meet Arafat over the summer.

"After four years of protests, of going to jail, I expected things to be different this time," said Matar.

Last week, as in the days of Labor, Matar again found herself dragged off in a police van, allegedly for disturbing the peace during a small protest in front of the prime minister's residence.

This week, Chabad, which during the election strongly backed Netanyahu, openly showed its displeasure with the prime minister's policies in the territories.

Thousands of Chabad followers converged on Hebron last week to protest any planned redeployment. Chabad, unlike the Women in Green, has the numbers and influence to make Netanyahu listen. Several weeks ago Chabad leaders met the prime minister to press him to make no concessions in the territories. They left the meeting disappointed.

Chabad spokesperson Menahem Brod said the movement has second thoughts about its campaign slogan, "Bibi – Good for the Jews."

"We have made our position clear to the prime minister," Brod said. "But we also know that we must be careful, because we all know that the alternative to Bibi is Peres or someone else in Labor, and that we certainly don't want."

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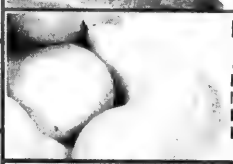

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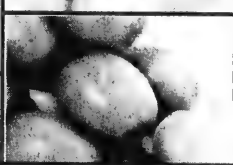

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Ethnic leaders from Quebec call for "urgent" action on federalism. ***Page 3***

Toronto and Thunder Bay shuls get that long distance feeling. ***Page 8***

Various Positions: Ira Nadel unites the myth with the reality of Leonard Cohen. ***Page 29***

Coast to Coast

Quebec separatist calls for a third referendum. ***Page 33***

TAB news

David Mirvish gives birth to a new musical named Jane Eyre. *Profile.* ***Page 53***

Sports news

Dena Weinroth shoots for the Yeowomen. ***Page 57***

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Shabbat Chanukah: Vayeshev
Candlelighting 4:21
Kislev 25, 5757
Havdalah: 5:26

Netanyahu, Arabs trade barbs

By DAVID MAKOVSKY, ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — On the eve of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's trip to Europe, he exchanged barbs with Arab leaders.

At the meeting of the Organization on Cooperation and Security of Europe in Lisbon, Netanyahu is expected to call for the establishment of a forum in the Middle East similar to the European one, although Arabs have dismissed the idea as premature.

The Arab League condemned Israel's expansion of settlements in the territories, warning such practices could destroy the entire Middle East peace process. However, it stopped short of accepting an idea reportedly favored by Syria that Arab countries reconsider normalization with Israel.

In a statement by the Prime Minister's Office last Sunday, spokesperson Shai Bazak said Israel "sharply rejected" such verbal attacks by Arab states and said Arab pressure will not succeed.

Continued on page 47

JOSEPH'S TOMB REOPENS
An armed Palestinian police officer stands at the gate to Joseph's Tomb as Jewish worshipers and students return to the shrine for the first time since the bloody clashes of last September. ***[Reuter/RNS photo]***

CJC to get Nazi files

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The private investigator who claims to have elicited descriptions of war crimes from Nazis or Nazi collaborators will meet with representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress sometime in December to pass along audio tapes of the killers' statements. The secretly-recorded tapes will then be given to Canadian law enforcement officials.

Steve Rambam of New York said he has been in contact with three Congress officials who are cooperating with his efforts to expose elderly Nazis or their accomplices. The Congress officials will transmit the tapes to those charged with bringing Nazi war criminals to justice. Perhaps current Canadian Justice Minister Allan Rock "will be different than every other justice minister in the history of the Canadian government and he will use our evidence quickly and efficiently," he said.

Continued on page 39

The spark in each one of us

Editorial

More than light, the candles of Chanukah bring acuity and insight.

Standing near the candles, in the company of our families, we usually catch a glimpse, even if only for a bare fraction of time, of the things that we often neglect. What the candles illuminate are the touching truths that live in the shadows and "busyness" of our daily lives.

The poetry that *The CJN* received from close to 300 children confirms this. Without guile or pretext, without layering or pretence, their songs are pure messages of the heart, and indeed, heartfelt messages of purity.

Many people regard Chanukah as the holiday in which the Jewish people won their religious freedom. But that is only part of the truth. The full truth is more accurately conveyed in the poetry we received.

Chanukah is the holiday in which the Jewish people won back the freedom to live according to the values of our ancestors. It represents the spark, the light, the flame, the soul in each one of us that is the most irrepressible energy on earth, created, urged and inspired by God to be, above all else, a force for good, living sanctified lives, bringing honor to the Jewish people and benefiting all of humanity.

It is not accurate to say there were two "winners" from each age category of poets. For all the poets were "winners" and all the poems were winning entries. But in the end, as we promised, we did highlight some of the poems. We chose two poems each from the adult and teenage categories, and four poems from the twelve-and-under category.

We also published additional entries alongside the names of the poets whom we felt deserved honorable mention. We thank everyone who sent us a poem, or who assisted or enabled others to send us a poem.

When you stand this year near the candles, in the company of your families, listen to the beating of your heart. Find your voice. Give expression to that wonderful, metaphysical sense of belonging to this great people and sharing in its great purpose. Sing the songs of Jewish life, of Jewish commitment and of Jewish history.

Look upon the candles in the manner that 12-year-old Adam Lazier would have us see them: "Forever ablaze, they are our spirit. They are the flame inside us all." And remember too, the words of 10-year-old Tamara Grundland: "These candles don't burn out."

Happy Chanukah

INSIDE

Chanukah brings memories of Bubbie.
Please see *Perspectives* on page 11.

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The News in Brief

CANADA

Victoria Ban

VICTORIA – The newly elected Victoria city council will try to convince other municipalities in the Capital Regional District to follow its lead in denying the use of public space and properties to any group "likely to promote hatred."

Encyclopedia Judaica

TORONTO – Enclopedia Judaica is now available on CD-ROM. The program sells for $139 and is distributed through TES, a major developer of Judaic Software. The company can be reached at 1-800-925-6853.

Synagogue Awards

CONCORD – The first annual Synagogue Awards Competition, sponsored by the Ontario region of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism was held at Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda Synagogue in North York.

The winners in three categories were presented with a certificate award plaque. The winners were Beth Tzedec Congregation – bulletins and periodicals; Beth Tikvah Synagogue – adult education; Beit Rayim Congregation – small synagogue awards for bulletins and periodicals, adult education and youth activities.

Montreal JNF Honoree

MONTREAL – The Jewish National Fund will honor community activist Neri Bloomfield at the 1997 Negev Dinner to be held May 22 at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel.

Bloomfield is the first woman to be elected national president of the JNF of Canada and the Canadian Zionist Organization and was the youngest woman to be national president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO.

ISRAEL

Computer Science Award

REHOVOT – A Weizmann Institute of Science mathematician, Prof. Amir Pnueli, has been named recipient of the 1996 Turing Award, the world's most prestigious prize, which has been dubbed the "Nobel Prize in computer science."

Herzog's Son Arrested

JERUSALEM – Arrest warrants have been issued In France against Yoel Herzog, son of former Israeli President Chaim Herzog, and his partner Nissim Goan for allegedly offering bribes in exchange for obtaining building permits for a hotel they own in Cannes.

In a case widely reported in the French media, the hotel manager allegedly offered the mayor of Cannes $300,000 on behalf of the two, in exchange for permits to expand the casino in the hotel.

Jordanian Airline Soars

JERUSALEM – A Jordanian airliner landed last week in Haifa, marking the inauguration of an air service that will link the northern Israeli city with the Jordanian capital of Amman.

Regularly scheduled flights on Royal Wings, a subsidiary of the national carrier Royal Jordanian, will begin in a few weeks, Jordanian officials said.

Survey Says...

JERUSALEM – More than 35 percent of Israeli youths said they hate Arabs, according to a survey by the Carmel Centre for Social Research.

Two-thirds of the young people surveyed said they do not believe that Arabs should be given equal rights in the Jewish state.

The poll of about 3,700 Jewish and Arab high school students was conducted in 1994 on behalf of the Israeli Education Ministry.

WORLD

Lebed Visits America

NEW YORK – Former Russian Security Chief Alexander Lebed told a group of Jewish leaders here last week that he is not an anti-Semite.

Lebed, who was fired from his post in October by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and who has his own presidential aspirations, paid a call on members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Human Rights Award

WASHINGTON – Genya Intrartor, a longtime Soviet Jewry activist, was awarded the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ) Grassroots Advocacy Award for Outstanding Work Coordinating the Prisoners' Commission at the organization's recent annual meeting. UCSJ is the principal grassroots Soviet Jewry organization in the United States with councils across North America.

JTS Honors Four Rabbis

NEW YORK – A group of four Conservative rabbis posted abroad recently received honorary doctor of divinity degrees from the Jewish Theological Seminary for their many years of service to the Jewish community.

Among them was Rabbi Irvin Beigel of Beth Tzedec Congregation of Toronto.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Dec. 3 1971

MRS. MEIR SEEKS NEW TIES WITH U.S.

Golda Meir, Israel's prime minister, is hoping through her visit with U.S. President Nixon, to re-establish the sagging American-Israeli relationship and to ask for a resumption of Phantom deliveries. All the indications point to her success in both aims.

The reasons why she has a better chance is that American efforts to achieve an interim Suez agreement are dead, and that the Soviet Union has resumed shipments of aircraft to Egypt.

LEVESQUE DISCUSSES SEPARATIST/JEWISH ISSUES

At a seminar on Canada and Quebec at Holy Blossom Temple, Parti Québécois leader René Levesque had this to say on the issue of Quebec separatism and its effect on Quebec's Jews:

"I know that history shows that a rise in nationalism means Jews get it in the neck. But what can I do about it? I can't change your history. However, anti-Semitism is not a significant French-Canadian characteristic and no special importance should be given to the occasional anti-Semitic statement from a political nut from one of the minor parties.

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Ethnic leaders call for renewed federalism

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A coalition of Italian, Greek and Jewish leaders from Quebec has called for "urgent" action to renew federalism and recognize Quebec's distinctiveness.

During day-long activities here last week, culminating in an address by Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion, the coalition called on Ottawa to implement a new course of action that would strengthen national unity and give priority to recognizing Quebec as different.

Leaders from the National Congress of Italian Canadians, (Quebec region), the Hellenic Congress of Quebec and Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region, (CJC-Q) unveiled a position paper entitled Three R's to National Unity: Reconciliation, Recognition, Renewal. As its title implies, the groups want Ottawa to patch up wounds left from last year's referendum by recognizing Quebec's uniqueness and rejuvenating federalism.

Stéphane Dion

The initiative stops short of calling for constitutional entrenchment of distinct society status for Quebec. Instead, it notes that the Québécois are in a "unique" situation in North America, and that it's "not surprising they seek to ensure that their language and culture are protected."

"We know that a significant number of francophone Quebecers seek a recognition of their place within Canada. While some may argue the contrary, our three organizations and the vast majority of the members of the cultural communities of Quebec strongly support the recognition of the unique contribution of Quebec to the Canadian mosaic."

The coalition cited a poll last spring which found that two-thirds of Canadians agreed the Constitution should recognize the fact that Quebec, while equal to the other provinces, is different mainly because of its language and culture.

"It is now time for us to work together to give concrete effect to this recognition," the blueprint states.

Coalition leaders, who first banded together five years ago in Montreal, told a press conference that their "most pressing need is to ensure the very viability of the country.

"This necessarily means that we finally recognize the unique place the French language and culture has and always will occupy within Canada. It is therefore essential that priority be given to this recognition, which is so sincerely sought by Quebecers."

The "biggest challenge" is to make Quebec feel part of Canada.

Canadians "must find some kind of formula to accommodate Quebec, based on good will and the understanding of diversity," said CJC-Q's Max Bernard.

Quebec is no more racist or intolerant than any other part of the country, added Bernard, who chairs Congress's national unity committee.

In the audience for the press conference was Dion, who said afterward that it's "very important" to see so many non-francophone Quebers supporting recognition of Quebec.

Dion spoke later that evening at Holy Blossom Temple to about 150 people, in a room where empty chairs outnumbered those present by about three to one.

The minister noticed that, and said it's not enough for people to show concern for Canada "once every 15 years," referring to the time span between the two Quebec referendums.

Quebec's separation – which would be "a terrible mistake" – would put tolerance at risk, Dion said in his remarks.

"There is a great contrast between the tolerance of Quebec society and the intolerance of the secessionist option. Understanding this contrast may hold the key to our unity debate."

Separation would also damage the spirit of tolerance in the rest of Canada, Dion said. In Quebec, it would weaken ties "above and beyond our linguistic or ethnic differences."

Dion said he sees no reason for not recognizing Quebec's distinctness in the Constitution, and that its purpose is not to hand Quebec more powers. And while the Liberals have recognized Quebec as distinct by a resolution in the House of Commons, the constitutional recognition of Quebec "must first be popular among Canadians. This reconciliation must be made in people's hearts, not just on a piece of paper signed by politicians."

Shown: Stone top buffet from Embassy Row collection

Greater Toronto Area

A rich collection of women's writing

As readers of this column know, *The CJN* considers the encouragement of new voices in the world of Jewish creative writing to be an important part of its mandate. Recently I advised readers of the appearance of the fifth volume of *Parchment*, an annual literary journal of contemporary Canadian Jewish writing. Adam Fuerstenberg is now its new editor, having taken over the post from its founding editor Shel Krakofsky.

Last week I received a copy of the fall 1966 issue of the quarterly *Canadian Woman Studies* published at Founders College of York University.

The editors of the quarterly journal have dedicated the entire fall 1996 issue to Jewish women in Canada "to broaden the public record of Jewish women's experiences in Canada."

It is a magnificent collection of writing, an anthology of reflections, experiences, essays, fiction, poetry, visual art and book reviews.

The editorial describes the genesis of the publication. "When we called for submissions, we were overwhelmed with the response we received. Articles, poems, drawings, and paintings from across the country told a complex and multi-layered story. The voices were at once personal and political, providing both critical analysis and individual histories that crossed generations, continents and identities."

As the editorial suggests, the journal covers a broad range of subject matter, all of which are personal statements, uniquely expressed and, for the most part, elegantly conveyed.

The journal also contains a selected but quite comprehensive bibliography, running 3½ pages, on items related to feminism and Judaism.

Many of the authors whose work appears in the journal will be known to the Canadian reader: Norma Baumel Joseph, assistant professor in the department of religion at Concordia University in Montreal; Rabbi Elyse M. Goldstein, director of Kolel in Toronto; Michele Landsberg, author and newspaper columnist; Sarah Taieb-Carlen, professor of sociology and Sephardi studies at York University; and Miriam Waddington, author and professor.

But most of the contributors are not as well-known to the Canadian reader, thus making the joy and the intimacy of reading their work ever more the poignant experience.

At the risk of being unfair to all of the contributors to Jewish women in Canada, I wish to comment especially on two of the works, both of which, I believe, appeared for the first time in print in this journal.

The first work is a short poem *Words of Hope*. It was "created" not written, by The Terrace Holocaust Survivors Group, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, " a unique group of women, originating from a variety of different countries, cultures and lifestyles."

"I speak five languages,
But I have no words for the Camps.
The Eskimos have many words for snow,
But we know only one word for death.
I have only tears.
Enough tears for many lives.
I cannot cry and I cannot laugh.
I can talk, and I want to talk.
If the new generations will listen,
The Survivors might find words for hope."

The creators of *Words for Hope* have forcefully captured in one short stanza, the paradox of the impotence, power and possibility that exist side by side within the simplest, yet most precious form of human communication: words.

The second work also deals with a Holocaust theme. It is a short biographical story called *For the Sake of Her Children* written by April Shour Laufer, whom I happen to know.

The story is based upon the life of Sarah Mittelman Neuman, the author's mother-in-law.

It describes, in gripping detail, that single incident for Neuman during the war on which her life or death hinged, on which her survival turned.

Shour Laufer has written the story in an almost minimalist, though highly effective style. Deliberately downplaying descriptive detail, she manages nevertheless, or perhaps as a result, to convey heartstopping narrative in the nuance of subtle phrases, or in the symmetry of parallel constructions.

The very first paragraph of the story is illustrative of its style throughout: "The war is over and the three of them have survived a year of hiding, a year where they dared not reveal their Jewish identity. She is 26 years old, and a widow, her engagement lasted longer than her marriage. Her year-old-baby sits on her lap at the kitchen table. The baby offers up a smile, looking happily into his mother's delighted face."

The painful contrast between the young mother's age, 26, and her widowhood is poignantly evocative; similarly, the brief, almost anecdotal comment that her "engagement lasted longer than her marriage".

Shour Laufer succeeds in packing a great deal of narrative and emotion into sparse detail. She also cleverly and creatively interspersers the text of the story with various references from the text of the account of Neuman's biblical namesake, Miriam.

The parallelism between the two Miriams works because of the way the author carefully synchronizes the events in the Holocaust story with the events in the bible story.

Indeed, *For the Sake of Her Children*, carries the reader briskly along in a river of turbulent emotions in a manner which is itself almost biblical in style - condensed, cadenced and concentrated.

Like most of the personal tales of that generation, *For the Sake of Her Children* is a very moving story, written clearly and boldly with an endearing humility and with obvious reverence and respect for both the subject and the subject matter.

The rich, diverse, tearful, inspiring collection of writing in Jewish women in Canada is worthwhile, and I would say, even important reading. *MBD*

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Greater Toronto Area

Heavy U.S. pressure on Israel seen unlikely

BY SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – U.S. President Bill Clinton will probably refrain from trying to cajole Israel's Likud government into modifying its approach to the peace process, Israel's former ambassador to Washington predicted recently.

"Clinton is unlikely to exert heavy pressure on Israel," said Itamar Rabinovich, who was Israel's envoy to the United States from 1993 until this September. "It's not his style."

Instead, should he find Israel and its Arab partners resistant to pursuing a peace settlement seriously, Clinton may well "walk away" from the talks, leaving the parties to their own devices, he said.

Even if Clinton gets tough with the Israeli government, the U.S. Congress would probably "mitigate potential pressure on Israel," noted Rabinovich, who was here to deliver the Harry Crowe Memorial Lecture at the University of Toronto.

Rabinovich, who tendered his resignation following Benjamin Netanyahu's victory in last May's general election, explained that a significant number of conservative Republicans in Congress don't even believe in the Oslo peace process and, in fact, empathize with the policies of the new Israeli government.

In a survey of Israel's relationship with the United States since the Carter administration in the late 1970s, Rabinovich said that the whole notion of U.S. pressure on Israel disappeared from the political vocabulary with the election of a Labor party government in 1992.

That Israeli government, led by Yitzhak Rabin, embraced the land-for-peace formula and needed no external prodding to move the peace process forward. As a result, a sense of intimacy prevailed in Israeli-American relations, a quality that seemed absent before 1992.

During the preceding period, when Yitzhak Shamir was prime minister, the United States exerted a great deal of pressure on Israel, he said. As an example, he cited the early 1990s controversy over U.S. loan guarantees to Israel.

Rabinovich, a noted scholar who was also Israel's chief negotiator with Syria, said that Syria's president, Hafez al-Assad, appears in no hurry to resume negotiations with Israel.

Aside from thinking in " large historical terms," Assad is biding his time, waiting to see who will replace U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is due to step down shortly.

'Certain comfort in the familiar'

Rabinovich's assessment is that Assad is still holding out for a deal "with a minimum of concessions on his part."

Now a professor of contemporary Middle Eastern history at Tel Aviv University, Rabinovich disagrees with the dogma that Assad is interested in the peace process rather than in peace itself.

Itamar Rabinovich

"His regime could live with peace," he observed. "But he can live without peace, too. There is a certain comfort in the familiar."

Assad, he added, refused to meet either Rabin or Shimon Peres "because he knew a meeting would produce an agreement" on the Golan Heights.

Rabinovich scoffed at a recent Israeli report that Rabin had offered Assad a complete Israeli pullback from the Golan in exchange for a full-fledged peace treaty.

Rabin was willing to make "significant (territorial) concessions," he allowed. But he did not offer Assad what he sought – an Israeli withdrawal to the June 4, 1967 lines.

Looking ahead to a possible resumption of talks between Israel and Syria, Rabinovich foresees two fundamental difficulties.

• Syria demands that negotiations begin at the point where they ended last March. Israel rejects this position.

• Netanyahu, who rejects the land-for-peace formula, is willing to make cosmetic rather than substantive concessions on the Golan. The Syrians seek a total Israeli withdrawal.

Assessing the results of Israel's protracted negotiations with Syria, Rabinovich said that Assad "had nothing in hand when he finished talks" with Israel last winter.

Israel and Syria engaged in "hundreds of hours" of discussions without reaching agreement on any of the key issues – security arrangements, the depth of an Israeli withdrawal and normalization.

In his formal address, Rabinovich said that Clinton considered the Israeli-Syrian track of the utmost importance, ostensibly because the United States viewed Syria as "the key" to geo-political change in the region.

Hewing to its policy of containing Iraq and Iran, Washington hoped to wean Syria away from its alliance with Iran, he suggested.

And while the U.S. has succeeded in isolating Iraq, it has not met with similar success in Iran's case.

Rabinovich declared that U.S. policy in the Middle East has suffered several setbacks since last summer – the defeat of the Labor party in the last Israeli election, the formation of a new regime in Turkey headed by an Islamic fundamentalist, the illness of Saudi Arabia's pro-American monarch and the attacks against U.S. troops based in that desert kingdom, and the victory of a pro-Iraqi Kurdish faction in internecine fighting in Kurdistan.

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Greater Toronto Area

Ottawa museum to add pavilion on Holocaust

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO –A $7-million Holocaust Gallery pavilion at the National War Museum in Ottawa is to be built honoring Canadian Jews who served in our Armed Forces as well as victims of the Holocaust.

"The gallery will be a stand-alone theme installation more than twice the size of any other theme or topic gallery in the museum with a mimimum size of 2,500 square feet and will complete the thematic content of the Canadian War Museum," said Victor J.H. Suthren, director general, Canadian War Museum

The project won the unanimous support of the recent national executive meeting of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Gerda Frieberg, a survivor and member of the local committee, told the executive that the museum's parent body, the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Que., has committed $5 million to the pavilion, to be started in the fall of 1998. Another $2 million must be raised, she said, appealing to all Canadians for support.

"We must get behind this project, if we can't raise the money it will die."

Rabbi Jordan Pearlson of Toronto is chair of the fundraising campaign, while Barney Danson is another member of the committee. The Ottawa representatives include Sarah Vered and Phyllis Teitelbaum. Among its distinguished supporters are Ray Hnatyshyn, former governor general and a director of the museum board, and Adrienne Clarkson, TV personality and chair of the museum.

The new Holocaust Gallery is a necessary addition to Canada's history, considering the country's poor record in accepting refugees from the Nazis, Frieberg told the CJC executive.

As well, its complete account of war service by Canadian Jews will correct a popular misconception. "Ordinary Canadians do not think Jews took part in World War II," she said.

Survivor accounts

The War Museum will bear the cost of ongoing programs for the gallery and its maintenance, Frieberg announced.

In addition to artifacts of the Holocaust, and personal survivor accounts, the gallery will also document repression against Jews in Europe during the rise of Nazism. A special section will deal with anti-Jewish sentiment in Canada in the pre-war period, including the Christie Pits riot in Toronto in 1933.

The catalyst for building the Holocaust Gallery was the 50th anniversary of the end of the war, she said.

Alhough he was not enthusiastic at first about the project being associated with a war museum, Nathan Leipciger, CJC Holocaust committee head, said he supports it now because more Jews would have died if the Allies had not won World War II.

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CCCJ ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews held its 49th annual awards dinner last week. Over 800 people attended to honor the council's 1996 Human Relations Award recipients. From left: lawyer Lloyd Fogler; author and philanthropist Evelyn Huang; A.L. Flood, chair and CEO of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; and Michel Jory, representing ShareLife, which was honored for its service to the needy. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Netanyahu's 'sincerity' for peace process questioned

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wants to end the Oslo peace process with an agreement on Hebron, but can't because he realizes that his position would spark more Arab-Israeli bloodshed, says the former executive director of Peace Now in Israel.

"For Netanyahu, a Hebron accord is the final stage of the Oslo process," said Gavri Bar-Gil, the New York-based Kibbutz Artzi representative in North America.

"But, following the recent violence in the territories, Netanyahu understands that he has to proceed to avoid an explosion."

Netanyahu, he said in an interview before delivering the first Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture, does not believe in the Oslo process. But he cannot undo it because Israel has crossed "the point of no return" in terms of its negotiations with the Arabs.

Nonetheless, Netanyahu has harmed the process, noted Bar-Gil, who was here under the auspices of Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

Israel's relations with Syria and the Palestinians have deteriorated. And the Likud government has dragged out the talks over an Israeli redeployment from Hebron, charged Bar-Gil, a former battalion commander in the Israeli army.

Gavri Bar-Gil

Furthermore, he added, Israel's Arab negotiating partners do not trust Netanyahu, whom he called "totally insincere" and one of "the most dangerous leaders" Israel has ever had.

By contrast, Rabin and his successor, Shimon Peres, were sincere in their desire to build on the achievements of the peace process, a point the Arabs well understood, Bar-Gil observed.

In his view, Israel cannot achieve peace with the Arabs unless it acquiesces to a Palestinian state or entity and withdraws from the Golan Heights.

Bar-Gil is uncertain whether Netanyahu will agree to these requirements. But many Israelis realize that a Palestinian state will not endanger Israel's security. And the Likud knows that a peace treaty with Syria is unattainable unless Israel cedes the Golan.

Israel's decision to expand its settlements in the territories violates the spirit of Oslo , he said. And the settlements convey a message to the Palestinians that Israel is not serious about peace.

"A big part of the settlements will have to be removed at the end of the day," he said. However, in his opinion, settlements close to the old Green Line should be retained by Israel.

Peres might have slowed down the peace process had he won last May's general election, he conceded. But the atmosphere of the talks would have been "totally different" and an agreement on Hebron's status would have been signed by now, he declared.

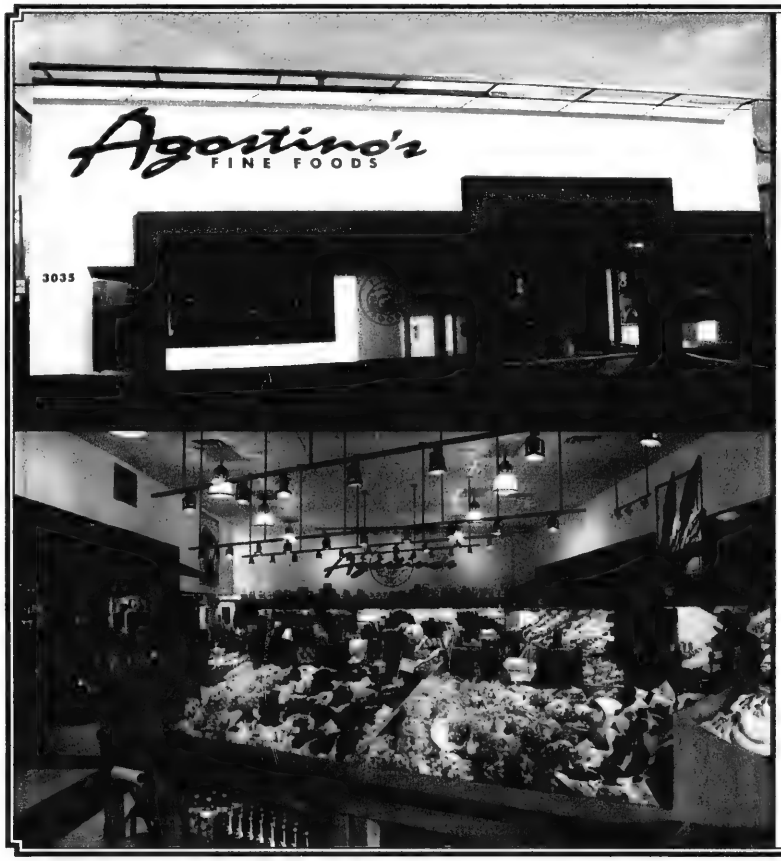
Peace Now's strategy in advancing the peace process is to mobilize public opinion and apply pressure on the government through mass rallies.

"It's our job to keep the flame of the peace process burning. It's a Jewish and Israeli interest, and must be promoted."

He urged Canadian Jews who care about Israel to support it.

TRIBUTE TO GOLDSTEIN

Author Gerda Klein recently spoke at a packed State of Israel Bonds luncheon in honor of Ruhama Goldstein, who is completing her three year term as North American chair of State of Israel bonds Women's Division. Over 300 people attended the event, including many international Jewish community leaders. Seen here (from left) standing: Dr. Sol Goldstein and Ruhama Goldstein; seated: Racheli Goldstein and Gerda Klein.



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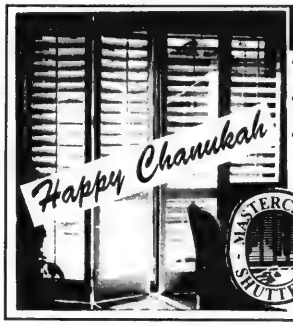

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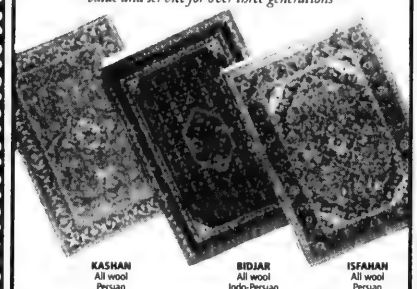
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Harris cutbacks hurting: Zbar

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO –As a result of a 21 percent cut in welfare benefits imposed by the Harris provincial government, a single mother, after paying rent, is left with $8 a day to pay all the rest of her bills.

"No matter how much baloney or tuna fish you eat that's pretty tough," said Morris Zbar, associate director, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

The government cuts in welfare and housing and in services for women, immigrants, the elderly and the disabled have had a "terrific impact" on the Jewish community, Zbar told a packed meeting at North York Central Library Nov. 28.

The Federation is not taking a "political stance" on the subject , Zbar said, but he detailed the specific cuts which are causing hardship.

At the same time, in the discussion period, he disputed claims by several audience members that Jewish community leaders have failed to take action to help victims of the cuts.

"In two days we raised half a million immediately in responding," he said, adding that the federation is working with several church and ethnic groups in a coalition effort to convince the government of the harm its agenda is causing.

The meeting was co-sponsored by Tzavta, a progressive Jewish forum, and Tzedek, the Jewish Campaign for Economic Justice.

One participant said that while distributing parcels to the needy he learned that people are using their food money to pay the rent.

One in seven Jews, or 13 percent of the Jewish community of 168,000 in the Toronto area are living below the poverty line, Zbar said.

An extra 500 families are getting additional supplements from Jewish Family and Child Service as a result of the Harris cuts and there is far less money to combat spousal abuse.

In addition, 385 housing units have been cancelled, $9 million has been cut from job training and the Bathurst Jewish Centre is in danger of losing 32 day care spaces.

"Legal aid has been eviscerated," he said.

And "the word is that Branson hospital will go the way of the dodo bird and that will hurt our elderly population," Zbar added.

The Ontario government plans 50 percent more cuts to social services, noted Tzavta chair Simon Rosenblum, who also chaired the meeting.

"The Harris government is in deep trouble now and will be in deeper trouble soon," said Michael Mendelson, former deputy secretary of the Ontario cabinet.

He claimed Premier Mike Harris "hit the racist button" when he opposed employment equity in the election campaign. "Winning an election on that basis is horrendous," he said.

Mendelson said he opposed the spending cuts mainly because they would finance a 30 percent cut in income tax.

Jews who benefit from any income tax cut should contribute that money to a fund to assist those in need, Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple suggested.

The Ontario government was described as "arrogant, ideological and incompetent," by Arlene Perly Rae, wife of former Premier Bob Rae.

An announced delay in its economic statement proves that the government is in a state of "crisis management" and is "putting out brush fires," she said.

SHUL AWARDS

Morris Adams (left), immediate past president, Ontario region, presents Jack Grossman (right), president Beth Tzedec Congregation, with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism award for bulletins and periodicals at the first annual Synagogue Awards Competition.

Toronto, Thunder Bay shuls get that long distance feeling

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The first telephone link of its kind joined people in synagogues in Thunder Bay and Toronto recently.

About 30 congregants at the Shaarey Shomayim Synagogue in the Lakehead city joined about 200 at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue in Toronto in watching a film and firing questions at the speakers. Then people in both synagogues could hear the answers and discussion via a hi-tech telephone link-up similar to that used in TV talk shows.

"Many of the small communities have been asking us to bring them the benefit of the speakers and attractions we have in Toronto," said Jennifer Turack, director of community services and youth activities, Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region.

A copy of the film *Expulsion and Memory* dealing with the Jews who were forced out of Spain by the Inquisition was made available to the Thunder Bay synagogue by its director, Simcha Jacobovici, who introduced it in Toronto and welcomed the northern group to the program.

In addition to the film, the evening featured guitarist Aaron Skitri, and Erna Paris, author of *The End of Days*, a book about the expulsion of Jews from Spain

The program was a celebration and fundraiser for Netivot HaTorah Day School, observing the 13th year since its founding.

Recently Turack told the Ontario region executive that families in the Peterborough area, Bowmanville, Oshawa, Timmins and London and its surrounding area have signed up with the Congress family outreach program.

A total of 32 students have enrolled in the high school outreach program and have started their learning by correspondence.

There will be a community Chanukah celebration in North Bay, a Tu b'Shvat party in Sault Ste. Marie in January, while a special program has already been held at the University of Windsor. A Kristallnacht ceremony that included people from the community was held at the University of Western Ontario.

Region chair Moshe Ronen was keynote speaker at Wilfred Laurier Unversity in Waterloo, delivering the Rabin Memorial Lecture.

The evening also included the latest Israeli film on Rabin, *Seven Days in November*. Members of the Kitchener-Waterloo community were in attendance, as well as students from the universities of Guelph and Western Ontario.

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi contrasts Jewish, secular values in today's world

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – There is a basic difference in how the secular and the Jewish worlds look at humanity, and it is important to deal with that difference, says Rabbi Aharon Lichtenstein, rosh hayeshivah of Yeshivat Har Etzion, a hesder yeshivah in Gush Etzion.

Rabbi Lichtenstein was giving the Israel Koschitzky memorial lecture at Or Chaim Yeshiva in North York.

Using the Syrian Greeks of Maccabean times as a synonym for the secular world of today, the rabbi noted that the main danger they posed was spiritual, not physical.

"There is an ideological conflict of *weltanschauung* [world view] and values," he said, of defining "the balance between what is, and what ought to be."

The Greek world, he said, focused on the natural world and man's place in it.

History was only important as it cast light on the nature of man, Rabbi Lichtenstein said, not "as the arena in which dramatic change could happen."

For Jews, however, history is pivotal. "The exodus from Egypt, Har Sinai and the patriarchs are critical points, as a result of which our lives and the course of human events changed."

The Greek world, he said, was concerned mainly with man."They admired him; they had confidence in him. Man was placed on a pedestal."

Highest on their list of priorities, the rabbi said, "was the development of the human personality."

This contrasts with the Jewish view, he said, which sees the ultimate goal of man as serving G-d.

"We cleave, serve, revere and relate to Him in the whole gamut of experience," he said. "Our emphasis is on leading a moral life, a religious life."

Man thus must develop his capabilities, but not merely for the sake of developing them – it is for the sake of serving G-d.

Another main difference between Jews and Greeks is that Jews "have a sense of the mystery of existence, overcome by G-d's role in the world. The Greeks felt that they lived in a world which even if it couldn't be controlled, could be understood."

That is not to say, Rabbi Lichtenstein went on, that we cannot derive benefit from Greek thought. Jews can accept their views that there is an order and rationality that gives structure to the world; that beauty is of value and so that which enhances beauty contributes to human life; and that art enriches and energizes life, providing us with a greater insight into the world around us.

"To the extent that we can enrich our own experience, we can enrich our own existence."

On the other hand, he said, the beauty intrinsic in Greek culture can detract from the study of Torah and of G-d.

"There is a passion and a dynamism in the Gemara," that can be lost in the Greek stress on order, the rabbi said.

"We must use [Greek attitudes] to enhance and understand our world, but we must be certain that what we integrate are our own values, not theirs. We must harness those values to serve HaShem and to heal our world."

During the question period, Rabbi Lichtenstein was asked for concrete suggestions as to how the educational system should deal with the conflicts between secular and Jewish learning.

The rabbi disagreed with those who ignore secular knowledge as a way to protect children from harm.

"If we don't deal with it, it filters in anyway," he said, and we will have no way of helping them deal with it in the light of what Torah teaches.

During the early years, he said, while there must be some secular learning, "there should not be so much as to decentralize Talmud Torah (the study of Torah)" or the place of Torah. Later on, he said, the basic values are already moulded, so there is less danger.

Israel Koschitzky, a founder and benefactor of Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim/Ulpanat Orot Girls School, was praised by grandson Jonathan Koschitzky, a graduate of Or Chaim; by Rabbi Yehuda Felix, the school's first rosh yeshivah and now head of Michlelet Yisroel in Israel; and by incoming rosh yeshivah Rabbi Moshe Yeres.

VOLUNTEERS HONORED

A group of 200 family and friends gathered at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care recently to pay tribute to Ted and Alma Waldman (centre), active volunteers there for 30 years. Shown with them are Syd and Florence Cooper (left) and Annette and Eric Exton. Proceeds from the dinner support ongoing Baycrest Campaign.

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Another name

We must now remember the name Drazen Erdemovic. Last week in The Hague, the slightly built, nondescript-looking, 25-year-old Erdemovic was sentenced to 10 years in jail for joining in the slaughter of hundreds of Muslims, men and boys, when Srebrenica fell two summers ago. He is the first person in 50 years to be tried, convicted and sentenced for war crimes and crimes against humanity. War crimes and crimes against humanity include deporting civilians and using them as slaves, conducting inhumane medical experiments and persecuting and murdering people because of political beliefs, race or religion.

True to the pattern of history's other war crimes trials, Erdemovic's testimony was as simple as it was disgusting. More than 1,000 Muslim men and boys who had surrendered to the Bosnian Serb army were taken by truck to a field some 70 kilometres away from the city. They were then lined up and killed. He admitted to murdering up to 100 people himself. The atrocity lasted five hours.

Erdemovic's "defence" was the same one which the accused pompously urged on their judges in the Palace of Justice in Nuremberg 50 years ago: "superior orders." Last week, as then, that defence was rejected. Indeed, warrants for the arrest of Erdemovic's superiors, Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, have been issued by the war crimes tribunal. They remain at large.

The sentence seems inadequate, grossly out of proportion to the nature and the number of the crimes committed. Since the tribunal's prosecutor, former Ontario Court of Appeal judge Louise Arbour, recommended the sentence based upon factors which she considered appropriate in the circumstances, we will not second guess the tribunal's decision. We are heartened, though, by her statement and hope that Erdemovic's trial and conviction will be merely the first of the nearly 100 individuals who have been indicted for their actions in former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda.

Next to the names Bormann, Goering, von Ribbentrop, Jodl, and others from the prisoners' dock in Nuremberg, we now inscribe the name Drazen Erdemovic, a reminder to us all that that crimes are committed, lives are wantonly taken, evil is perpetrated by individual human beings. And as a result, individual human beings, like the slightly built, nondescript-looking, 25-year-old Drazen Erdemovic, must bear the responsibility and be brought to justice.

Commendable act

But war crimes continue. Amnesty International reported last week that some 500 Tutsi refugees had been killed in eastern Zaire, the latest atrocity in a ghastly cycle of tribal vendetta and vengeance. If the perpetrators of these crimes cannot be brought to account, then it is urgently necessary to assist the thousands of civilians who fear that they may be the next victims.

The Canadian government, therefore, is to be commended for showing the initiative in launching the latest international humanitarian aid mission in Central Africa. About 20 countries will contribute to the multinational force. In all, there will be up to 2,000 soldiers, under Canadian operational command, whose task will be to try to locate refugees and then, once the refugees are found, to try to get them some food. There is no doubt that multilateral, political and expedient considerations were a factor in bringing the mission down to its final, smaller scale than that which had been originally proposed or perhaps even than that which might still be needed. But in an age when the horrible, haunting television images of the desperate and the starving usually travel further into our living rooms than into our conscience, a humanitarian aid mission, even one that is scaled-down, is an act of significant moral integrity.

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 5, 1976 the Communauté Sépharade du Quebéc was founded in Montreal.
(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Objects to caption on Arab woman

I am writing to express my disappointment in *The CJN*'s decision to reproduce a photograph of a young Arab girl submitted by Yoella Teplitsky to *The CJN*'s photo contest with a caption underneath the photograph reading "A young Arab girl *seemingly* at prayer." (*CJN*, Nov. 2, p. 3). The young woman has her eyes closed and is sitting on a rug in a meditative position with her hands resting lightly, palms upward, on her lap. Over her headcovering are the earphones of a walkman to which she is apparently listening. The printed description of the photograph evokes connotations that are mocking and pejorative to Muslims.

Is it certain that the young woman was actually at prayer when the photograph was taken?She may simply have been listening to music. But, assuming she was "seemingly" at prayer, the tape to which she was listening may have been one leading her into her devotions/meditation. She may have consciously assumed that pose at the request of the photographer. The possibilities are endless. But that is not the point.

Whether she was at prayer, or not, even if the photograph is a candid one, it constitutes a slur on Arabs and Islam. It's not difficult to imagine a similar scenario in a synagogue. We've all been witnesses to it. Someone speaking covertly on a cellular telephone, an adult congregant "semingly fasting" in Shul on Yom Kippur while chewing candy; groups of congregants chatting loudly during the Amidah. And yes, someone listening to a walkman. And so on. And so forth. Imagine a photograph of a young Jewish woman appearing in a Muslim periodical with the caption, "A young Jewish girl seemingly at prayer." Funny? No. Misrepresentative. Outrageous. Anti-Semitic, many readers of the *CJN* would cry out. And rightly so. As a Jew I feel ashamed of insensitive comments in a Jewish paper.

Who is that young woman? Does she know how her picture has been used/abused? Let us as Jews extend the same sensitivity to others that we expect others to extend to us, and that we extend to ourseves.

Anita Shir-Jacob
Toronto

Editor's note: The CJN *meant no offence with the word seemingly. We apologize to any readers who took a different interpretation.*

You don't need to go to Paris

Mark Mietkiewicz' The Jewish Highway columns are an outstanding example of *The CJN* bringing current and relevant information to your readers. In his two most recent columns on the subject of Internet Genealogy, e-mail lists and Usenet groups, he explained how we can start the search for our Jewish roots and extended families using the power of the computer and cyberspace.

His second column ends with a suggestion: "If all this searching has whetted your appetite, and you crave more human (as opposed to virtual) contact, then there's always the sixth annual Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Paris in the summer of 1997."

In fact, there is an easier way for our fellow Canadians to network face-to-face. That's by attending meetings of one of the five Jewish genealogical societies across Canada, in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

Stanley Diamond, President
Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal
Tel.: 514-484-0100

Moralists apply pressure to Netanyahu

Since his election as Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu has been widely under pressure enjoining him to comply with previous Israeli government's commitments in the "peace process" by all kinds of prominent and not so prominent personalities oblivious to Yasser Arafat's interminable violations of that process and to the bending-itself-backward Rabin-Peres government's cavalcade of concessions.

It is timely then to remind all those moralists that on May 17, 1983 the Lebanese government, led by Bashir Gemayel, signed the peace treaty with Israel, which, following Bashir's assassination, was swiftly abrogated by the Lebanese government. The event was readily accepted by the international community without a murmur of a whisper.

Isn't it proper then to demand that the present day preachers of sanctity of international obligations clam up and devote their solicitude to the plight of the Kurds, whose credentials for statehood by far outweigh those, if any, of the Palestinian Arabs?

Isaac Josey
Toronto

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"No person stays silent when another blocks the light."
Talmud, Baba Batra

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Linked together in a chain that transcends love

By PHYLLIS LIFSCHITZ BLUM

The winter holiday of Chanukah with its sparkling lights and spinning dreidels is always a bittersweet time for me. In December 1972, on the night we were to kindle the second Chanukah candle, my grandmother, Ida Stenzler, whom I called Bubbie, died at the age of 72.

As the fall days grow colder and holiday lights brighten the streets, my thoughts turn inward. I prepare to kindle a candle too, but it is a plain, white memorial candle.

My grandmother lived in the same house as I did, from the day I was born to the day I got married at the age of 21 and moved to New York. My parents both worked. So throughout my childhood, it was my bubbie who listened to me, advised me, protected me and taught me.

I remember her with gray hair, smooth, unwrinkled skin, despite her age, and the gorgeous blue-green hazel eyes she'd often fix on me with adoration. My grandmother was short and wide, with a round face and broad nose. A shadow of fuzz covered her upper lip. She wore her straight, gray hair short; however, in the last years of her life, she changed the style to long and kept it pulled back in a bun, saying that it was unseemly for old women to have short hair.

She was a very quiet, humble woman, embarrassed by her heavily accented English. Her life had been difficult; smiles did not come easily to her. The odd thing was that despite her lack of self-confidence, everyone who knew her liked her — our friends, neighbors, service people — everyone was comforted by her honesty, kindness and quiet wisdom. Her love for her daughter and son-in-law and my brother and myself was fierce and unconditional. She was always telling me how beautiful and how smart I was. Her devotion to the four of us was total and her happiness was derived from caring for us.

Many of my memories of her are connected to my senses — things I could see, smell, taste, touch and hear. One of the images most vivid to me is that of her coming out of the bathroom late on wintry Friday afternoons. Her face was beet-red and a sheen of perspiration covered her face. Around her wet hair she wrapped a towel, turban-fashion, and she wore a flowered cotton house dress. As she exited the bathroom, a hot cloud of steam threatened to exit with her, for one of her greatest pleasures was taking a very hot bath. She rewarded herself in this way for finishing all of the weekend's cooking and cleaning before it was time to light the Sabbath candles. All day she'd speed around the house, working with one eye on the clock, mumbling aloud that she wouldn't get done in time, but she always did.

On my return from school each Friday afternoon, I was greeted by two very different smells that always heralded the Sabbath — freshly baked bread cooling and floor wax drying on the kitchen floor.

My grandmother was born Ida Slipson, in a small town in Russia. She was the eldest of five children, two girls and three boys, with a sick mother and a religious father who prayed all day and left the wage-earning to her and her brothers. Bubbie left Russia for Canada and lived for awhile with an aunt who took advantage of her naivete and treated her like a servant. A few years later, she married my grandfather, Joseph Stenzler, who was never a well man, and nursed him through much of their marriage until he died at the age of 52.

My grandfather was never able to work very much; so, in order to earn a living, my grandparents rented a large eight-room house and took in boarders. My grandmother spent all day cooking and cleaning for these boarders. She then lived with my mother, her only child, all her life. When we moved to the suburbs in 1961, she came too. She was by my side always.

My bubbie had a fur coat, a fat, brown, furry thing called mouton, with large beige glass buttons. It was quite long because she refused to have it shortened, and it had a high rolled collar. She never wore a hat, even in the winter, just her colorful kerchief. When the coat collar was over her ears, she

was like a turtle burying its head in its shell for warmth. My brother and I loved when she wore her fur coat. We'd both sit in the back seat of the car with her, one of us on each side and snuggle very close, each of us slipping a hand into one of her coat pockets. I loved burying my face in her coat's velvety warmth and even when the car warmed up, we didn't move away.

My grandmother did most of the traditional Jewish cooking and my mother did what my grandmother called the "modern" cooking, like spaghetti and meatballs. How lucky I was to live with a grandmother who cooked all those wonderful foods that still evoke memories of warmth and love. An old advertisement says, "You don't have to be Jewish to like Levy's rye bread." That may be true, but every culture has its foods that bring groans of joy from people familiar with them. I am no exception.

It wasn't just foods that were wonderful; it was learning their names in Yiddish from my grandmother, using those words and connecting those words with her and with love. Learning Yiddish words from my grandmother made me feel special, like part of an elite group. *Halishkes* were not stuffed cabbage, *knaidlach* were not matzah balls and potato *latkes* were not pancakes. Pancakes were a breakfast food, eaten with syrup. *Kugel* was not pudding; pudding was Jello instant and came in flavors, and chicken parts were *pulkas* and *fligels* not drumsticks and wings. I have tried to continue my bubbie's "Jewish love connection" with my children. I've learned how to cook some of these foods and my children can name them in Yiddish.

After I was engaged, my grandmother would often give me something, like a teapot or a tablecloth, and say, "Put it away. It'll be a remembrance when I'm gone."

I would get upset and say, "Stop it, don't talk like that," denying her mortality. I could not imagine my life without her in it. She was right about those remembrances, though.

In the fall of 1972, Bubbie developed a stubborn cough. It lingered through many dull, windy weeks until the end of November when my father took her for a chest X-ray. They hadn't even returned home when the hospital called my mother at work. My bubbie had to return immediately to the hospital for more tests. It turned out to be lung cancer. At that time, I had been living in New York for 1½ years.

Newspaper articles have been written, asking, "Can you remember where you were when you heard about Kennedy's assassination?" or "Where were you when man first walked on the moon?" It seems that in the case of significant events, people can remember what they were doing to the minutest detail. That was how it was for me when I first heard that my Bubbie had cancer. The year 1972 was my first full year of teaching. I had just returned from my first open-school night. It had gone very well and I was feeling very pleased with myself. My husband met me at our apartment door and told me he had to tell me something. My mother had called when I was out and told him the diagnosis. I think he blurted out the news even before my body had settled onto the couch. A few days later was Thanksgiving, so we rushed p by car for the four-day weekend.

I will never forget the sight of my bubbie in that hospital bed. She had an oxygen mask over her mouth and nose and the nurses had put her grey hair into wispy braids. She looked old and scared. I was numb; I just stood by the side of her hospital bed. She always liked to see my new purchases; so despite our haste, I had remembered to bring a pink top and a turquoise bathrobe from New York. She held these items in her wrinkled hands and as she lifted off the oxygen mask to speak, she whispered to my mother, "Our Phyllis, she's some shopper, right?" My husband and I returned to New York and the call came from Montreal six days later.

When my father called to tell us the news of Bubbie's death, my husband and I were just sitting down to eat dinner. I can remember exactly what I was eating: hamburgers and spaghetti smothered in marinara sauce. I started to scream, rocking back and forth, holding on to the bottom edge of the kitchen cabinets. My father said he'd call back in a few minutes when I was calmer, but when he did, we were already on the way to the airport. I remember standing over my open suitcase, tears streaming down my face, choosing my funeral outfit so Bubbie would approve. She always said, "You always have to look your best, you never know who will see you."

We were picked up at the airport by my parents' closest friends; since it was an emergency, the airline had released our flight information to my father. Nevertheless, I was shocked to see them.

The day of the funeral was bitter cold, with a paralyzing wind sweeping across the cemetery and through us. I don't remember much, yet I do remember someone reaching over to my mother and tying a kerchief over her hair. It was so cold. I stood thinking of how my bubbie had always tried to protect me. Here I was, almost 23 years old, and this was the first funeral I had ever been to. There had been some funerals in the past which I had wanted to go to, but my grandmother's argument was always the same, "You'll go when you have to." Now I had to; she couldn't protect me anymore.

Her death came so quickly that I had barely had enough time to absorb the news of her illness before she was gone. I will always be grateful for that Thanksgiving visit to the hospital. One event, though, haunts me still. As we were leaving her room that Sunday morning to return to New York, she started to cry. My bubbie did not cry easily; of course, since I had moved to New York, we both always cried when we said goodbye and maybe that was the reason for her tears. My mother wouldn't let me go back into her room for another hug. She was afraid Bubbie would suspect the gravity of the situation. I will never forget standing in the hallway outside my bubbie's room, waiting for the elevator with tears pouring from my eyes. I never got that last hug.

Not long after my marriage, Bubbie had embroidered a very large tablecloth for me. On my visits home to Montreal, I would see her sitting in the kitchen, her glasses low on her nose and a large metal thimble on her finger, working a true labor of love on that cloth with its rainbow thread of orange-yellow flowers.

One day, in 1973, not long after she had died, I spent hours in my Bronx apartment, spreading out that tablecloth, folding and refolding it, hoping by touching where her hands had touched, that I would feel her presence and have her near me again.

Every year, on the second night of Chanukah, I light a memorial candle for my grandmother. Near me, stands my daughter, Heather, lighting her holiday memorah with its crayon color candles. She is my bubbie's namesake. The room is awash with the soft glow of candlelight. We stand together, linked to my grandmother in a chain that transcends love. It is a chain of spirit, of soul and I know that my bubbie stands with us and she is smiling.

Opinions

All Jews united in Judaism

The 65th annual General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations took place recently in Seattle, Washington. Many of you have probably heard about it. However, before I went, I had no idea what to expect.

By Viva Press

I was part of a New York-based program called Do The Write Thing. This unique program offers Jewish students interested in journalism a chance to meet other Israeli and North American Jewish journalists. We also met prominent people in the Jewish community including Shimon Peres, Yuli Edelstein, Natan Sharansky and Avrum Burg.

The two main themes at the General Assembly were religious pluralism and Zionism.

For me, the most influential speaker was Avrum Burg, chair of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Burg spoke about the need to get over our religious differences.

In a column I wrote this past summer from Zimbabwe, I asked, "Who is a Jew?" While there is still no answer, Burg, like other speakers at the assembly, shed some light on this issue.

First, let me explain to you who Avrum Burg is: he's a *kippah sruga* (knitted kippa) Orthodox Jew. He can't imagine living anywhere but in Israel. And he can't stress enough, he said, the need for a globally united Jewish community.

Burg said that the number 1 threat he sees in the Jewish community in the future, is mutual isolation. He acknowledged that each community has its own local needs, but "if we over-focus our attention on the local needs, then we raise Jews who are local-needs-Jews."

A Jew who is not connected to world Jewish solidarity will be very short-changed, Burg said. This type of Jew will not be able to survive.

In his address to the General Assembly, former Prime Minister Shimon Peres also discussed the problem of who is a Jew.

"Today if you ask me who is a Jew, I would answer a Jew is a person who keeps his or her children Jewish."

And this leads to the second point Burg stressed as important for keeping the Jewish community going.

"Fifty years ago we lost one-third of our people to the Holocaust, a very physical liquidation of the Jewish people," Burg said. "Today when we face the reality of 50 percent of people marrying out, we are losing people."

Assimilation is where we have to direct our attention. Burg said university students make up the third or fourth largest federation in North American Jewry. There are approximately 425,000 Jewish students in North American academic life and 85 percent of these students are concentrated on 105 campuses.

So we know where we the Jewish students and the next generation of Jews are. Now, the problem is to keep us part of the Jewish community.

Burg said that once "we lose the students, we lose them forever. But, if we keep them, then they will become dedicated to keeping Judaism in their life and family."

I think Burg is right. There are an estimated 300 Jewish students in the Atlantic Provinces, but only 70 or so come out to the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation (APJSF) programs. It's not that the APJSF is doing a poor job, but that the APJSF has to continue doing its job. Every year new students come to the activities we plan. Also, the Halifax community helps keep the Jews involved. During *chagim* the shuls are always open to the students. And we are invited for the *chagim* to the homes of the congregants. This, I think, is very important.

The 70 of us who do participate regularly and even those who come occasionally, are keeping Judaism alive. We are showing that we do care about keeping the Jewish community going.

But, as Peres and Burg pointed out, we have to overlook our differences. There are more and more families that result from interfaith marriages. In a generation like ours we can't afford to lose even one individual.

"Whoever wants to be a part of our people," Burg said, "we should welcome and accept as much as possible."

We can't squabble over which system, Conservative, Reform or Orthodox, is better. As Burg said, "We are all monotheistic. We are united in being Jewish." I agree.

Nationalism still a powerful force

Standing in a old English pub, some friends and I discussed the morning's lecture on the issue of nationalism. Not long after we had arrived, a drunk middle-aged man approached us, pushed a friend of mine whose accent clearly marked him as Irish and said, "I don't like the looks of you, Irishman," and walked off. The incident took most of us by surprise, but my friend calmly responded by saying that though it does not happen often, it is part of being an Irishman in London.

By Ilan Gewurz

Nationalism has been and continues to be one of the most powerful political forces of the modern age. The international system, in which the sovereign state is the central actor, finds its legitimacy in the moral claim that every state manifests the will of a given nation. The assumption is that every individual belongs to a nation and finds expression and representation in the international community through their respective "nation-state."

Over the course of the last few decades, the world has witnessed the rapid growth of transnational and multinational actors that have challenged the centrality of the state. While an international identity seemed to be growing, there was simultaneously an upsurge of nationalist forces which has served to redraw large portions of the map, and resulted in the redefinition of identity in Czechoslovakia, the former Soviet Republics, and in ethnic conflict in Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire and elsewhere. Here in Canada we have by no means escaped the impact of the nationalist trend. The recent debate within the Parti Québécois over the language issue in Quebec is but the most recent manifestation of such forces.

Nationalism is not a good or bad thing in and of itself. It is merely a form of identity which can be directed in a number of ways. We all belong to nations and thus we all subscribe to some form of nationalism.

In order to comprehend the forces of nationalism, its potential for destruction and its role in inducing hatred, one must first define the concept. Nationalism can be defined as a political principle which asserts that every nation has the right to political territorial soverignty. It has also been described as an ideological movement aimed at attaining and maintaining autonomy, unity and identity on behalf of a population deemed by some of its members to constitute an actual or potential nation.Who then defines the nation and what form of nationalism it will express?

Writing at the turn of the century Ernest Renan laid out two criteria which he believed defined the nation.The first is the possession of a common and rich heritage of memories, while the second is a desire to live together in the present. Inherent in this definition is the idea that nations are self-defining.

These definitions of nation raise questions about how the members of the nation came to have shared memory. If national identity is self-defined, who sets the parameters within which the definition is developed? Jews living in pre-World War II Germany, for example, saw themselves for the most part as Germans, though *the nation* clearly did not accept them as such.

One must then recognize the important role of the state in the process of nation-building. The state plays a central role in defining and establishing the limits of the nation, whether the nation develops in accordance with state policy or as a response to it. In the past, Macedonian identity, for example, included people who are currently citizens of Greece and Bulgaria. However, the development of a distinct national Macedonian identity within the borders of what has become the "Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia," is largely a product of Yugoslav policies following World War II. Palestinian national identity, on the other hand, developed to a great extent as both a response to the emergence of the State of Israel and the fact that they were not accepted by any other Arab nation.

National identities do not stagnate, they evolve with our changing self-perceptions. The government of Quebec is still involved in the ongoing process of defining the Québécois. It is more than a question of language, it is a battle for the identity of the men and women who live in the province. I am an English speaking Jewish Montrealer and I think of myself as both Canadian and Québécois. However, in the process of building and defining the Québécois nation, I am clearly being excluded.

From Bonn to Berlin

Some time in the near future, the German government will move in its entirely from Bonn to Berlin. Meanwhile, the renovators of the partially destroyed Reichstag, the old parliament building, are busy preparing it for its new occupants. No one, however, anticipated that this labor would ential a peculiar dilemma, which is reflected in the following report from the *Week in Germany*.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

"How much history can the Reichstag take? The once and future home of Germany's parliament has been encased in scaffolding for more than a year as construction crews carry out a thorough renovation of the building to prepare it for the arrival of the Bundestag at the end of the decade. After ripping out plaster wall coverings installed 30 years ago, workers came upon traces of a noted moment in the Reichstag's history: hundreds of graffiti messages left by the Soviet troops who conquered Berlin in 1945. Officials overseeing the project, the *Frankfurter Rundschau* reports, have not decided if or how these vernacular inscriptions should be preserved for posterity.

"Before trying to decide the matter, the authorities overseeing the renovation commissioned a translation of the graffiti to learn what the Soviet soldiers had actually written. Many turned out to be Russian equivalents of 'Kilroy was here' or displays of wartime patriotism. Many more, though, were vigorously colloquial observations upon human sexuality that would, as one person involved in the project said, 'bring a blush to even a sailor's cheek.'

"One man's historical documentation is another man's smut, or so the ensuing debate over the Russian graffiti would suggest. Authorities like Berlin state preservationist Helmut Engel argue that the written traces of the capital's fall and occupation at the end of World War II are a fundamental part of the Reichstag's history that ought not be erased. The Reichstag, they add, is not only an important symbol for Germans, but also for Russians.

"At the moment, it looks as if the graffiti will not be removed and at least some will remain visible. The federal authorities overseeing the project told the *Frankfurter Rundschau* that technical considerations alone would determine how much of the graffiti would end up covered over. Those who would prefer to see the graffiti gone after the Reichstag reopens for business can perhaps nonetheless take comfort in the fact that most Bundestag members, unable to read Russian, will be able to admire the Cyrillic calligraphy while remaining happily oblivious to the sentiments expressed."

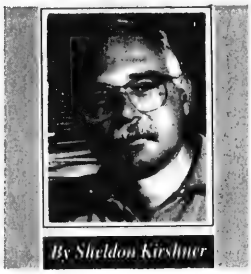
A personal postscript: For a brief time, between 1919 and 1933, the Reichstag was a symbol of a democracy that spelled equal rights for Jews and other minorities. Now that Germany has once again emerged as the centre of European power, I hope it will take up the old and all-too-brief tradition and make it a permanent feature of the new Germany.

The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books...

Books of all kind for the Chanukah holiday season...

Being Israel's *lingua franca*, we



By Sheldon Kirshner

take Hebrew for granted today. But Hebrew, one of some 70 Semitic tongues and dialects, weathered periods of obscurity and neglect before its astonishing revival in modern Israel.

The full story of its development is told in *A History of the Hebrew Language* (Cambridge University Press, $39.95), written with self-assured erudition by Spanish scholar Angel Saenz-Badillos.

The author examines the origins of Hebrew through a rigorous analysis of biblical poetry, inscriptions and prose penned before the Babylonian exile. He proceeds to examine classical biblical texts and rabbinic and medieval Hebrew. His panoramic survey concludes with a chapter devoted to Israeli Hebrew, whose evolution he describes as a process "without parallel in the development of any other language." All in all, a fine reference work.

The ideal complementary volume to *A History of the Hebrew Language* is *The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary* (Oxford University Press, $110). Compiled and edited at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, this hefty tome (1,091 pages) is the last word on current usage. Containing over 50,000 entries, with a full range of idioms, phrases, slang and colloquialisms, this dictionary also offers coverage of technical, scientific, academic, legal and medical terminology. In short, an indisposable book.

When Theodor Herzl, the founder of political Zionism, called for the return of Jews to their ancient homeland, he was given a distinctly chilly reception. The majority of European Jews, both secular and Orthodox, were uncomfortable with this new philosophy.

In *Zionist Culture and West European Jewry Before the First World War* (Cambridge University Press, $49.95 US), Michael Berkowitz expertly analyses the methods by which the Zionist movement insinuated itself into the hearts and minds of middle-class Jews and thus shaped notions of Jewish identity.

A century has elapsed since Herzl wrote *The Jewish State*, the blueprint of his Zionist vision. Julius Schoeps, a distinguished German-Jewish scholar, fleshes out the man and his ideas in a handsome, lavishly-illustrated coffee-table book called *Theodor Herzl* (Christian Brandstatter Verlag, 98 DM), published in Vienna. Let us hope that this German-language edition will be translated into English. There is surely a market for it.

The late Yitzhak Rabin has been repeatedly eulogized since his assassination last November. *Shalom, Friend: The Life and Legacy of Yitzhak Rabin* (Newmarket Press, $24.95 US) is a worthy tribute to a leader who was cut down in the prime of his career. Assembled by the staff of *The Jerusalem Report*, the book is an intriguing amalgam of fact and opinion leavened by anecdotes. Well worth reading.

At Rabin's funeral in Jerusalem, by far the most poignant eulogy was delivered by his 18-year-old granddaughter, Noa Ben Artzi-Pelossof, who brought tears to the sombre assemblage. She spoke simply and affectingly, and this appealing prose style graces the pages of *In the Name of Sorrow and Hope* (Random House, $25).

Not only is it a moving portrait of a soldier, politician and statesman. It is also a snapshot of a nation in crisis, as well as a plea for peace in our time. As she puts it: "We must remain vigilant to all the threats against Israel, from within and from outside the country. But we owe it to ourselves to complete the peace process."

Batya Gur, a Jerusalem teacher, has become one of the masters of the mystery novel. Her latest, *Murder on a Kibbutz* (HarperCollins, $14 paperback), ably translated from the Hebrew by Dalya Bilu, turns on a character named Michel Ohayon, a policeman whose investigation of a homicide forces him to penetrate the secrecy of a closed society. The book, Gur's third, unfolds against the backdrop of the *intifadah*.

Why did the *intifadah* erupt in 1987 and not a decade earlier? And what were its objectives? Israeli scholars Shaul Mishal and Reuben Aharoni come to grips with these and other questions in *Speaking Stones* (Syracuse University Press, $19.95 US paperback), which is based on the communiques issued by the two main bodies of the Palestinian leadership, the United National Command and Hamas. A revealing look into the psyche of the Palestinians.

Jews often claim that the Holocaust is unique, and perhaps it is. But haven't other people, namely the Armenians and the American Indians, been subjected to genocide? These imponderables are sorted out in exemplary fashion in *Is the Holocaust Unique?* (Westview Press, $35 US), a collection of thought-provoking essays edited by Alan Rosenbaum.

Pope John Paul II, in his reflections published under the title of *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (Random House, $14.95 paperback), devotes one chapter to Judaism, and it alone may be worth the price of admission. He recalls his childhood friendship with a Jewish boy whom he still knows. He ruminates about the Holocaust. He calls Jews as "our elder brothers in the faith." He condemns anti-Semitism as "a great sin against humanity." His sentiments ring true.

Shorter takes...

A.M. Klein: Notebooks (University of Toronto Press, $55) reveals the character and artistry of a talented Canadian poet.

The Worldly Years (Random House, $32.50) by John English is an eminently readable biography of Lester Pearson, the former Canadian prime minister. Pearson's role during the 1956 Suez crisis is dissected.

Jews and the New American Scene (Harvard University Press, $22.95 US) by Seymour Martin Lipset and Earl Raab asks, and more or less answers, a burning question: Can Jews survive as Jews in a free and open democratic society?

Oxford Dictionary of the World (Oxford University Press, $49.50), with 15,000 succinct entries, is an invaluable resource on countries, people and places.

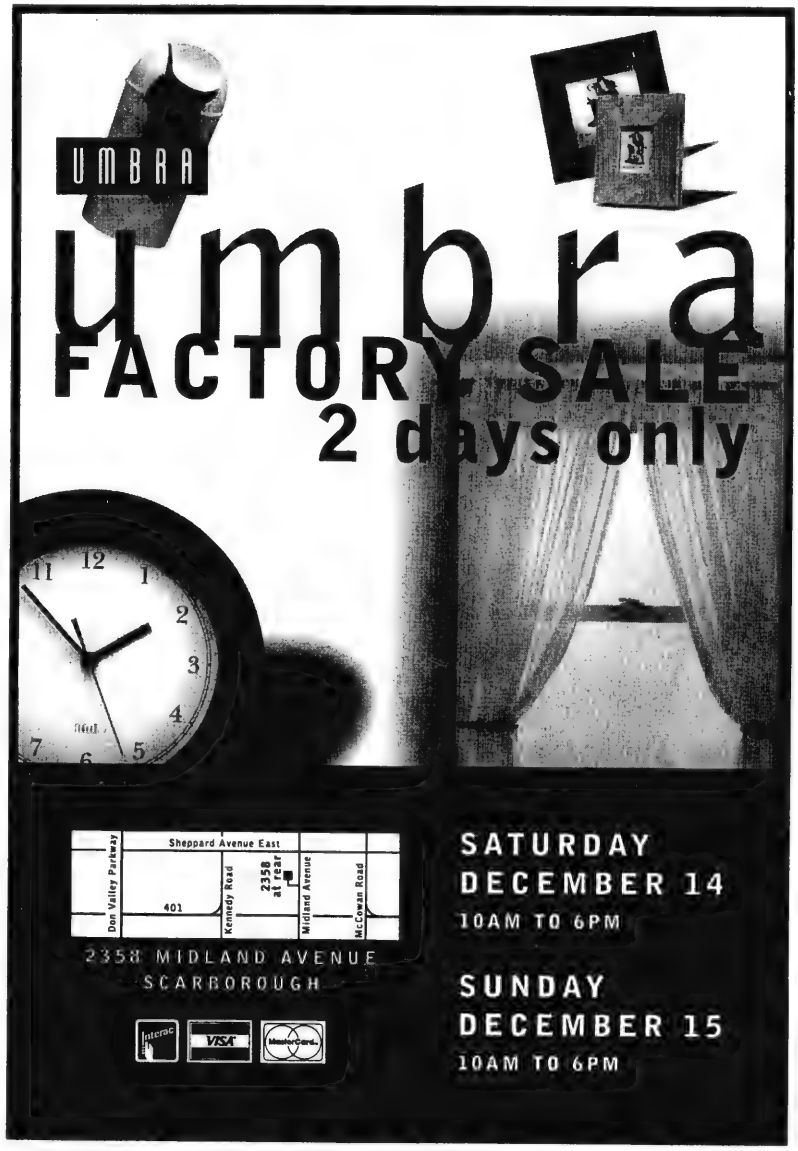
The State of the World Atlas (Penguin, $39.99) is an excellent visual survey of current political, economic and social affairs.

100 Influential People (Fulcrum Publishing, no price listed) actually lists 132 personalities, including a handful of Jews (from Bob Dylan to Steven Spielberg).

The Century of Warfare (HarperCollins, $38.95), based on an acclaimed BBC TV series, includes separate chapters on World War II and the Holocaust, the Arab-Israeli conflicts and the 1991 Gulf War.

The Quotable Soul (John Wiley & Sons, $20.95 paperback), edited by Claudia Setzer, is a handy compendium of wise, pungent quotations, among which are such topics as the Jewish High Holy Days, Jewish-Christian relations, Judaism and Islam.

Unto The Soul (Random House, $21 US), Aharon Appelfeld's newest novel, brims with the spirituality of Judaism and the moral nihilism of a brother and sister in turn-of-the century Eastern Europe. Another stellar performance by Appelfeld.



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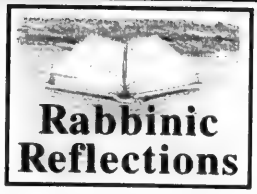

Rabbinic Reflections

Strengthening the miracle

By RABBI ARNOLD FINE

Each generation of Jewish children, even in this age of computers and the Internet, hears the story of the miracle of the oil on that first Chanukah with a sense of awe. Parents, grandparents and other adults, despite their sophistication, are also touched by the story.

Many authorities over the ages have asked why the miracle was necessary. A nearly contemporary sage, the great Hatam Sopher, went to great lengths to suggest that one bottle of oil serving as fuel for eight days showed that the teaching of earlier authorities has the power of Torah.

The Torah permits any kind of oil, even in the Menorah, the candelabra in the Temple. The sages who preceded the Hasmoneans, however, demanded a special and higher standard of ritually pure oil. Under the circumstances, with the difficulty in finding the sanctioned fuel, other oils of a lower standard could have been temporarily used.

The Hatam Sopher taught that the bottle of oil graphically showed the value, power and importance of the enactments and teachings of the sages. We are not a people whose intellectual and spiritual development has stopped; we are living and growing because of the spiritual and religious legacy. The very ferment, the new insights, the need and the ability to find answers in the tradition are the lifeblood nurturing all of us who start with the Torah and live by the Torah, the ever-developing and expanding understanding of what is in our heritage.

Too many of us, however, are like the children who are awed by the discussion and stories of miracles. We expect similar wonders to help us deal with our problems as a community and as a people .

A rabbinic directive declares we do not depend on miracles. The people of Israel were an integral part of the Maccabean struggle that culminated in the renewal of the Temple in Jerusalem and the process of removing the harmful foreign symbolism and the rededication, which led to the one day's supply lasting for eight. For too many today, the expectation is that this holiday will carry us. We cannot expect to depend upon such a miracle.

The name, Chanukah, also is translated as education, as well as renewal, rededication. Our source of strength, our ability to survive hostile empires and the other painful aspects of our history lies in the fact that we recognized that the source of our staying power is in our dedicated attachment to Torah .

The state of Israel is strengthening its programs of teaching Jewish heritage in its schools and the same thirst for a Torah connection to tradition is happily alive and growing there. We hope this is also occurring here.

Rabbi Israel of Chortikov asked why the miracle of Chanukah is not chronicled in its own scroll, as with Purim. His response was that the war our ancestors were forced to wage continues in various ways today. The struggle doesn't end and it will not be canonized in a megillah until we are victorious.

The candles and their meaning are our powerful weapons. Our responsibility is to strengthen the miracle, showing that it not only happened there and then, but it continues with us.

Rabbi Fine is the spiritual leader at Agudath Israel Congregation in Ottawa.

On guard for Israel

By SHIRLEY STUTZ

Guest Voices

Listen in on any conversation between friends or acquaintances who happen to be parents and you will likely hear the discussion turn to the activities of the children.

If the children are young, the talk is about schools, swim classes, soccer leagues, dance studios or gymnastics camp. When the children are older, it turns to part-time jobs, career choices and out-of-town universities.

I have participated in many such conversations over the years, but now, they take an unusual turn. It goes something like this:

"How are the kids? What's David up to these days?"

"He's doing great. He's in his second year at McGill and loves it. He's sharing an apartment with friends. And your kids? What's Elliott doing?"

"Elliott is in Israel."

"That's great. Is he at Hebrew U, or at a yeshivah?"

"He's in the army."

A moment of stunned silence. Nobody is expecting this answer.

As Canadian Jewish parents, we plan for our children's eduction and future, but those plans don't include seeing our children in army fatigues, carrying weapons, standing on guard for the Jewish State. But our children have their own ideas.

In Elliott's case, his own ideas came to him very early and very strongly. Within his first few years of school, he had decided that Israel was the place to be for the Jewish people and he began to plan for his future there. When he was 10, he would "work out" in the basement, declaring that he wanted to be in good shape when it was his time to go into the Israeli army.

Did I believe then that he would eventually go through with his plan? Probably not.

Now it has come to pass. Elliott is serving in an artillery unit, stationed in the north of Israel. My feelings are ambivalent. On the one hand, I am very proud of him, knowing that he is acting out of deep conviction and values that I share. On the other hand, I am concerned for his safety and feel that he has placed himself in avoidable danger.

I listen to news from Israel in a different way now – I take it personally. The Syrians are moving troops around on the Golan Heights? How dare they pick this time to do it, when Elliott is stationed at that border!

Phone calls are our chief method of keeping in touch and they are the highlight of the week. (The phone bills are the shock of the month!) Elliott manages to phone during a few minutes break from guard duty or on his occasional days off. He describes his experiences in vivid detail – the physical grind of basic training (Did those basement work-outs really help?), the "mind games" played by the officers as they try to instil some discipline into the new recruits (just like every Hollywood army movie ever made), the lighter moments when he entertains the troops with his imitations of Homer Simpson and Monty Python sketches.

The army has a term for soldiers like Elliott whose families are not living in Israel. The term is *chayal boded* which means "lone soldier." They recognize that these soldiers have special needs because they don't have their families close at hand to provide them with emotional support and physical comforts when they are off-duty.

I imagine the scene when a soldier comes home for a weekend exhausted and drained, to be greeted by a loving family, his favorite foods, a comfortable bed and laundry service. Elliott has had to cope without all this. He has also had to fend for himself with the army bureaucracy, without parents to weigh in on his behalf with their highly-placed army buddies. He has managed very well on his own, but I still feel the tug of regret that I couldn't "be there for him" like the Israeli mothers.

In one way, he has it easier than his Israeli counterparts. They have grown up in a culture in which the army is paramount and as a result, they feel pressure to achieve – to serve in elite units and to advance through the ranks quickly. Elliott has none of these pressures. Whatever his unit and rank, he can be proud of his choices and achievements.

Shirley Stutz lives in Toronto.

Jewish Life

Solomon's wisdom

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

We begin the Torah readings this month with Joseph's introduction into Pharaoh's court. Pharaoh has had two disturbing dreams and no one can find their true meanings. Joseph is called upon to interpret the dreams and because he does so he is granted an elevated position in the Egyptian government.

Subsequently his brothers come to Egypt to acquire food, since there is a famine in Canaan. After several tests, Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and the entire clan moves to Egypt.

Joseph is reunited with his brothers and his father. But has the family healed its wounds? Jacob and his sons do not live near Joseph, but are told by Joseph to settle in a region far away. Why is the family not melding into a solid unit once again? Why is the rift not closed?

The answer may be contained within the parallel Haftorah portion found in Kings I. This reading describes Solomon's first ruling upon becoming king. Two harlots approach Solomon, both claiming to be the mother of the same baby. The first woman claims that the other woman's infant died while asleep and that her baby was stolen and put in place of the dead infant. The second woman claims this is untrue and that the living infant is in fact her natural child.

There seems no way to determine who is the biological mother of the living infant and Solomon orders that a sword be brought. The king then decrees that the baby be cut in two, giving each woman half of the slaughtered infant. The natural mother cries out for mercy, begging Solomon to give the child to the other woman if need be, but to spare the infant's life. The second woman agrees with Solomon and claims that fairness would dictate that neither woman get the infant. Solomon immediately sees that the first woman is the true mother and delivers the child to her.

All Israel marvels at Solomon's wisdom and praises his judgment. One wonders at the awe expressed over Solomon's decision. Is it not obvious that a parent would rather give up a child than see it slain? Yet by combining this story with the Joseph story, a further dimension to Solomon's decision becomes clear.

Joseph is in fact the child split into two. Raised within a family unit with very specific beliefs, Joseph is torn from that unit and thrown into a surrounding with very different beliefs. Not only does Joseph enter the Egyptian culture, but Pharaoh even renames him, giving him an Egyptian name. Joseph cannot reunite with his family and live among them, for once the child is split it cannot be rejoiced into a healthy being.

As we find ourselves raising our children with Jewish values and education, we must be aware of providing bridges for them to exist in the world around them. If we do not teach them this skill, we ignore the wisdom of Solomon and in effect we split the child. They may attain the heights of Joseph, but they will forever live far from our midst.

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Give Chanukah a drei

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

And now, in time for Chanukah, my Top Eight List of reasons to travel the Jewish Highway this Festival of Lights:

Reason No. 1 – The History

There are many excellent sites that look at the historical events and the miracles of Chanukah and look at them in more depth than you might remember. For a good perspective, try **[http://www.jajz-ed.org.il/festivls/hanuka/index.html]**. For several other thought-provoking essays about the holiday go to **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#Hanukkah]**.

Reason No. 2 – The Traditions

We all know about lighting the menorah and eating the traditional foods. But Chanukah is a holiday rich with other traditions as you can see at Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/chanukah/laws.htm]** and at The Global Learning Network **[http://www.torah.org/learning/yomtov/chanukah/]**. Another comprehensive guide to the holiday is found at **[gopher://gopher.chabad.org:70/00/guide/chanukah]**.

Reason No. 3 – The Menorah

The Menorah is one of the most famous symbols in Judaism. You can find an excellent history of the Menorah at **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/menfile.htm]** including an explanation of why the chanukiah lit on this holiday has nine branches while the Menorah in the Temple had seven.

There is a well-known debate between the scholars Hillel and Shammai over the Chanukah lights. Shammai suggested lighting eight lights on the first night, seven on the second and finishing with one light on the last night. Hillel proposed the more familiar one light on the first, two on the second, and so on. According to the explanation found at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning's Chanukah site **[http://www.cherniak.on.ca/kolel/]**, we have adopted Hillel's "optimistic" view of the world that every day our days are "growing in wisdom and light and beauty until at the end we shine with accumulated grace and experience."

Chanukah is unique among Jewish holidays in that there is the commandment to publicize the miracle. This won't surprise anyone who has been to a public square and has seen those gigantic chanukiot. So if you feel that your table-top menorah is just a bit too small, now you can own your own giant **[http://deepthought.armory.com/~peterr/menorah.html]**. At $650 US the nine-foot menorah is perfect for "malls, military installations and synagogues."

Reason No. 4 – The Dreidel

One of the best known symbols of the holiday is the dreidel or sevivon. You can find a brief history of this toy at **[http://www.ort.org/ort/hanukkah/games.htm]**.

In Poker, Dreidel and Hannukah, Robin Treistman looks at the dreidel and asks: If Judaism traditionally frowns on gambling, "how is it that once a year, children pull out a funny, little, squarish top, engraved on four sides with Hebrew letters, and gamble?" You can find the answer at **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/dreidle.htm]** Also, take a look at Ohr Somayach's The Secret of the Dreidel at **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/chanukah/chan95.htm]**.

Although the Internet still can't help you make a dreidel out of clay, it can help you with one out of paper. If you click on **[http://www.jewishpost.com/chanukah/pattern.html]** you can download and print plans for a dreidel which you can cut out and play with.

Sure it can't match the excitement of betting on a dreidel against your friends, but if you're alone why not try JCN's Great Computerized Dreidel Game **[http://www.jcn18.com/spin-ns.htm]**. Press a button, spin against the computer and if your luck isn't great, no-one will know.

In my next column, I'll share the remaining four reasons.

Have a very Happy Chanukah!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Greater Toronto Area

CD-ROM developed to help teach the Holocaust

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – In the inevitable clash between the old and new, great things happen sometimes, as when the wizardry of CD-ROM technology is used to teach the Holocaust.

An official of Yad Vashem (the "new" Yad Vashem, she called it) was in town recently to take the wraps off the first of four extra-ordinary CD-ROMs that will be used to teach the Holocaust to the next generation.

Developed with donations from Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan, the CDs will allow students to learn about virtually any aspect of the Holocaust and its aftermath with the click of a mouse.

The discs will employ full color graphics, survivors' real-voice testimonies, time-lines, speeches and an array of interactive tools that will allow computer users to get a unique view of the period.

Simcha Salach, director of the Yad Vashem Foundation, unveiled the first of the four devices during Holocaust Education Week. Titled Return to Life, it focuses on the story of survivors who emerged from the devastation of Europe. Discussions include life in the DP camps and the second struggle for life Jews had to wage in their often dangerous route to Palestine.

Developers of the CD scanned thousands of photographs, documents and artifacts, and interviewed dozens of survivors and scholars. The research took two years.

Computer buffs will be pleased with the programs. The discs have navigators allowing users to go where they please, at their own rate. Click on "camps," and a full complement is screened, from Auschwitz to Treblinka, with accompanying photographs, statistics and descriptions of daily life. Similarly, a click on "maps" produces full or partial maps of Europe, with cities and concentration camps in full view.

The disc is billed as an hour long, but a user can easily wander for hours more, listening to witnesses, reading newspapers produced in the post-war DP camps, even hearing music of the period. Buyers will be able to choose between discs in Hebrew, English and other languages.

The three other discs will be produced over the next three years. Each will retail for $50 (US) and come with a teacher's manual.

The discs are part of Yad Vashem's ongoing efforts to reach younger people, Salach told *The CJN*.

Simcha Salach

"We knew that 50 years worth of information had to be updated or else we might see a whole generation drifting away from the Holocaust," she said. The discs stress the positive aspects of survival and do not dwell on the grisly, Salach explained.

They're also the first comprehensive, interactive approach to Holocaust education and part of Yad Vashem's education packages, including teacher training, she said, adding that young people, who seem natural computer users, will be drawn to the discs, especially for their splashy colors and graphics.

The first disc will be available through the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem beginning in January. For details, call 905-660-6028.

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Biography examines pioneering U.S. rabbi

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A pioneering Miami Beach Reform rabbi, credited with bringing Israeli and North American Jews closer together, is the subject of a biography by Canadian scholar Prof. Henry A. Green.

Hundreds of Canadian Jewish tourists attended sermons by the late Rabbi Leon Kronish, founding rabbi of Temple Beth Sholom, when Miami Beach was a popular locale for Canadians who are now wintering further north in Florida. They used to walk to the Temple from hotels on the beach.

Titled *Gesher Vakesher, Bridges and Bonds*, Green's biography is a compelling account of the rabbi who was in the vanguard of the movement by Reform back to traditional liturgy.

"He was wearing a tallit and kippah back in the 1940s," Green told *The CJN*.

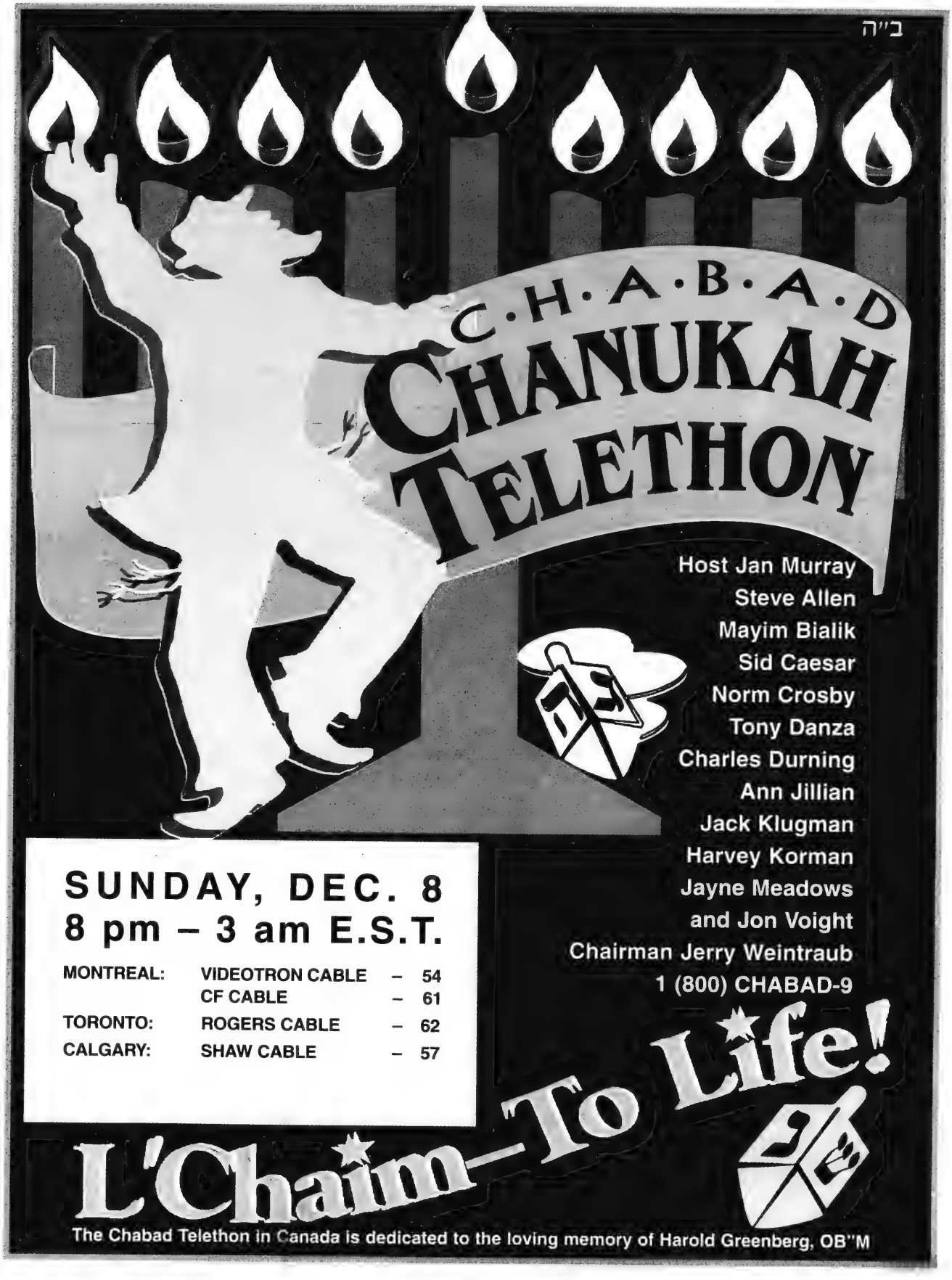
Rabbi Kronish was a central figure in the rise of Miami Beach as the third most important centre of Jewish life in the United States.

"He Israelized North America," Green said. "He led the way for Reform rabbis to spend a year in Israel before receiving their smichah (ordination); he founded Reform kibbutzim and developed the system of contributions to Israel Bonds through tabs at High Holy Day services."

Max Kronish, the rabbi's father, came to Toronto in 1913 from Ukraine and worked in the garment trade. A few years later, he moved to New York where the rabbi was born in 1917.

The author is the son of Sidney and Sarah Green of Ottawa and in his book, he credits his upbringing in an Orthodox family very much involved in communal activities as the inspiration for his career. In fact, he dedicates the book to his parents. His grandmother, Dora Lithwick, was the founder of Hillel Home for the Aged in Ottawa.

The author, who lives in Florida with his wife, Elizabeth, and three children, Jordan, Trevor and Fiona, has one sister, Arlene, of Denver, and two brothers in Toronto, Melvyn and Kalman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Greater Toronto Area

Youthful idealism fueled Holocaust resistance: expert

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

Ariel Hurwitz

TORONTO – It was young people – fueled by youthful idealism, courage and energy – who played key roles in Jewish resistance during the Holocaust, says an Israeli expert on the period.

In fact, most of the better-known heroes of Jewish resistance were members of youth groups that were popular in Eastern Europe, says Ariel Hurwitz, who was in town last month for a series of speaking engagements, including at Holocaust Education Week.

There was more resistance from Jews than most people know, Hurwitz said, and its leaders were sometimes barely out of their teens.

"Resistance was not only someone who took up arms. Resistance also took the form of religious observance when it was punishable by death. The Jewish underground put out newspapers, currency and operated schools. Those were forms of resistance," said Hurwitz, a professor of Jewish history and Holocaust studies in Tel Aviv, brought here by the Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva.

Jewish youth groups played important roles in shaping their members, who became leaders in resisting the Nazis, he explained.

While these groups were all based on scouting and intended to prepare Jewish youngsters for emigration to Palestine, they ended up providing many wartime resistance leaders, Hurwitz told *The CJN* in an interview.

Perhaps it was the idealism inculcated by groups like Habonim Dror, Hashomer Hatzair, Bétar and B'nei Akiva that resulted in so many young partisans and resistance fighters, he said.

Hurwitz believes young people rose to positions of power because they had no spouses and children to worry about, while their parents were still young enough to care for themselves.

Well-known resistance fighters like Roza Robota, who spearheaded the 1944 Auschwitz revolt, and Mordechai Anilevich, who led the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, were both leaders in Hashomer Hatzair, Hurwitz's research has shown.

At their peak, Jewish and Zionist youth movements had 100,000 members in Poland alone, all preparing for aliyah.

Hurwitz's research has led him to discover letters, diary entries and other evidence of the "idealism" with which young people fought back against the Nazis. "The Warsaw Ghetto uprising began with a few kids, one broken pistol and lasted a month," he said.

While in Toronto, Hurwitz addressed two high school assemblies, and said he finds that today's teens identify with the wartime underground.

"It's probably because they both questioned the status quo."

Hurwitz uses that affinity to teach the Holocaust to young people at Moreshet, a leading Israeli educational program and centre for documenting Jewish resistance during the war. The program is among the many affiliated with Givat Haviva, an award-winning institute that promotes religious pluralism and tolerance.

CJC helps in small communities

TORONTO – Have Jewish education, will travel could be an appropriate slogan for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region's Family Outreach Project for Jewish families living in small communities in the province.

The project encourages joint participation by parents and children (up to bar/bat mitzvah age) in a Jewish education in a program prepared and delivered by CJC staff, using personal visits, weekly home-study packages and family retreats. The project's aim is to help parents transmit Jewish values to their children and increase their knowledge of Jewish heritage and traditions.

"Presenting Judaism in a positive fashion within the framework of the family unit strengthens not only the children's links to Judaism, but the parents' links as well," said Jennifer Turack, CJC Ontario region director of Community Services and Youth Activities.

"By having retreats and various programs, the unit becomes involved in a sense of Jewish community which provides a larger framework for Jewish learning and value dissemination."

Up to three times a year, professional staff from CJC come to run programs in a given area, Turack said. Once a year, a family Shabbat retreat is held that includes all the families in the project. The annual fee per family is $100.

The project, which has been operating for eight years, is supported by the L.A. Pincus Jewish Education Fund for the Diaspora, she said. The CJC's Community Services and Youth Activities Department delivers programs and services to over 30 small communities in Ontario from James Bay to the Niagara Peninsula.

Project coordinator Leanne Rosen, a recent graduate of the University of Guelph has specialized in family and social relations.

The weekly home study packages contain information with suggested Shabbat activities for Friday night and arts and crafts projects to be done during the week, Rosen said. The Shabbat material includes the *sedrah* story to read, with discussion topics and questions for the family, and Shabbat prayers.

To enrol in the program, or for additional information, contact Rosen by mail at Canadian Jewish Congress, 4600 Bathurst St. North York M2R 3V2, by phone at 416-635-2883, ext. 139, by fax at 416-635-1408

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Community Matters

UJA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES TO CLIMB

It may feel like winter, but UJA Federation's campaign thermometer keeps rising higher. A recent flurry of telethons and over 1,200 gifts from new contributors have already propelled the campaign beyond $31 million.

To date, 23,000 donors have made their commitment to community, but, as Campaign Chairman David Goldstein says, "we can't rest until we've reached everyone."

The downtown Jewish community pitched in, holding its own telethon at the Bloor JCC. "It was great to see so much community spirit," said Karen Chisvin, President of the Downtown Jewish Community Council. "We hope this will become a regular site for future telethons."

David Wintre, who co-chaired the downtown phone fest with Rosanne Ain, said the telethons were a "great way for the downtown Jewish community to feel more connected with UJA Federation."

More than 50 University students recently put their ears to the task at UJA Federation's first student telethon. "Everyone had a great time making calls," said U of T's Ilan Barda, who helped recruit campaigners. "Faces lit up when they received pledges."

Although, second year York University student Stacey Wintre has been involved with UJA Federation for years, she was "very impressed to see so many new faces. Hopefully they will continue to be regular donors."

A special series of Chanukah telethons runs from Sunday, December 8 to December 11. Campaigners are invited to bring their families along for a fun filled day including latkes, entertainment, games and prizes.

"We are now entering a crucial phase of campaign," noted Goldstein. "Intensifying our efforts to reach everyone possible will mean the difference between a good campaign and a great one."

(photo top right) Students Teri Rothenberg (left) and Sharrona Pearl exchange telethon tips.

(above) U of T student Jordan Meltzer.

UJA Federation delivers the light

A platoon of volunteers is spreading out across the city to perform a mission like no other. Their objective is bringing the celebration of Chanukah to the sick, the elderly and those disconnected from the Jewish community.

Armed with latkes, candles, menorahs and dreidels, 50 wellwishers from Jewish Family and Child Service's Chaplaincy program, funded by UJA Federation, have begun visiting nearly 1,000 Jews in 33 hospitals, 45 nursing homes and 24 provincial correctional facilities.

"No Jew, no matter where he or she is, should be alone during the holidays," says Rabbi Ronald Weiss, Director of Chaplaincy Services. Weiss, who personally visits patients at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, the Clark Institute, and the Whitby Mental Health Centre, says for many "it's the only visit they'll get this time of year."

Carl Rees, who has been sharing Chanukah with residents of Cummer Lodge for the past 15 years, says he looks forward to the visits as much as the residents do. On December 10, Rees along with other volunteers will hold a Chanukah party in the Lodge's lobby complete with food, entertainment and decorations.

"We bring them a feeling of community spirit," explains Rees. "It helps alleviate the loneliness and isolation some of the residents experience."

Chanukah content during volunteer visits may include entertainment, candle-lighting ceremonies and storytelling.

"It depends on the audience," explains Weiss. "Sometimes hearing a tune or smelling warm latkes evokes reaction. It's an indication that they know it's Chanukah."

Rabbi Ronald Weiss raises the menorah for all to see at Queen Street Mental Health Centre.

Diplomatic reception

Yosi Kaspi, Senior Vice-President, Bank Hapoalim, greets Monica Berger, wife of David Berger, Canada's ambassador to Israel (middle). Bank Hapoalim sponsored a reception at the Berger home for participants of UJA Federation's Arts & Entertainment mission and leading personalities in Israel's A&E industry.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA

Community Matters

Festive mood at Major Gifts Gala

UJA Federation recently saluted close to 400 of the community's most significant supporters. The Major Gifts and Atarah evening, sponsored by the Royal Bank's Business Banking Division featured a keynote address from Neal Sher, formerly responsible for prosecuting war criminals in the United States and a musical tribute to Yiddish favorites, performed by Theresa Tova.

Karen and Paul Morton and Joanne and Miles Nadal co-chaired the event.

Photographer Stephen Epstein captured some of the faces from the campaign celebration.

—

- *(left-top) Miles Nadal, co-chair of the 1997 UJA Federation Major Gifts and Atarah Event (right), presents Charles Coffey, Executive Vice President, Business Banking, Royal Bank of Canada, with a plaque in recognition of the bank's sponsorship.*
- *(left-middle) Karen Morton.*
- *(left-bottom) UJA Federation's 1997 Campaign Chairman David Goldstein gives a hug to his successor Leo Goldhar.*

~

- *(right-top) Theresa Tova.*
- *(right-middle) Eileen and Shoel Silver.*
- *(right-bottom) Neal Sher, the evening's keynote speaker, talked about his life as a Nazi hunter.*
- *(below) Barry Naiberg and Henry Koschitzky.*

DUSHANSKY SETS SIZEABLE GOALS

The man hired to oversee Israel's first UJA-style fundraising campaign is very optimistic about the pioneering project.

"Once Israelis learn where the money goes," said Joe Dushansky, Executive Director of The Israel Campaign, "they will lend their support. Israelis are very generous."

The Israel Campaign will back the Jewish Agency, funded primarily by Federations around the world. The Agency, which rescues Jews in dangerous regions and finances crucial social and educational projects, is working its way out of severe financial problems caused by rising immigrant absorption costs and funding decreases.

Dushansky considers the Israel Campaign and Toronto's UJA Federation campaign as complementary. He foresees a genuine partnership to meet Jewish needs wherever they may be.

The former Deputy Director General of the Diaspora Museum, says the success of the campaign rests primarily on educating Israelis about what the Jewish Agency does. "Most Israelis don't have a clue that many of their social institutions, such as community centres and educational facilities, are partially funded by the Jewish Agency," he observed.

Joe Dushansky

According to Dushansky, the potential to raise $30 - $50 million in 5 years is not unrealistic. "In 1995 Israelis donated $300 million dollars to charities," he pointed out.

YOUNGSTERS EMBRACE TZEDAKAH

UJA Federation's Tzedakah All Star program is growing just in time for Chanukah.

Since the project's launch last year, more than 800 gifts have been donated by students to needy children across the Greater Toronto Area. During the Chanukah holiday, even more gifts are expected to arrive.

The program, initiated by Elizabeth Erlich, the only one of its kind in North America, encourages children to donate unwrapped holiday or birthday gifts. They're distributed by Jewish Family and Child Service to children in need.

Children of all ages are depositing presents into special Tzedakah All Star collection boxes now located in 8 schools across the city.

Parent volunteers like Lisa Galet Victor pick up the donated items every Monday and deliver them to JF&CS. "It's an amazing project because kids can practice tzedakah at a level they can relate to," says Victor.

Program chair Karen Amato thinks the gift giving program is "a wonderful opportunity for children to become aware of how they can help others in the community." Karen's own daughter Lauren recently joined the expanding Tzedakah All Star team by donating some of the gifts she received on her 7th birthday.

Tzedakah All Star collection boxes are located at Bialik Hebrew Day School, United Synagogue Day School branches on Bathurst Street, Bayview Avenue and in Richmond Hill, Associated Hebrew School branches on Finch Avenue, Leslie Street and Atkinson Road in Thornhill and Netivot Hatorah.

Ilana and Aviva Erlich demonstrate the Tzedakah All-Star technique.

Community Partners

Proud to volunteer

Although Norma Lowe Klein has been heavily involved with UJA Federation for many years, she's looking forward to sharing her commitment with someone else in the house.

Klein, recently married, is excited about getting her husband Howard involved as a volunteer in the Jewish community and hopes that someday the two can set an example for their children. "My husband is very proud of my work at UJA Federation," says Klein, "and now he wants to be a part of it to."

"We're planning to go on a mission to Israel," she adds. "It will be a great way for us to learn about all the projects supported by UJA Federation."

As a teenager in Winnipeg, Norma spent much of her time volunteering with United Synagogue Youth, both at the regional and national level. "Synagogue was a big part of my life," explains Klein, who returned to Winnipeg for her marriage ceremony last summer.

Soon after Klein, a dental hygienist, moved to Toronto in 1986, her desire for Jewish community involvement brought her to UJA Federation. She co-chaired the Dental Hygienists Division for 4 years, came out to campaign on Super Sundays and has recently become a greeter for the *Shalom Toronto* program, sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation.

Norma Lowe Klein

"I was very impressed that someone made the effort to educate me about Toronto's Jewish community when I arrived," she recalls.

Klein's volunteerism also took her to the Reena Foundation's education committee and the Bernard Betel Centre.

"I feel pride when I help others and at the same time I express my Jewish identity," she says.

YOU CAN MAKE MIRACLES HAPPEN ON THIS HOLIDAY OF MIRACLES

Just like a drop of oil brought light to the Jewish people in the days of the Maccabees, a new gift to UJA will help light the way for Jews in need today.

Join us for the
Chanukah New Gifts Telethons:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
12 noon - 3:30 p.m.
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

BE SURE TO ANSWER THE CALL!

Monday, December 9 to Wednesday, December 11
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

To reserve a seat for you or your organization, or for further information call Silvia Astrug at 416-635-2883 ext. 115

All volunteers have a chance to WIN A TRIP TO ISRAEL plus other great prizes!

UJA FEDERATION

Greater Toronto Area

From left: At a recent Negev Dinner campaign event, JNF Toronto president Tom Unger, dinner chair John Turner, JNF Jerusalem 3000 chair Frank Wilson and 1996 Negev Dinner honoree Hal Jackman.

JNF Toronto to honor Jackman

TORONTO – Ontario Lieutenant Governor Henry. Jackman, will be the guest of honor at the Jewish National Fund of Toronto's 48th annual Negev Dinner to be held Dec. 8 at the Sheraton Centre.

Proceeds of the three-month campaign that led up to the dinner will assist in the development of a major project in Israel to be undertaken in tribute to Jackman, who concludes his five year term just three days after the affair.

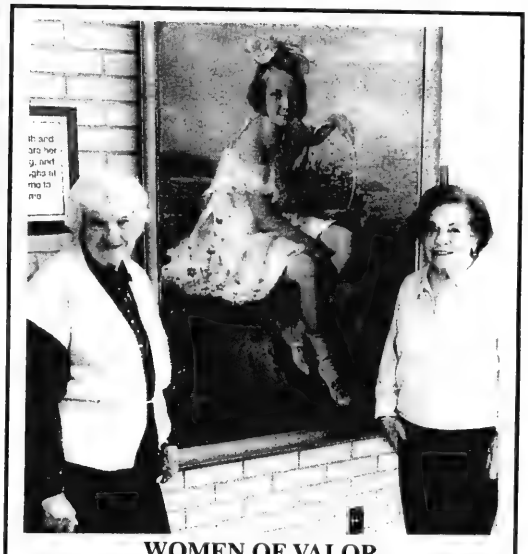
The project, to be known as Jackman Gardens, will be located in the southwest area of Jerusalem and will form part of JNF Park Jerusalem 3000.

"We are looking forward to a truly wonderful evening," said JNF Toronto president Tom Unger. "Hal Jackman has been, and is, a warm friend of Israel and its people."

Dinner chair is former prime minister John Turner, and campaign co-chairs are Irving Abella, Alan Posluns and former Ontario premier Bob Rae.

Last-minute reservations are available.by calling the JNF office at 416-638-7200.

Open Window Bakery
Health Bread
over 30 stores to serve you across metro
THIS WEEKEND SPECIAL
IN ALL OUR STORES
From FRIDAY, NOV. 6TH to SUNDAY, NOV. 8TH
LEMON, RASPBERRY, CHOCOLATE ROLL Dome
$3.35 (reg. $3.95)
$3.75 (reg. $4.35)
ASK FOR OTHER IN-STORE SPECIALS



WOMEN OF VALOR

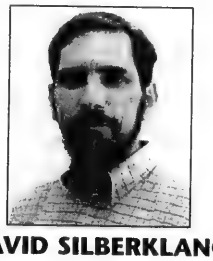
Residents of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care recently held an exhibit of their artwork celebrating the theme of Aishet Hayil or Women of Valour. Seen here are contributors Raizel Goldin (left) and Lena Bossin, admiring a portrait of resident Madga Somer, painted when she was six years old by Hungarian artist Philip Szenes.

The public is cordially invited to attend a lecture on the topic of:

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE?

Jewish and non-Jewish Responses to the Holocaust

given by



DAVID SILBERKLANG
Chief Historian, Yad Vashem Museum

During his lecture, Mr. Silberklang will analyze the reaction of the Jewish communities in Europe and abroad to the Holocaust. He will also assess the response of the non-Jewish world to Jewish pleas for assistance during this tragic era.

David Silberklang, Chief Historian at Yad Vashem Museum, is an outstanding lecturer and an accomplished historian. He is Editor in Chief of Yad Vashem Studies and a lecturer in Jewish History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, School of Overseas Students. He was also Assistant Editor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies as well as a researcher for the Canadian Department of Justice (1989-1993) and Scotland Yard (1993-1994) assisting in the prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

Thursday, December 5, 1996, 7:30 p.m.

Beth Habonim Synagogue
5 Glen Park Avenue
(1 block north of Glencairn, west of Bathurst)

ADMISSION FREE

Lecture will be preceded by the lighting of Chanukah candles
and a short presentation from participants in the 1996 March of the Living.

Sponsored by:
Canadian Society for Yad Vashem
Congregation Beth Habonim
March of the Living
Holocaust Remembrance Committee,
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UJA FEDERATION

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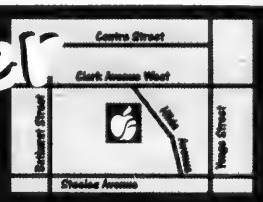
IGA Happy Chanukah Kosher

IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher

441 CLARK (AT HILDA)



special this week
Sun., Dec. 1 until Sat., Dec. 7
P.E.I. Potatoes
Product of Canada, Canada No. 1, 4.54 kg/10 lb. bag
.79 ea.

special this week
Sun., Dec. 1 until Sat., Dec. 7
Primo Vegetable Oil
3 L jug
2.99 ea.

our best price! everyday guaranteed until 4 January 97

IGA Applesauce
Regular or Unsweetened
796 mL jar
1.29

Gallo Olive Oil
500 mL btl.
4.99

Western Sour Cream
Regular or Light
500 mL tub
.99

Pressed Cottage Cheese
Blue Bell
250 g tub
1.69

Sparkling Grape Juice
Assorted Varieties, Kedem or Tamprose, 750 mL btl.
2.99

Potato Pancake Mix
Streits, Manischewitz, Carmel
170 g pkg.
1.99

Matzo Meal
Streits, Manischewitz, Horowitz
340 g pkg.
1.79

After Dinner Chocolates
Progress, Assorted
150 g pkg.
4.99

Empire Potato Latkes
Mini or Regular
630 g pkg.
1.99

Macaroni & Cheese Dinner
Foulds
206 g box
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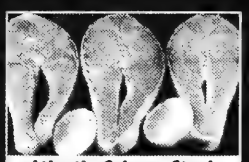
KOSHER MEAT

Turkeys
Kosher, Frozen, Canada Grade A, 4.39 kg
1.99 lb.

Shoulder Steak
Glatt, Kosher Beef, Vaku Club Pack, 14.06 kg
6.38 lb.

FISH



Atlantic Salmon Steak
Fresh!
11.00 kg
4.99 lb.

Smoked Coho Salmon
Frozen, Sliced, Touch of Canada
200 g pkg.
8.99 lb.

KOSHER DELI

White Turkey Breast Roll
Peri's
2.62 /100 g
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Beef Salami
Lavitt's
.99 /100 g
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KOSHER BAKERY

Rye Bread
Fresh Baked
625 g loaf
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Babka
Choose Your Favourite
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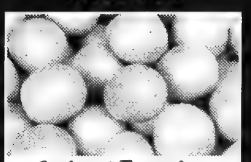
PRODUCE



Sunburst Tangerines
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1.74 kg
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1.59 ea.

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Greater Toronto Area

Dry Bones

LOEB Coulter's Mill Wycliffe Village

We wish all our customers a happy Chanukah.

Canada Dry or Coca Cola Soft Drinks — *Assorted Varieties, 24 x 355 mL* — 5.88	**Cavendish** Frozen French Fries — *Assorted Varieties, 1 kg* — 99¢
Five Roses All-Purpose Flour — *10 kg* — 5.99	**Philadelphia** Cream Cheese — *Regular or Lite, 250 g* — 1.49
Empire Potato Latkes — *Regular or Mini, 24 oz. Bag* — 1.95	**Tastefully Yours** Potato Latke — *From Our Deli* — 1.09
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Streit's or Carmel Potato Pancake Mix — *6 oz.* — 1.95	**Manischewitz** Egg Noodles — *12 oz.* — 99¢
Sunkist Navel Oranges — *Product of U.S.A.* — 2.99 10 lb Bag	**Carrots or Onions** — *Product of Ontario, Canada No. 1* — 1.49 5 lb Bag
Atlantic Salmon Steaks — 8.80/kg 3.99/lb	**White Fish** — *Whole* — 4.39/kg 1.99/lb

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LOEB Wycliffe Village — 16th AVENUE, BLACKMORE AVE, BAYVIEW AVE, HIGHWAY 7 — 9019 BAYVIEW AVE., RICHMOND HILL TELEPHONE: 882-8212

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יידיש ווינקל

YIDDISH CORNER

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

אַ לעקציע פון אונדזער געשיכטע

פון י. ליפּסי

ווידער פייערן מיר יידן אַן אָפּצייכענונג פון אַ וויכטיקער פּאַסירונג אין אונדזער געשיכטע. פאַרשטייט זיך, אַז דאָס באַציט זיך צום נצחון פון די חשמונאים איבער דער סידיש-גריכישער אַרמיי אין 165-טן יאָר פאַר דער היינטיקער צייט רעכענונג. דאָס איז אונדזער יום-טוב חנוכה.

אין נאָרמאַלע צייטן דאַרף דאָס זיין אַ פריילעכע פּאַסירונג, וואָס ברענגט פרייד און געמיטלעכקייט צום פאָלק. צום באַדויערן איז איצט נישט קיין נאָרמאַלע צייט, פשוט דערפאַר, ווייל מיר יידן געפינען זיך איצט אין אַ געראַנגל פאַר דער זיכערקייט פון אונדזער קליין לענדעלע ישראל, וואָס די מאַכמעדאַנישע וועלט וואָלט גע-וואָלט פון אונדז צונעמען. איך בין ניט מקנא די פידער פון ישראל, ווער זיי זאָלן ניט זיין. זיי מוזן אויסרעכענען וואָס פאַר אַ כּח די שונאים קענען אַרגאַניזירן קעגן אונדז און וואָס פאַר אַ כּח זיי מוזן האָבן צו פאַרטיידיקן אונדזער לאַנד. זיי מוזן נעמען אין אַכט וויפל זיי קענען רחיקירן צו האַלטן זיך ביי די פרינציפּן און זיין אַגרעסיוו און ווען מען מוז איינגיין אויף קאָמפּראָמיסן, כדי צו פאַרמיידן אַ קאַטאַסטראָפע.

איך דאַרף אפשר נישט דאָ איבער'חזרן דאָס, וואָס מיר אַלע ווייסן, וואָס פאַר אַ בייטראָג יידן האָבן געמאַכט צום פאָרשריט פון דער גאַנצער מענטשהייט, אַ סך מער ווי אונדזער חלק, אין אַלע הינזיכטן פון מענטשלעכן דענקען. ניט בלויז האָבן מיר צוגעטראָגן צום מענטשלעכן פאָרשריט דעם מאָנאָטעאיזם, דעם געדאַנק פון אַ גייסטיקן כּח פון אַ וועלט-באַשאַפער, אַ גאָט, וועלכער פאָדערט פונעם מענטשן גייסטיקע דערהויבונג און מאָראַלישע און עטישע געזעצן, באַזירט אויף צדק און יושר. מיר האָבן מיט דעם געהאָלפן צו באַזייטיקן דעם פרימיטיוון געצנדינסט. ווער רעדט נאָך וועגן יידישן בייטראָג צו אַלע וויסנשאַפטן, צי ס'איז מעדיצין, פּאָעזיע, פיזיקס, פילאָזאָפיע, מאַטעמאַטיק א.אַ. איז דאָס טאַקע פיין און גוט!

דאָס ביסל פּאָליטישע וויסנשאַפט, וואָס איך האָב געלערנט, רייצט מיך אַן צו פרעגן: ווי אַזוי האָבן אונדזערע אַמאָליקע פידער געהאַנדלט אין זייער פּאָליטישן לעבן? צו געפינען דעם געהעריקן ענטפער מוזן מיר אַריינקוקן אין אונדזער געשיכטע, און דאָס גיט אונדז ניט קיין פריילעך בילד. עס עגבערט דאָך די נאָגענדיקע פראַגע: ווי קומט עס, אַז דער *„עם נבון וחכם הגוי הגדול הזה"*, ווי משה רבינו טיטולירט אונדז (דברים ד.ט.), האָט אין פאַרלויף פון אַרום אַכט הונדערט יאָר (מיט איין אויסנאַם: דעם חנוכה עפּיזאָד) כסדר געפירט אַ פּאָליטיק, וואָס האָט זיך געענדיקט מיט שרעק-לעכע נידערלאַגעס, מיט חורבן? פיר מאָל דאָס זעלבע טראַגישע בילד!

פאַרשטייט זיך, אַז מיר קענען ניט, אין דעם איינעם קאָלום, איבער'חזרן די גאַנצע געשיכטע פון אַכט הונדערט יאָר. און ס'איז אפשר נישט נויטיק דאָס צו טאָן, ווייל עס איז גוט באַקאַנט פון תנ"ך און פון דער תַּלמודישער עפּאָכע. אָבער עס פרעגט זיך דאָך: וואו איז געווען דער שכל הישר פון הושע בן אלה, דער קעניג פון צפונ'דיקן טייל פון ישראל, צו רעוואָלטירן קעגן דער שטאַרקער אשור אימפּעריע, גלויבנדיק, אַז מצרים וועט העלפן ישראל אינעם קאַמף מיט אשור? דער סוף? אשור האָט פאַרניכטעט דאָס מצרישע מיליטער און דערנאָך חרוב געמאַכט מלכות ישראל. די צען שבטים פון ישראל זיינען פאַרטריבן געוואָרן אין ווייטע לענ-דער און זיי זיינען פאַרלוירן געוואָרן בין היינטיקן טאָג.

מיט אַרום צוויי הונדערט יאָר שפּעטער (אינעם יאָר 586 פאַר דער וועלט קאַלענדאַר רעכענונג) געשעט דאָס זעלבע מיטן דרומ'-דיקן טייל פון יידישן לאַנד יהודה. די באַבילאָנישע אימפּעריע מאַכט חרוב דאָס לאַנד, פאַרברענט דאָס בית המקדש און פאַרטרייבט אַ סך יידן פון לאַנד. אינעם יאָר 70 פון וועלט-קאַלענדאַר פאַרברענט דער רוימישער גענעראַל טיטוס דאָס צווייטע בית המקדש, פיל יידן ווערן אויסגע'הרג'עט און די יידישע מדינה פאַרלירט איר זעלב-שטענדיקייט. און 65 יאָר שפּעטער געשעט דאָס זעלבע מיטן יידישן העלד בר כוכבא. ער פאַלט אין שלאַכט און פיל יידן מיט אים. די יידישע פּאָליטישע זעלבשטענדיקייט ווערט צום פערטן און לעצטן מאָל צעשטערט.

פרעגט זיך טאַקע די היסטאָרישע פראַגע: פאַרוואָס האָבן אונ-דזערע פידער פון יענע צייטן נישט באַוויזן צו פירן די מלוכה-פּאָליטיק אויף מער פרידלעכע רעלסן מיט אידע שכנים?

ווילן מיר האָפן, אַז די יידישע פידער פון אונדזערע צייטן וועלן יאָ נעמען אין אַכט די וויזיע פון קאָמפּראָמיס און שלום, ווען די געלעגנהייט קומט אונטער און ווען נויטיק.

חג שמח ושלום על ישראל!

Greater Toronto Area

Israeli rabbi urges tolerance among Jews

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg has a similar message for both his Orthodox colleagues and liberal Jewish organizations such as the New Israel Fund (NIF), which brought him to Toronto last week as part of an international NIF speaking tour.

The 47-year-old spiritual leader of the Jerusalem suburb of Har Adar, who is also a senior research fellow at Jerusalem's Van Leer Institute, tells liberal-minded Jews they "have to find a way to engage [their] values of tolerance and democracy to the agenda of the Torah world and of traditional religious society in Israel."

At the same time, he urges his colleagues in Israel's rabbinic establishment to "do everything to create dialogue," he said in an interview.

At the Van Leer Institute, a think tank which deals with Jewish and non-Jewish issues, the Israeli-born Orthodox rabbi chairs the Forum on Jewish Thought and Identity.

In Toronto, his only Canadian stop, the rabbi participated in a panel discussion at Beth Tzedec Congregation on The Challenge of Tolerance: Prospects for Religious Pluralism in Israel, together with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl of Beth Tzedec, Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple and Orthodox scholar Rachael Turkienicz.

Religious pluralism, per se, is not an issue on the Israeli agenda, Rabbi Rothenberg told *The CJN*. The issue of whether Conservative and Reform rabbis can be empowered to perform marriages, for example, will likely be resolved as a byproduct of the resolution to a more pressing issue, that of the increasing number of non-Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are unable to marry in Israel.

If civil marriage is introduced in Israel as a solution to the latter problem – and there are many "ifs," said Rabbi Rothenberg, weighing his words carefully – he believes people who want a Conservative or Reform wedding will opt for a local civil marriage and invite the rabbi of their choice to perform a religious ceremony.

Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg

Reform and Conservative rabbis can officiate at weddings in Israel now, but the couples have to go out of the country for a civil wedding that will be recognized in Israel, he explained.

The rabbi has published numerous articles on education, Halachah and Jewish philosophy.

In July, 1995, he spoke out in a *Jerusalem Post* column against the "crass exploitation of halachic and pseudo-halachic concepts for political ends by Diaspora and Israeli rabbis."

A rabbinic ruling regarding obedience of soldiers on issues of security was an attempt to influence the government, Rabbi Rothenberg believes. It was "liable to make a small number of people feel justified in breaking the law by committing terrible actions that could lead to killing and destruction," he predicted.

The rabbi, who served in a combat unit of the Hesder program for religious soldiers, declines to commit himself publicly to a political stand. He has limited himself to commenting only on those political issues involving morals or values, he said.

"I'm usually against the politicians on all the sides for moral issues," he joked wryly.

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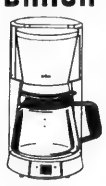
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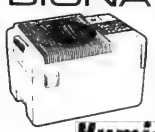
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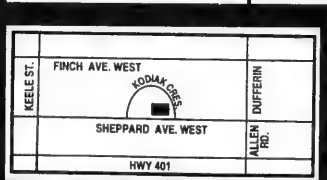

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC tables motion on non-Orthodox conversions

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A motion to urge the Knesset to avoid prohibiting non-Orthodox conversions did not pass at a Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national executive meeting recently.

Despite the fact that the motion was presented at the request of the top CJC officers, who described any such action by the Knesset as "divisive," it was tabled by the executive by a large majority.

"I feel uncomfortable putting this to a vote with not one of the national officers here to speak on it," said national chair Renee Bellas, Vancouver.

She explained that the motion had come forward from a national officers' meeting earlier in the day "from Rabbi Gunther Plaut via Irving Abella, both former CJC presidents," who could not attend the executive meeting. CJC president Goldie Hershon was out of the country and other top officers were not present.

The motion at the national officers' meeting engendered a lengthy debate and was not passed unanimously, said Hal Joffe, Calgary. Its supporters felt that disallowing non-Orthodox conversions would "impact" on the Diaspora and raise anew the controversy over "Who is a Jew?" while opponents said it would affect only conversions in Israel, Joffe said.

Several delegates objected to the motion's being presented to the executive without notice.

The Knesset is expected to take action in about a week, said David Rotenberg, Toronto, who supported the tabling of the motion.

In the wake of the the Matzahgate affair over labelling of kosher products in Quebec and following the resignation of Lt.-Gov. Jean-Louis Roux, the topic of CJC relations with B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) was also discussed.

Quebec region chair, Reisa Teitelbaum, told the executive that CJC has to live with BBC, despite their differences.

She said Hershon talked to BBC leaders after the Montreal difficulties.

"We can get along and do what's best, and not fight with each other," Teitelbaum said.

BBC claims it is parallel to the CJC in representing views of the Canadian Jewish community, she said. "I don't agree, I say BBC represents its own membership. But the problem has been around for 25 years and it won't go away in 25 years."

One of the distressing aftermaths of the Roux resignation was that newspaper editorials blamed the CJC for causing it, when in fact, the CJC had not asked him to resign, Teitebaum said.

On relations with still another group, the executive wants to improve the CJC's ties with the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) and passed a resolution to this effect.

"The CIC is responsible for lobbying in Ottawa on Israel matters, while the CJC handles relations with non-governmental organizations, the Arab and ethnocultural groups," said CJC treasurer, Zev Claman, Montreal. "We want a stronger partnership without duplication, to minimize costs."

The only delegate to abstain on this resolution was Larry A. Riterman, Atlantic Jewish Council, Halifax, who declared: "You can lobby all you want, but if the press turns up the heat in the kitchen, it's of no use. An example is the *Toronto Star* focusing on funds going beyond the Green Line."

The CJC relationship with Peace Now, one of its contituent members, was yet another subject of contention. A motion by Dr. Naim Dallal, Toronto, to ask Peace Now to abide by CJC policy and not publicly criticize Israeli government actions was tabled by about a two to one margin. Some delegates again objected to the motion's being presented without notice.

"Our statement was not sent to the newspapers," said Dr. Frank Guttman, Montreal, national Peace Now co-president, in defence of their actions.

An effort to direct more money and services to small communities by forming a new partnership between the CJC, the Council of Jewish Federations, the United Israel Appeal and other organizations was supported. Because of cuts to the CJC budget, small communities are not getting as much service, said Bellas.

Kalejs case nears end

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The evidence is in and the case involving alleged Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs is entering the home stretch.

Defence counsel and federal prosecutors wrapped up their cases last week and adjudicator Anthony Iozzo has allocated five days beginning on Jan. 20 for oral submissions. Lawyers for both sides will address legal issues and the evidence at that time.

Kalejs, an Australian citizen visiting Canada, is alleged to have been involved in war crimes as a senior lieutenant in the Arajs Kommando in wartime Latvia. Federal authorities are seeking a removal order against him based on his alleged involvement in war crimes and because, they argue, he is not a genuine visitor to Canada.

A longtime resident of the United States, Kalejs was ordered out of that country after various courts found he participated in war crimes. He later moved to Canada and he resides in a North York condominium that has a substantial number of Jewish residents, including Holocaust survivors.

Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh said he and colleague Bonnie Boucher have submitted a 119-page document outlining legal arguments in the case and have highlighted numerous inconsistencies in Kalejs' testimony, suggesting he is not a credible witness. MacIntosh said he doesn't expect a decision in the case perhaps until next April.

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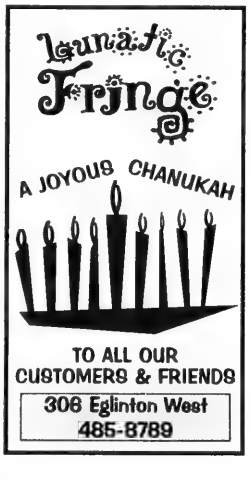

Seen at the 70th anniversary of Roheah Chapter of Rho Phi Pharmacy Fraternity is (front row, from left) Philip Eisner, dean emeritus Norman Hughes, Ontario College of Pharmacists, Maxwell Joel, chancellor Rokeah Chapter, and Joseph Litchen. Back row (from left) Harry Kraft, Dean Don Perrier, Ontario College of Pharmacists, and Seymour Rosenblatt.

Pharmacy fraternity marks 70th year

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Rokeah chapter of Rho Pi Phi Pharmacy Fraternity recently celebrated its 70th anniversary at a dinner and dance at the Bayview Golf and Country Club.

More than 120 fratters, their spouses and spouses of fratters who have died attended the gala evening. The program included a tribute to the founding members and a candle lighting ceremony conducted by vice-chancellors Philip Eisner, Harry Kraft and Seymour Rosenblatt.

The Rokeah Pharmacy Club was founded in 1925 by the late Mooney Mirochnik, who opened a drug store in 1914 on Dundas Street West at Palmerston Avenue. The club's founders, who included Izzie Rothbart, Wilf Isaacson, Moe Haberman and Sam Rosenthal, recognized that Jewish pharmacists faced antagonism from their non-Jewish competitors and professional limitations were being placed on them.

By forming a group, the Jewish pharmacists would be able to speak with one voice. One of the objectives of the Rokeah Club was to develop a spirit of fellowship and responsibility for one another.

In 1926, Rho Pi Phi was formed as a social group for Jewish pharmacists. In 1964, the two groups merged to become Rokeah chapter of Rho Pi Phi International, which has 38 chapters in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Over the years, Rokeah chapter grew, gained prestige and broadened the scope of its activities to include service to the community and communal responsibility. The group established pharmacy scholarships and lent its support to the United Jewish Appeal, State of Israel Bonds, the Hospital for Sick Children, Hebrew University, the Baycrest Centre, Ezra-Kadima Hebrew School, the Canadian Cancer Society, and other charitable organizations.

In time, Rokeah developed strong links with non-Jewish pharmacists and many Rokeah leaders served with distinction in non-sectarian pharmaceutical associations.

Joe Litchen, a past chancellor of Rokeah, who served as master of ceremonies, welcomed dean emeritus Norman Hughes and dean Don Perrier of the Ontario College of Pharmacists. Litchen introduced Ralph Goldsman, a past chancellor and chaplain who presented the fraternity prayer, and Maxwell Joel, the chancellor, who reviewed the past 40 years. Entertainment was provided by singer Marty Rose.

"The evening had many special and beautiful memories." said Litchen. "Many of us fratters received our basic training in organizational work in Rho Pi Phi and we earned respect in all phases of pharmacy, whether it was in retail, hospital, education or manufacturing."

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Jewish authors

Mellen book probes into literary couple's psyches

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO— From the moment Lillian Hellman met Dashiell Hammett in a Manhattan nightclub in 1930 until his death in 1961, she was "not only his best friend but also his only friend," yet so thoroughly did she mythologize their relationship, and so widespread was her reputation for lying, that Gore Vidal once wickedly pondered: "Did anyone ever actually see them together?"

Even more than a decade after Hellman's death in 1984, myths, contradictions and paradoxes cloud our perceptions of this pre-eminent American literary duo: the hard-drinking Hammett, master of the hard-boiled style evidenced in such detective novels as *The Maltese Falcon* (1930), *The Glass Key* (1931) and *The Thin Man* (1934); Hellman, his devoted protege, who crafted celebrated plays like *The Children's Hour* (1934), *The Little Foxes* (1939), *Watch On The Rhine* (1941) and *Toys In The Attic* (1960).

Joan Mellen, New York-based author of the fascinating new dual biography *Hellman and Hammett: The Legendary Passion of Lillian Hellman and Dashiell Hammett* (HarperCollins, $45), noted that Hellman had not written anything substantial before meeting Hammett, and that he stopped writing altogether shortly after they met.

Speaking at the recent Harbourfront International Author's Festival here, Mellen disputed the accusation made by some critics that Hellman drained what was left of Hammett's talent. Hammett, "in a singular act of generosity," gave Hellman the plot for *The Children's Hour*, her first big success, and patiently taught her his style of "bare-boned lucidity," Mellen observed.

In choosing a writing career and a life with Hammett, whom she never married, Hellman entered into a "Faustian bargain" that would deprive her of the children she wanted so dearly, Mellen said. In one of her biggest lies, Hellman "invented a child born to her via a Yugoslav lover. She greatly wanted children and felt she could not be complete without them. As John Hersey said at her funeral, she remained an unfinished woman."

An Unfinished Woman, of course, is the title of one of Hellman's supposedly autobiographical works; the others are *Pentimento* and *Scoundrel Time*. Although each was a bestseller, each has been strongly criticized as containing more fancy than fact. For example, in the chapter "Julia" in *Pentimento*, which later became a movie starring Jane Fonda, Hellman told the story of how she carried money into Nazi Germany for a socialist-activist friend.

Hellman fled to Europe

"In truth, Lillian Hellman had never met the character based on Julia," Mellen said. "The story belonged to somebody else, Muriel Gardiner."

It is also apparently untrue that Hellman courageously withstood the bullying political committees of the Joseph McCarthy era. In her memoirs, Hellman described hocking her jewelry to pay the $10,000 bail after Hammett was jailed for his alleged Red associations. In truth, Mellen found that Hellman did not pay the bail, and was so afraid to visit Hammett in jail that she went to Europe instead. "Hammett was terribly hurt, but he later forgave her."

Hellman greatly embroidered the truth about herself but never told lies that caused serious harm or suffering to others, Mellen concluded.

"Hellman never denied that she lied. Her view was that most people did it and it was a means of survival."

One of Hellman's greatest foes was not Joseph McCarthy but the American writer Mary McCarthy, who charged on a national TV talk show that "every word she writes is a lie, including 'and' and 'the.'"

Hellman responded with a lawsuit that forced McCarthy to recant; the incident is still famous in New York literary circles. "Lillian was so angry she vowed to break Mary McCarthy, and almost did just that," Mellen said.

Richly researched and with an astonishing level of detail, the book's 572 pages probe much deeper than any previous bio into the psyches of this hard-living literary couple who were far more faithful to their craft than to each other.

"Hammett's achievement lives on," Mellen said, "and Hellman is still remembered as a literary character and as an example of someone who lived a literary life to the fullest."

CORRECTION

Natan Kapustin, one of four recent recipients of the Kaplan Foundation scholarship, plans to attend Yeshiva University next year, not York University. (CJN, Nov. 21) The CJN regrets the error.

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Greater Toronto Area

Cohen biography provides many critical insights

Jewish authors

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — It seems so long ago that Leonard Cohen, the gravelly-voiced songwriter-poet from Westmount, first won international acclaim with compelling songs like *Suzanne* and *So Long, Marianne*, at once deeply romantic and mystical.

With 10 books of poetry, two novels and a dozen albums to his credit, and three tribute albums of his songs in record stores, the Cohen legend has not had a chance to tarnish: it still gleams. Forever the golden boy of Canadian poets, and the spiritual son or younger brother to Montreal poets such as Irving Layton, Cohen, remains one of the most expressive and enigmatic figures in Canadian letters, even as he remains a heart-throb to female fans around the world.

Now a new biography, *Various Positions: A Life of Leonard Cohen* (Random House, $29.95) tries to unite the reality with the myth, according to its author, Ira Nadel, a book critic for CBC radio in Vancouver.

"I was more interested in trying to understand: How does a Canadian from Westmount generate this mystique about himself as an artist?" Nadel explained recently. "How does a Canadian folksinger develop an international following? Who *is* this guy? Why do women get bleary-eyed when they meet him? That's what I wanted to know."

To find out, Nadel spent three years in research, conducted hundreds of interviews and traveled to Montreal, New York, Nashville, and Hydra, the Greek island where Cohen lived and wrote for many years. He also visited Cohen at his present home in Los Angeles, where he met – and won the approval of – his trusted zen master, Roshi.

Cohen,62, invited Nadel to L.A. after reading an article Nadel had written about him; they hit it off, and the biography ensued. Although Cohen provided full access to his unpublished papers, this isn't an "authorized" biography: he prefers the phrase "benignly tolerated."

Simply put, *Various Positions* provides a vital context for understanding Cohen's ouevre by presenting his life story with an astonishingly rich level of detail.

Cohen rubbed shoulders with Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg and other beat poets in New York in the 1950s. A decade later he was hanging out with Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Joan Baez, Joni Mitchell, even Janis Joplin,whom he met once.

A famous ladies' man, Cohen's relations with women are explored in depth, from his longtime lovers Suzanne and Marianne to less significant partners such as the woman who knocked at his hotel room one night wearing only aluminum foil.

The book also explores Cohen's recurrent depressions, his experimentation with drugs, and his steadfast attachment to Judaism – his grandfather was an eminent Montreal rabbi – even as he delved into zen buddhism.

"Leonard sees no conflict in this," Nadel explains. "They do not cancel themselves out. That's what the title means: it's possible to take various positions in life. Leonard is a Jew first and foremost, that's very important. There's absolutely no conflict for him in being Jewish and being a follower of zen practices. Zen for Leonard is not a religion, it's a training in self-reform and self- discovery."

Leonard Cohen (left) with author Ira Nadel.

According to Nadel, Cohen's first two books (*Let Us Compare Mythologies*, 1956, and *The Spice-Box of Earth*, 1961) were intensely romantic, while the next two (*Flowers for Hitler*, 1964, and *Parasites of Heaven*, 1966) "represent a collision with history." With his next works – *The Energy of Slaves* (1972), *Death of A Lady's Man* (1978) and *Book of Mercy* (1984), Cohen "begins to look more inward, and increasingly becomes more spiritual. So you could think of Cohen's progression as the spiritual replacing the lyrical," Nadel says.

However, while *Various Positions* contains many valuable critical insights, its author points out that it is a biography, not a critical study. "If this book achieves anything, it will provide a grasp of the life of Leonard Cohen. One hopes it will inspire people to listen to the songs and read the poems and books again."

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Jewish authors

Parchment launched at Jewish Book Fair

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — "In spite of the fact I knew only too well that my zaidy, Shloime Kuperblum, had perished in the holocaust, I nevertheless saw him one late afternoon on a Toronto street in the summer of 1956."

This is the opening sentence of author-filmmaker Jack Kuper's brief memoir *An Angel On Elm Street*. It also served, during the recent Jewish Book Fair, as the opening sentence at the launch of *Parchment*, the fifth annual journal of contemporary Canadian Jewish writing, when Kuper read the tale before an audience of more than 100 people.

Novelist Morley Torgov, who "moonlights" as a Bay Street lawyer, read a section of his new short story *The War to End All Wars*, involving a feud between two Jewish merchants in a northern Ontario town; the two had fought on opposite sides in World War I. The story, he said, is the basis for a forthcoming novel of the same name.

"I feel greatly honored to be part of this," he said, holding up the new issue of *Parchment*. "As I read piece after piece, I say to myself, 'I wish I could write like that person.'"

Other readers included Lila Julius, who recited her short memoir *Driving Through Hebron*, and Gabriella Goliger, who recited her short story *Maladies of the Inner Ear*. *Parchment* poetry editor Malca Litovitz read the poem *Mother* by the absent Miriam Schneid-Ofseyer. All the pieces and many more are included in the latest *Parchment*, available for $12 (two issues, $20) from Jewish bookstores or from the Centre for Jewish Studies, Vanier 260, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ont., M3J 1P3.

Jerusalem, a new anthology of Jewish Canadian poetry edited by Seymour Mayne and B. Glen Rotchin (Vehicule Press, Montreal, $13.95), was also launched at the event. Published to commemorate Jerusalem 3000, the volume contains works by 19 contributors, both deceased and extant, including Leonard Cohen, Marvyne Jenoff, A.M. Klein, Shel Krakofsky, Irving Layton, Carl Rose, Kenneth Sherman and Miriam Waddington.

Jewish poets in Canada tend to add a Canadian dimension to their impressions of Jerusalem, Rotchin said, as he introduced his reading of two "snow poems" from the anthology: *Winter Evening On Zion* by the late Hyman Edelstein, and Rotchin's own *Snowfall in Jerusalem*.

Clearly, many of the writers were buoyed by the sudden attention associated with reading their works in public. Many stayed behind, chatting animatedly, long after the last reading was performed.

"Writers work a long time in obscurity," Goliger, an Ottawa writer, explained. "It's a special kind of thrill to read before a live audience."

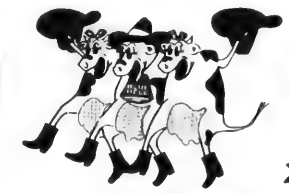
"This event shows the enormous variety and vitality of Jewish writing in Canada today," said Seymour Mayne, an Ottawa English professor who has been called the dean of Jewish poets in Canada. "Both in *Parchment* and in *Jerusalem*, you see the continuous thread in Jewish Canadian writing, which you won't see in American Jewish writing: a positive identification with Israel.

"In Canada, Jewish writers are not afraid to identify with Israel and to affirm all that is positive in being Jewish, culturally and religiously. They're not shy about expressing their strong sense of identity in the Canadian mosaic. Americans, on the other hand, are more self-involved: they're caught up in American culture, which involves the gratification of the self.

"The golden age of Canadian Jewish literature is not over," Mayne continued. "Even though writers like Richler, Klein and Layton have done most or all of their work, there is an enormous number of younger writers who are now publishing poetry, novels and short stories.

"What's exciting to me is that the centre of gravity of the Jewish Canadian world has moved from Quebec to Ontario. Toronto is a very thriving community with a critical mass of institutions. We've never seen anything like this before in Canadian Jewish history. For me, the fact that *Parchment* is published in Toronto speaks volumes...

"I think *Parchment* will become a permanent feature of the Canadian Jewish cultural landscape," he concluded. "It has to. We need it."



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From coast to coast

ORT project allows students to chat on the Internet

MONTREAL – Children at ORT schools around the world, as well as Canadian students, will soon be using the Internet to talk about terrorism, under a project initiated by and based at the ORT school in Moscow.

Children Against Terrorism will encourage youngsters to express their views on a topic that is all too close to home for many of them, while at the same time teach them the latest in computerized graphic designing.

The project was the beneficiary of ORT Montreal's recent concert at Place des Arts' Théâtre Maisonneuve that featured Academy Award-winning composer Marvin Hamlisch and local TV talk show host and singer Sonia Benezra. About $150,000 was raised. It's the first time in the 13 years ORT has held these galas that proceeds have not gone to a project in Israel.

ORT students around the world are to create a poster, stamp or other computer-generated artwork on the theme of anti-terrorism.

The pictures will be exhibited in Russia and elsewhere, and prizes awarded by an international jury. The best works will be placed on the World Wide Web and published in a booklet.

The use of ORTnet will enable instruction out of the Moscow ORT school and over the Internet in CorelDraw and other computerized design tools.

ORT has 250 schools in 50 countries, and at least 100 students are expected to participate.

They will take "classes" with their Moscow instructors, do homework and write exams over the Internet.

Russian ORT has considerable expertise in computer education and international projects. In 1994, with help from American ORT, it launched a three-year project to provide computer courses free of charge to Russian non-governmental organizations.

ORT Montreal executive-director Emmanuel Kalles said the key role the Moscow school is playing represents a return to the organization's roots. ORT was founded in Russia in 1880 to train poor Jews to make a living. Today, ORT has about 250,000 students on five continents, and still has the goal of providing education in useful work skills.

Kalles is now in discussion with several Canadian Jewish schools about the project.

ORT has been undergoing a revival in the former Soviet Union. Over 4,800 student are enrolled in the main centres in Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as satellites elsewhere in Russia and in Kiev, Riga and Minsk. Its computer know-how is also being used to reinforce Jewish education. The new Twelve Tribes project provides software on Jewish history and culture and the Hebrew language to Jewish schools and centres throughout the region.

The honoree of this year's concert was Phil O'Brien, founder of Devencore Ltd., one of Canada's leading real estate service companies.

Roger Korman was chair of the event.

ORTnet can be visited at [www.http://ortnet.ort.org].

MY ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT

Chosen for special mention in the recent My Eleventh Commandment write-in organized by Jewish Book Fair are (from left) Michael Grossman, Adath Israel Congregational School, Amy Glickman, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Barbara Held, chair, youth program and books, Eden Sagman, Beth Tikvah Congregational School, Shir Zukier, Associated Hebrew Schools and (not shown) Corey Salter, Adath Israel Congregational School.

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From coast to coast

Saskatoon becomes home for community professional

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

SASKATOON – Tom Rado refers to his workplace as the living room of the local Jewish community.

This fall he took on two newly created positions as Saskatoon's community development adviser and western region campus services co-ordinator. Home base for both positions is Saskatoon's Jewish Community Centre, located in the same building as Congregation Agudas Israel.

In the regional campus position, funded by the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada and based on a pilot project in Atlantic Canada, Rado serves Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon and Winnipeg, working with his counterparts in those cities and "making the circuit" every six or seven weeks. There is also outreach to campuses in other cities.

Tom Rado

This is the first time there has been this type of joint effort among federations in the west, said Rado, 28, in a recent phone interview. (Although Network Canada brought students from different regions together in the past, it was not affiliated with the federations. The student-run organization ceased operations last summer.)

Rado and his colleagues are planning a regional student conference to be held in March. Their goals include bringing a "sense of cohesion" to the approximately 1,000 students in the western region.

"I think our ultimate goal is, very simply, Jewish continuity," said Arnie Shaw, president of the Saskatchewan Jewish Council. "We're susceptible to losing our university kids. That's the time they maintain and increase their contact [with the Jewish community] or drop out completely. Liaison among the campuses provides an opportunity to introduce our Jewish students to other students across the country."

In the Saskatoon community, with 170 affiliated Jewish families out of a total population of 200,000, Rado's primary focus is the 38-member Jewish Student Association (JSA), based at the 19,000-student University of Saskatchewan, a five-minute drive from his office.

About three-quarters of the JSA members are from Saskatoon originally.

With the Jewish community representing such a small percentage of the greater community, interdating is "a fact of life," said Rado, adding that there are some students who do not want to intermarry.

Rado's goals include "a regular structured program" at the JSA. "Because it's such a small group, it's very different from the large universities. It's very easy to call 38 people and say, 'Let's get together.'"

Monthly Shabbat dinners have proved especially popular with the students. A recent program featured Karen Mock, national director of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights, speaking on Countering Hate in Canada.

The Saskatoon Jewish community is "a very tight community," Rado said.

"Everyone knows each other. They're extremely friendly and generous to outsiders" such as himself. A native of Toronto, Rado was educated at York University and the London School of Economics. He served for a year as B'nai Brith Canada's director for Western Canada.

Rado's duties as Saskatoon's first Jewish community professional also include serving as an adviser for B'nai Brith Youth Organization and helping in the administration of the United Israel Appeal campaign. His position is funded jointly by the Council of Jewish Federations, the Saskatchewan Jewish Council, the Saskatoon Jewish community and Saskatoon B'nai Brith.

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From coast to coast

Third referendum justified, says BQ chief advisor

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – Despite two previous No votes, another referendum is morally justified so long as Ottawa fails to satisfy Quebec's constitutional needs, one of the separatist movement's best-known spokesperson said here recently.

"I think sovereignty still is a legitimate option because the promise to renew the federation has not happened," Daniel Turp, one of the Bloc Québécois' (BQ) chief advisors, said at the recent national convention of the Canadian Council of Reform Judaism.

"Remember, it won't be put before the Quebec people unless the Parti Québécois (PQ) wins again."

Turp, now a BQ candidate in a future federal by-election, was joined for a "debate" on Quebec's proverbial question at the Temple Emanu-el Beth Sholom Synagogue by a federalist spokesperson, former *Gazette* editor Joan Fraser.

But while the two sides differed fundamentally on the pros and cons of separation, the "debate," held just a couple of days after the 20th anniversary of the PQ's first rise to power, turned out to be a relatively tame affair. No sparks flew and both Turp and Fraser expressed much mutual respect and admiration.

Predictably, however, there could be no meeting of the minds on the basic question, although both are self-described "moderates" within their respective ideological camps.

Turp, for example, continues, like Premier Lucien Bouchard, to favor a form of political and economic "partnership" with the rest of Canada (ROC) under separation.

"Since 1968, the PQ has always promoted the idea of a mutually-beneficial association," he said.

Turp also portrayed the PQ, despite "unfortunate comments" coming from certain elements within the PQ, as "inclusive" of all Quebecers.

"This is not a project to destroy Canada," Turp insisted. "I truly believe that there is a serious impasse and irreconcilable differences [between Quebec and Ottawa] on how the country should work and power should be divided.

"I'm willing to talk, and even more, to listen, to seek a better future in the spirit of compromise and understanding between peoples."

Fraser, calling it a "privilege" to share the podium with Turp but also jokingly expressing relief not to have to answer critical questions from anglophones about the *Gazette's* issue of the day, said the roots for separation lay in a "culture of grievance" dating back to the days of anglophone domination.

But whatever grievances may remain, the solution is not to separate, she argued.

"Despite the grievances, the majority of Quebecers do not want to leave," she said, including the 30 percent of Quebecers who voted Yes in the last referendum. "It's very difficult to convince Quebecers [to support independence] because Canada has been a success."

But most French-Quebecers do seem to want, "more dignity and strength within Canada," Fraser said.

Fraser said like the situation under René Lévesque 16 years ago, Quebec history is repeating itself, with the moderate, "sovereignty-association" forces within the PQ seeking to prevail in the face of elements wanting to take a much harder line.

But the paradox in all this, Fraser contended, is that by placing the current priority on "good government," and then delivering it, "they set about undermining their own arguments for sovereignty.

"Good government leads to a less perceived need for independence," she said.

Turp disagreed. He said it will be "good goverment" that will help the PQ get re-elected and pave the way for another, and hopefully successful, separation vote.

Literary magazine devotes issue to Jewish Canadian writers

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – On Sunday, Nov. 10, *Prairie Fire*, a long standing Winnipeg-based literary magazine, launched its first anthology of Jewish Canadian writers with a public reading by three of the participants at a local bookstore.

The proposal for the Canadian Jewish literary opus was put forward by Winnipeg Jewish writer Maggie Dwyer following an evening of readings at the Rosh Pina Synagogue last winter. *Prairie Fire* has previously published special editions devoted to Ukrainian, Mennonite and Icelandic writers living in Canada. (Manitoba is home to one of the largest Icelandic communities in the world outside of Iceland, and a similarly sizeable Mennonite community.)

The works of about 60 writers, nearly half of whom are Winnipeggers, was included in the *Prairie Fire* edition. Among the nationally and internationally known local luminaries are Sheldon Oberman, Carol Matas, Carol Rose and Ed Kleiman. There were also works from such award winning writers as Matt Cohen (profiled in the Nov. 13 issue of *The CJN*), Shel Krakofsky, Dave Margoshes and Erna Paris.

The over 250-page publication includes prose, poetry, drama, essays and book reviews. The double-sized issue was made possible by financial assistance from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and Heritage Canada. The book is available from Prairie Fire Press Inc., 423-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg R3B 1H3 (tel):204 943-9066).

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Hamilton's new rabbi hopes to develop young leaders

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON – Now that he's had a couple of months to settle in and get to know his congregation, Rabbi Gary Karlin, the recently appointed spiritual leader of Hamilton's Conservative Beth Jacob Congregation, is assessing his priorities.

Rabbi Karlin succeeds Rabbi Israel Silverman, who retired last summer after serving 30 years at Beth Jacob.

At 37, Rabbi Karlin says he fits "squarely into the ballpark" of a new young generation of rabbis taking over from older, long-serving rabbis.

"There seems to be a shift in generations," he says, referring to Temple Anshe Sholom, where Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz succeeded Rabbi Bernard Baskin, who retired after 40 years. And like Rabbi Zeplowitz, Rabbi Karlin hopes to attract a new, young generation of members.

Developing new young leadership is, in fact, his main priority. He says he sees a younger Jewish generation "seeking a greater religious connection." In today's more open society, there is no longer the same need to turn to "outside secular Jewish" organizations for Jewish social contact, and so the synagogue, he notes, has the advantage.

Together with the congregation, Rabbi Karlin is trying to map out a program that "expands what the congregation has been doing for the last 10 years."

A New Yorker, Rabbi Karlin attended the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and spent a year in Jerusalem at the Hebrew University. In 1987, he graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and then served six years as rabbi of a synagogue in Westchester County, N.Y.

Going from Manhattan to Hamilton may seem like a drastic change, but Rabbi Karlin finds "the smallness" of Hamilton attractive, while its easy access to Toronto, with its large Jewish community and cultural amenities, a plus.

"The hardest bit to get used to," he says, "is things starting on time," unlike in New York, where Jewish functions would invariably begin "five, 10 or 15 minutes late."

Rabbi Karlin and his wife, Carol, were married in March in Atlanta and he tells of how he sent his application to Beth Jacob early before leaving for his wedding. Beth Jacob, meanwhile, was trying to contact him and when they finally reached him in New York at the end of March, they told him they were just about to give up.

Meeting Nelson Mandela again

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA – Nate Lochoff, a Victoria resident, travelled all the way to South Africa to attend a law class reunion dinner last month.

It was a long way to go, but it was a very special occasion, because the host was President Nelson Mandela, who had been in the same law class as Lochoff in 1943.

Although they were together in the pre-apartheid era (the policy officially began five years later), conditions were far from favorable for blacks. Mandela was the only black in the class because higher education was out of reach for most of the black population.

After graduation, Lochoff and Mandela were professionally associated as lawyers, but Lochoff said he did not see his friend after Mandela became involved with the then-illegal African National Congress (ANC).

Lochoff bumped into Mandela again in 1992, when he returned to South Africa on a visit. By then, Mandela was out of prison, where he had spent 27 years because of his leadership of the ANC.

Mandela greeted him warmly, Lochoff said, and the two arranged to meet again a few days later to get reacquainted.

The dinner Lochoff attended recently was held in the university's faculty club in Johannesburg, with about 20 in attendance.

"The president honored me," said Lochoff, "by having me seated right beside him. I was the only one who had come from abroad."

In responding to a toast, Mandela showed no trace of bitterness despite the many years he had spent in prison, Lochoff said. He spoke of what he termed "the reconciliation" and said he was gratified that it is now possible for the two races to get along together to build a free and democratic country.

Mandela told Lochoff he hopes to make a personal visit to Israel in the near future.

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Photographer Orah Buck (right) and Vivienne Marcus, art coordinator of Baycrest Centre, collaborated on the recent installation of the mural titled, "You're Never Too Old to Grow", located in the adult day care area of Baycrest day care services for seniors. The mural is a composite of 17 photos of day care members enjoying various activities.

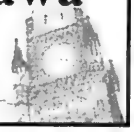
From coast to coast

Canada playing catchup on trade with Israel

United States, E.U. years ahead

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX



OTTAWA – The free trade agreement with Israel has given Israel's critics an excellent opportunity to be heard in Parliament. And there will be a lot more criticism of Israel before the deal is through the Senate and is given Royal Assent.

The Israelis have none of this trouble. Their law allows the Canada-Israel trade agreement to become operative by a simple order of the Israeli cabinet without requiring approval by the Knesset.

Our law requires passage of the accord through both houses of Parliament.

The free trade deal between Canada and Israel was first proposed by Israel in 1988, but the proposal came just before a federal election, and the prime minister at the time, Brian Mulroney, thought it more prudent to wait, rather than trying to railroad the deal through Parliament.

There was a distinct possibility of a backlash against any attempt by Canada to get closer to Israel, which at the time was something of a pariah on the world's stage.

The United States did not have a similar hesitation and it pushed the deal through both houses without too much political damage. As a result, U.S. business interests gained a 10 year advantage over their Canadian counterparts.

The European Union did the same and likewise benefited.

It's estimated that as a result, Canada may have lost about $1 billion in trade during the intervening years.

Israel was convinced that the Canadians were too afraid of an Arab backlash to broach the subject of free trade with Israel ever again – even after Israel became a respected member of the international community under Yitzhak Rabin's peace initiatives.

Suddenly, during a meeting with Rabin in the fall of 1994, literally out of the blue, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien proposed a free trade deal. Rabin thought it over for two seconds and replied, "Sure why not?" or words to that effect.

That's how the Canada-Israel free trade agreement, which would become known as CIFTA, came to life again two years ago.

The major achievement in the two years since has been to obtain the tacit agreement of Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat

This was done by inserting into the free trade deal, where the word "Israel" should appear, a phrase which reads "Israel or another CIFTA beneficiary."

Everybody knows who this means without spelling it out. It means the Palestinians – without defining them as such.

Slipping in a few extra words may not seem like a lot, but it's enough for Arafat and not too much for the hawks behind Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. And if that's all it takes, so be it.

There's also another clause that says, "The Governor in Council may make regulations defining the expressions 'Israel or another CIFTA beneficiary' and 'imported from Israel or another CIFTA beneficiary' "

That means it will be the Canadian cabinet, not the House of Commons or the Senate, which will decide when and how much the Palestinians will benefit from the free trade. That's an interesting quirk in the free trade law.

The Israelis must trust the Chrétien government an awful lot to let the Canadian cabinet have such a decision-making power, but then self-interest has such a wonderful way of making us all trusting friends.

But then, you can be sure the cabinet is not about to define that other CIFTA beneficiary as being Iraq or Iran. Take my word for it. It will be the Palestinian Authority even if they have to go through hoops to get around naming them directly.

Now the final push to get the deal through the Senate is on, and the critics are having their last kick at the cat.

Michael Lynk, a Canadian lawyer who has worked for a number of Canadian-Arab organizations and also visited and lived in the Middle East, led a delegation of several Canadian-Arab groups which testified against the deal before the Commons Foreign Affairs committee this fall in Ottawa.

Lynk has followed up his Commons appearance with a number of articles in major newspapers. The main thesis of his opposition is that the deal is a reward to Israel, or will be seen as such, which he believes Israel does not deserve, given its current treatment of the Palestinian minority.

The problem for opponents of the free trade deal, such as Lynk, is that Canadian politicians don't see it as a reward for Israel, but rather as a chance for Canada to get a foot in the door in the Middle East, a place which up to now, the Americans and the Europeans have had all to themselves – duty-free.

The final straw came about a year ago when an official of a major Canadian electronics manufacturer let slip out that his company had deliberately shifted communications equipment parts to its subsidiary in Kentucky, rather than continuing to make the products in Canada. He admitted, but later denied, that it was to take advantage of the the U.S.-Israel free trade deal and save the 20 percent duties the firm would have to pay on any Canadian-made goods it sold to Israel.

The lack of a free trade deal with Israel during the past 10 years has been doubly hurtful to Canadian business. It was unfair, because while Canadian business faced high tariffs when they exported to Israel, Israeli business didn't bear the same burden. Israel is classed as a "developing" country like the rest of the Middle East, and so it enjoys the benefits of preferential tariffs on everything it sells to Canada. Canada, on the other hand, is not viewed as a "developing" country by anybody.

It was time to create "a level playing field," International Trade Minister Art Eggleton told the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

Considering the existing situation, that was putting it mildly.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

Please note these holiday deadline changes for What's New and About People – Thursday, Dec. 5 is deadline for Dec. 19 issue (as we are not publishing a Dec. 26 issue, all items that would have appeared in that column must be included in Dec. 19 issue); Wednesday, Dec. 18 is deadline for Jan. 2; Monday, Dec. 23, is deadline for Jan. 9, and Thursday, Jan. 2, is deadline for Jan. 16. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Dec. 7

FREE CHANUKAH PARTY

NCSY's annual Chanukah party with music by *The Radio Show* – AM 1320 CJMR, 8 p.m. Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue, 147 Overbrook Pl., 905-761-NCSY or **Ari** 638-2458.

LIGHTING OF THE SQUARE

Lighting of the Square and Choral Fest, 7:30 p.m., at Mel Lastman Square and Amphitheatre Stage includes a performance of the mixed child-adult Zemer Chorale of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Sunday, Dec. 8

U OF T LECTURE

University of Toronto Jewish Studies Program and the Dr. Max & Gianna Glassman Exchange Program present Can a Jewish State be a Democratic State? by **Prof. Izhak Englard,** Bora Laskin Professor of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 8 p.m., Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management, Room KP108, 569 Spadina Ave.

SJA CHANUKAH PARTY

Secular Jewish Association Children's School Chanukah party, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8 adult, $5 child. RSVP 364-7002. Bring snack to share.

CHILDREN'S CHANUKAH

Northern Lights chapter, Jewish Women International, second annual Children's Chanukah party, 1-3 p.m., Aurora Community Centre. $5 child. Adults accompanying children are free. 905-841-1535.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth. Come listen and tell 7:30 p.m. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914.

PINE VILLA

Residents and staff of Pine Villa hold open house in celebration of Chanukah: light buffet, entertainment, 1-4 p.m., 1035 Eglinton Ave. W. RSVP 787-5626.

Monday, Dec. 9

YOUNG & RESTLESS?

Tikvah chapter (women in their 20s and 30s), Jewish Women International, annual Chanukah Gift Exchange. Dinner program. For '96 program calendar, **Sharyn** 631-7585.

Tuesday, Dec. 10

LENKINSKI MEMORIAL

Former Ontario premier **Bob Rae** will deliver the Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture on Human Rights, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Lecture, sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region was chosen to coincide with International Human Rights Day. 635-2883, ext. 143.

CHANUKAH TRIVIA

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood Chanukah Trivia meeting, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Tevet celebration, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Women's Maariv 7:45 p.m. followed by lecture Does Torah Have a Gender? by **Reena Zeidman** chair, Jewish Studies, Queen's University.

NORTHERN LIGHTS, JWI

Northern Lights chapter of Jewish Women International monthly program meeting and annual social, 7 p.m. in Aurora. 905-841-2154.

ISRAEL & WORLD NATIONS

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses Israel and the Nations of the World (a) Judaism's approach to racism, (b) Relations between Jew and Gentile, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

BEREAVED FAMILIES

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario, an organization for families

[Cont'd. on page 37]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription.
We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4

Audrey & Leon Levy are proud to announce the birth of their first born, Jared Elias, born Aug 17. First grandchild for Barbara & Gil Brenner and third for Lisa & Edmond Levy.

Simon Paul Gladstone celebrated his first birthday on Aug. 27. Proud parents are Gary & Melanie Gladstone and grandparents Mollie & Syd Gladstone of Toronto, Beth & Ellard Eppel of Dublin, Ireland.

Happy third birthday Rebecca! Love from your whole family. Happy 78th birthday to Gramma!

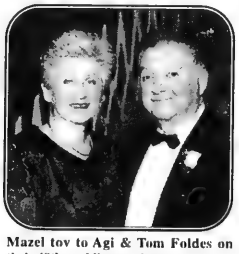
Happy third birthday to Hayden Cantor. Love, Mom & Dad.

Kayla Ronald celebrated her bat mitzvah June 2 at Beth Ezekiel Synagogue in Owen Sound. Proud parents are Bruce & Goldie Ronald and grandparents Mike & Miriam Rabovsky.

Mazel tov to Marla & Howard Kamin on their marriage, June 30. Congratulations to parents Anita & Jerry Sherman, Norma & Harold Kamin, and grandmothers Shirley Sherman and Anne Kroll.

Mazel tov to Morris & Ruth Flicht on your 50th wedding anniversary, Nov. 3, from daughters Sandy and Carol, grandchildren Sheri and Ben, family and friends.

Eric & Inge Spitz celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20. Mazel tov and best wishes from Peter & Gilda, Bob & Iris, Jill & Jack, Adam, Bryan, Daniel, Cynthia and Sarah.



Mazel tov to Agi & Tom Foldes on their 40th wedding anniversary, Dec. 3. Love always from your children Lillian and Martin.

Mazel tov to Lillian & Frank Biel, on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. With love and best wishes for health and happiness from their children and grandchildren.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 36]

who have lost a child through death, Family Night, 8 p.m. Adath Israel Synagogue. **Barbara Klich**, author of *In My Thoughts*, a book for newly bereaved parents, speaks on Coping With Grief. **Maureen Feder** 638-7800, ext. 202.

EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles workshop of embroidery stitches taught by members. **Janet** 225-2002 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

INVESTMENT SEMINAR

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Investment Seminar, 8 p.m.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group presents music historian/broadcaster **Helen Hatton**, speaking on Out of the Cantorial Tradition, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served, $1.

MARKHAM-UNIONVILLE

Jewish Women International Markham-Unionville chapter meeting, 8 p.m. **Eva** 905-472-6139 or **Jill** 905-764-979

Thursday Dec. 12

CAFE L'EUROPA

Cafe L'Europa Chanukah party, 2 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., 4th floor. featuring **Faye Kellerstein** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**

And What Else Is New

OHR SOMAYACH EVENTS

Ohr Somayach Thornhill events, 613 Clark Ave. W. 905-885-5730.

Monthly Shalosh Seudos gathering for women, Saturday, Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m. Speaker **Lori Grysman** Free babysitting.

On Sunday, Dec. 8, 8:30 p.m., **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz** delivers the annual Chanukah lecture entitled Praying for Miracles: A Chanukah Message.

Weekly class for women with **Rebbitzen Renata Schochet** on Genesis and Creation, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m., Starbucks in the Chapters Bookstore, Yonge Street north of Steeles.

Weekly Sunday educational service, 8 a.m. followed by breakfast and class by **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz.**

HEBREW LANGUAGE

Canadian Zionist Federation, 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300, Hebrew language studies 10-week winter session begins the week of Jan. 6, beginners I and II, intermediate and advanced all levels with **Chana Sargon**. Register now. **Barbara** 633-3988.

ATID CHANUKAH PARTY

Atid chapter of Hadassah-WIZO pot luck Chanukah party/meeting, with games, holiday food, and a short video, Sunday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. for women, late 20s to 30s. **Rona Sherebrin** 781-0282.

SHIR LIBEYNU

Shir Libeynu, a progressive, egalitarian congregation committed to building a Judaism based on social action, study and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) events taking place at Bloor JCC. 537-3435.

Saturday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m. – Havdalah and Chanukah celebration, songs, stories, shared food. Bring a Chanukah menorah, four candles and dairy or pareve treat to share.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m. – Planning meeting in the board room.

SINGLES LEARNING , MUSIC

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning invites Jewish singles, ages 25-45 to Light Your Fire on a Cold Winter Night, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m., Zionist Centre , 788 Marlee Ave. Join intellectual, spiritual and Jewishly inquisitive men and women for an evening of Jewish learning, food and live klezmer music. $36. Pre-register 905-764-1329.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation winter 1997 semester of Yiddish classes for adults starting in January, all levels. Classes include Yiddish literature appreciation. Children's Sunday morning classes range from junior kindergarten to Grade 8 level. Information/pre-registration **Sam Blatt** 651-8500.

CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

Chaplaincy Services needs visitors in hospitals. Be part of the community and the Chaplaincy Services team. Orientation and supervision ongoing. **Toby Maskowitz** , 638-7800, ext. 287. Jewish Family & Child Services.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Monday, Dec. 9 – How to Follow the Shabbat Morning Service, **Rabbi Wayne Allen**, 8 p.m.; The Hasmonean Period, **Hana Werner**, 8 p.m.; Chanukah: Hebrew, Holiday Fun for the Early Years, **Sara Zachar** 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 10 – Glimpses of Some Israeli Artists, **Sharon Goelman** 8 p.m.

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

On Friday, Dec. 13, Temple Emanu-El Choir will sing selections from *Judas Maccabaeus*, Handel's oratorio based on the Chanukah story. Temple Emanu-El Choir, **Cantor Anna Trubashnik**, mezzo-soprano; **Elizabeth Monteith**, soprano; and a string quartet will be conducted by music director **Amy Gilbert**. Performance follows Shabbat service which begins 8:30 p.m. 449-3880.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Positive Parenting Groups, beginning January – Your Preschooler; The School Age Child; Young Adolescents; Surviving Your Teenager; Bereavement Group for Young Widows/Widowers begins Jan. 14; Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Jan. 16. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH

Chabad Lubavitch Chanukah events:

Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 p.m., Chanukah celebration at Centrepoint Mall (Yonge and Steeles) in the Bay court, 4 p.m., menorah lighting, latkes, live music, dancing, Chanukah loot bags

Monday, Dec. 9, 5 p.m., Chanukah bash, Promenade Mall centre court, children's entertainer, chassidic singer **Shlomo Simcha**, latkes, giant menorah lighting.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6-7:30 p.m., Chanukah concert and acrobatic show, Wilshire Public School, 265 Beverly Glen Blvd., Thornhill for Wilshire community and everyone $3 in advance, $3.50 at door.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Chanukah party Monday, Dec. 9, 1 p.m., entertainment **Lenka Lichtenberg**; Reservations being taken for vacation trip to Israel, March 5-26. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club Chanukah party, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, live entertainment, refreshments including latkes, lots of fun. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays , 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 5 program, Israeli movie *Sh'Chor* with **Gila Almgor**. Saturday, Dec. 7, Chanukah party, 7:30 p.m., live music by Keddy Band, songs, light dinner with wine and Israeli donuts. $8 members, $10 non-members. Dec. 12 is bingo. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club Dec. 8, Chanukah dance 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Dec. 11, *Beauty and the Beast*; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner dance, noise makers, door prize, novelties, $30 members, $35 non-members. New membership for 1997 now open, $12. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Florida trip to Sagamore Hotel on the ocean, efficiency, entertainment, pick up at airport. One month $1,668, two months $2,735. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Chanukah luncheon and concert, Wednesday, Dec. 11, noon, **Shlomo Aviv** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, members $8. Concert at 1:30 p.m., members $2, non-members $3.

Street Smarts:How to Protect Yourself on the Street, In Your Home, Metro policemen Constable John Leahy and Constable Bill Stead, Monday, Dec. 9, 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Social Action Committee.

Parkinson's Support Group, guest speaker **Jill Burkholder**, movement disorders nurse. Topic General Parkinson's. **Sharon** or **Ruth** 225-2169.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Dec. 11 is a Chanukah party. **Anna.**

at the JCC/BJC

Movie *Nine Months* Sunday, Dec. 8, 2:30 p.m.

Ashkenaz and Bloor JCC present *Out of the Shadows and into the Light*, an image-based theatrical performance with shadow puppetry, music, song, plus dancing to klezmer music, latkes and dreidels, Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., Bloor JCC. This is part of a series of participatory holiday programs conceived by Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture. Bloor JCC members $3 children, $6 adults, $15 families, non-members $5 children, $8 adults, $20 families. 924-6211 information/reservations.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club – Chanukah party, entertainment by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Thursday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m. Members $3, non-members $6. Reserve. Classic Yiddish film *Tevye Der Milhikker*, (Tevye the Milkman) with subtitles, Thursday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Holiday Youth Volleyball Camp at BJC Dec. 23-27 for ages 9-14. **Grant Smith** 636-1880, ext. 374 or **George Shermer** ext. 235.

MISSION TO ISRAEL

Delegates from Canadian Society for Yad Vashem recent mission to Israel (from left) Lil Freedman, Wolf Justin, Ruth Shulman, Ben Freedman, Libby Smuskowitz, Hank Rosenbaum, Miriam Justin Grace Hornfeld, David Smuskowitz, Helen Rosenbaum, Hy Shulman, David Hornfeld.

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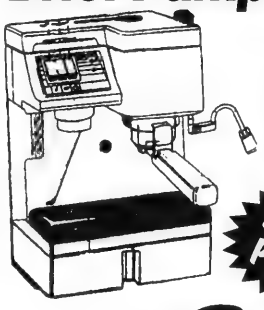

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Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

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Darren, Mark & Ari invite you to....**The Matzo Ball Party**, Tues. Dec. 24th, 1996, 9 pm at Whiskey Saigon, 250 Richmond St. West. Tickets ($12.00 Advance, $15.00 At Door). TicketMaster 416-870-8000. Pool tables, lounge area, 3 dance floors. This is the Nations **#1 Holiday Party.** Ari Huber, Mark Brodkin & Darren Budd Hotline 416-733-1419.

Darren, Mark & Ari invite you to... **New Year's Eve '97,** Tues. Dec. 31st, 1996. Our **Gala New Year's Eve Party** is at the Holiday Inn on King St. Door Prizes, Complimentary Champagne, D.J., Dancing. Dance starts at 9:30 pm. Room bookings available with dance ticket purchases. Limited attendance. Dress to impress! Last Year's Dance Sold Out! Tickets (Advance $30.00, At Door $35.00). TicketMaster 416-870-8000. Ari, Mark & Darren Hotline 416-733-1419.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1190** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** weeks. 398-7068.

Single Parents & Kids...Interested in ceramic class every other Sunday afternoon, beginning in Jan.? Also skating, bowling...Yes, with your children. A great way to meet new friends! *Christmas activitites...call for more info. 905-881-0376 ASAP.

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Galganov vows to remain active

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Howard Galganov was applauded by a synagogue audience when he asserted that he will never give in to the ghetto mentality of *shveig*, that is, keeping quiet for fear of attracting the disfavor of non-Jews.

Galganov, 46, president of the Quebec Political Action Committee (QPAC), said the first time he encountered this fear was in the past few months while looking for a store to rent for Presque Pure Laine Inc., where he plans to post equal English and French signs in defiance of the law.

He recounted how in looking for a place on Queen Mary Road, where there is ample space available, landlords were eager to make a deal until they found out why he wanted it. Galganov said he made 100 inquiries before he secured a lease.

"One woman literally begged me not to rent there ... Fifty-odd years ago, that attitude led six million to their deaths," he said to wide applause.

Over 400 attended his talk at Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation in Cote St. Luc, most giving him a standing ovation at the end.

The appropriateness of Galganov's Holocaust analogy was questioned only by David Lisbona, 27.

"I don't believe we're in a Holocaust context, but people here are worried, especially those who lived through it or those who have parents who did," Galganov replied. "This is not a normal situation. People are scared. The separatists have stolen our souls. People aren't thinking about tomorrow in Quebec, but about who's left or leaving."

However, Galganov said he does not believe anti-Semitism is an issue in Quebec today.

"Our French neighbors are not hateful; they do not despise Canada or us ... People get along well here."

Galganov will not stop "insulting and attacking" separatists because he views them as enemies out to destroy his country and take away his rights as an equal citizen. He doesn't hesitate to do so because he believes the great majority of Quebecers are not, at heart, in favor of secession or the denial of anglophone rights.

In the new year, Galganov plans to launch a television advertising campaign to reach French Quebecers directly because he feels he has been "pilloried and denigrated" by the French media.

Galganov believes the Parti Quebecois is in disarray and that separatism is "over," and he takes full credit for it.

"We [QPAC] have done more to destroy the dream of ethnic nationalism than our political leaders, elites and intellectuals did in the last 20 years because we said 'enough, no more.' "

JNF shaliach completes tour of Jewish schools

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER – Itzhak Efron, eduction *shaliach* for the Jewish National Fund (JNF) in Canada, recently completed a 29-day tour of Jewish education facilities in Western Canada.

Efron met with teachers, educators and school boards to distribute materials and hold discussions on how to blend JNF material into school curricula, he said in a statement to *The CJN*.

"The next two years," he said, "are very significant in modern Jewish history. In 1997, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress in Basel and in 1998, we mark the 50th anniversary of *Medinat Yisrael*."

Efron spoke to students about Jewish history, old and modern, and about the partnership of the Jewish world in land purchased by the JNF, "which acts as a trustee on behalf of Jewish people around the world."

He said there is a covenant between the Israeli government and JNF that gives JNF the responsibility for maintenance and development of publicly owned land in Israel. JNF is also has the responsibility for Zionist education in the Diaspora.

Canada sends more than 80 percent of JNF funds raised to Israel, Efron said. Israel, in turn, invests in Jewish education and maintains a *shaliach* who prepares material on Jewish traditions and values for Canadians.

Last year, some 12,000 youngsters from all over the world participated in five youth camps in Israel, Efron said. The camps are "heavily subsidized" by JNF.

The JNF's most recent major project is to develop Israel's "greatest land resources in the Negev," which occupies 58 percent of all land in Israel, he said.

From coast to coast

CJC to receive U.S. investigator's 'Nazi' files

[Cont'd from page 1]

Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber said organization officials will meet with Rambam, evaluate the evidence and if it passes muster, transmit it to the appropriate Canadian officials.

Congress has long pushed federal authorities to bring Nazi war criminals to justice and has criticized the slow pace of recent efforts to begin denaturalization proceedings. "I hope it embarrasses the country," said Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee, referring to Rambam's investigation. "I hope it embarrasses the government. I hope it embarrasses the judiciary."

In a telephone interview from London, England, Rambam said he has already forwarded a tape of his conversation with alleged war criminal Antanas Kenstavicius to George Carruthers, the Vancouver Justice Department lawyer handling the deportation case.

"We didn't want to be responsible for them losing the case by us withholding evidence," he said.

The Kenstavicius interview was one of the more jarring elements in a sometimes shocking expose published recently in the *Jerusalem Post Magazine (JP)*. The story, written by *JP* reporters Robert Sarner and Steve Leibowitz, chronicles Rambam's efforts to track down and expose Nazi war criminals living openly in Canada. Rambam posed under an assumed identity and told the interview subjects he was working on a doctoral thesis on the interchangeability of civilian and wartime forces in law enforcement.

Rambam's first personal encounter in Canada was with Kenstavicius and his wife in their home in Hope, B.C. Kenstavicius is one of eight men federal authorities are attempting to deport for allegedly lying to immigration authorities about their wartime activities. Kenstavicius allegedly served as deputy chief of police and chief of police in Svencionya, Lithuania between 1941-43 and was involved in the detention, arrest and mass execution of thousands of Jews.

Kensavicius has denied all these allegations and is resisting the federal government's attempts to deport him. His hearing is scheduled to begin within two months.

In his interview with Rambam as reported in the *JP Magazine*, Kenstavicius described how Lithuanian Jews were murdered: "Ten guys stay on ditch and then coming the commander. Bang! and they fall down. Some time, repeat. Bang! Bang! and they all fall in ditch. All the day. After, there're no mens. Then the womens in separate camp. Separate barracks. The kids go with wives. First party, I look, after I no want to see. I sit there and I no want to see. And then, 09 November, one o'clock, finished. No more Jews."

Another interview subject, located in Toronto, talked about his days as a soldier in wartime Lithuania and denied persecuting Jews, except to occasionally "amuse" himself by pointing a gun at Jews and making them run for their lives. Later, he admitted to shooting one Jew.

Altogether, Rambam located 157 alleged war criminals, interviewed 62 and secretly taped their conversations. Reporters were present for 20 of the interviews and seven of the interview subjects admitted to either killing Jews or facilitating their murder, Rambam said.

Finding the alleged Nazis was not that difficult, he continued. Names were provided by Efraim Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israel office as well as by Yad Vashem.

Some were found by simply "opening a telephone book where many are listed under their original names. Others were found through driver license registration lists or property ownership files," the *JP* reported.

In a news scrum with reporters after the *JP* story appeared, Justice Minister Allan Rock said he had not yet seen the material gathered by Rambam but "if they wish to share it with us, that would be very helpful... We'll look at it very carefully but I would be surprised to know there were that many people we overlooked... in regards to the efforts that have been made in the last 10 or 15 years."

Rock went on to question the value of the evidence: "There were investigators who worked full time for years going to Eastern Europe, looking at archive documents, finding and interviewing witnesses and preparing evidence that was of sufficient quality and reliable to put before a tribunal. I think that's the kind of work that's required. A casual interview or going on word of mouth or hearsay is quite a different matter. That's not sufficient to start court proceedings."

Rambam believes that despite Rock's best intentions, "I don't think he has the strong cooperation from all parts of the government and legal community."

Reflecting on Canada's post-war record, he suggested "thousands of war criminals came to Canada and no effort was made to pursue them until now."

Asked why he choose to investigate the Canadian scene, Rambam quoted onetime bank robber Willy Sutton who said he robbed banks because that's where the money is. "Canada is where the Nazis are," Rambam said.

A former member of the Jewish Defence League (JDL) in the United States, Rambam has had longstanding ties to Canada. In 1983, he cooperated with the Canadian JDL in providing security for U.S. author John Loftus.

He cooperated with the Canadian JDL on other matters but after a time, he and Canadian JDL leaders had a falling out.

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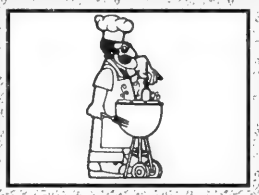

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From coast to coast

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The mayor of Tel Aviv, Roni Milo (fourth from left) and the Canadian Ambassador to Israel, David Berger (second from left), were in attendance at the recent inauguration of a 2.5 acre park in the southern Tel Aviv neighborhood of Neve-Chen. The municipality and the Tel Aviv Foundation have named this park, which contains stone sculptures and playground areas, after John, Michael and David Sereny of Toronto (third, fifth and sixth from left) in appreciation of the generosity of John Sereny for the benefit of Tel Aviv-Yafo residents.

Winnipeg shul to mark 90th anniversary

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – The Beth Israel Synagogue is celebrating its 90th anniversary next April 12 with An Evening With the Cantors, featuring the city's chazzanim.

The present synagogue is only 20 years old, but the Hebrew Sick Benefit Association (HSBA) from which the Beth Israel grew was incorporated in 1906 as one of the first *landsmanshaften* to be established in Winnipeg's burgeoning Jewish community at that time.

Before medicare and other government-provided social services, organizations like the HSBA provided members with free medical and dental services, loans, religious services on the High Holy Days and even free burials in its own cemetery. It established the Hebrew Sick Benefit Cemetery in north Winnipeg 1911, making it the oldest active Jewish cemetery in the city.

For most of its existence, the HSBA was based on Selkirk Avenue near Main Street in the heart of the Jewish community. Its building held the Queen's Theatre, and Jewish theatre continued to be a drawing card until the 1950s.

By 1930, the HSBA had 275 member families and was a cornerstone of the community.

After the war, when government introduced its own social services, the HSBA remained a social and religious fraternal organization. In the 1960s, with the Jewish centre of gravity moving north, the Association also began looking north. It bought a piece of land in the new suburb of Garden City and, in 1970, built the HSBA Gardens, the first apartment complex for Jewish seniors. In 1976, in partnership with the Atares Israel (also known as the Mezeritcher) Synagogue, it built the Beth Israel Synagogue next to the apartment block.

The membership now stands at about 225 and has been growing in recent years under the leadership of its young Rabbi Alan Green.

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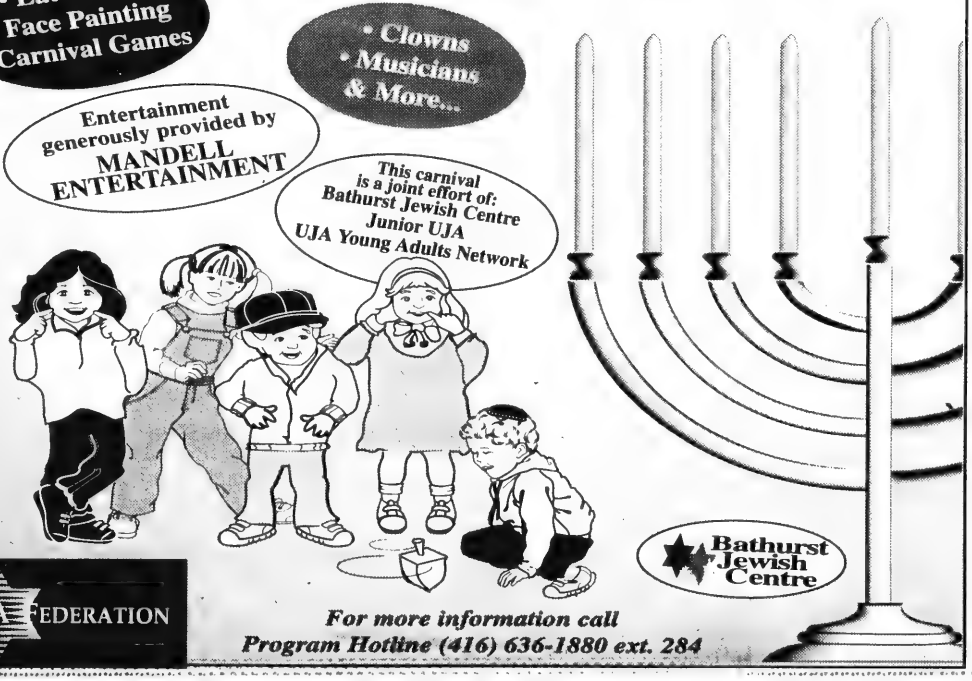

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Jerusalem 'occupied territory': draft UN resolution

BY DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

RYE, N.Y. – The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (OU) has sharply criticized a draft UN resolution that refers to Jerusalem as "occupied Palestinian territory."

The resolution "brings us back to the sorry era of utterly unrealistic and poisonous rhetoric that so characterized the United Nations for too many years," said an OU statement that was adopted by the group's officers last Friday.

The statement was adopted during the OU's biennal convention, held here over the Thanksgiving weekend.

"The news that Egypt has joined in co-sponsoring this outrageous draft raises serious questions as to the Mubarak regime's continued commitment to the spirit of Camp David," said the statement, referring to the 1978 Camp David Accords which became the basis for Egyptian-Israeli peace.

The resolution is being co-sponsored by Egypt and other Muslim countries, including Bangladesh, Malaysia, Mauritania, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The resolution, which is expected to be submitted shortly to the UN General Assembly, calls for "restitution and full compensation" to the Palestinian people for the "exploitation by Israel, the occupying power, of the natural resources of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967."

The General Assembly opened its annual debate on the Middle East late last week and is expected to vote this week on a resolution concerning the "Question of Palestine."

The draft resolution describes an "additional, dangerous impact of Israeli colonial settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the theft of water resources."

There are several reasons why the strongly-worded resolution may be circulating now, according to David Luchins, an OU vice president and senior adviser to Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

Egypt may be seeking to retaliate against the United States for its recent veto of UN General Secretary Boutros Boutros-Ghali's bid for a second term, Luchins said. Boutros-Ghali is Egyptian.

Luchins said another possible explanation is that the resolution is intended to warn Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "that if he doesn't move on Hebron, things will be tougher," referring to the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian negotiations on implementing an agreement to turn over most of the West Bank town to Palestinian self-rule.

"At worst, the resolution is an effort to implode the peace process," Luchins said.

If Egypt and the other sponsors "are serious about this resolution, it's a deal-breaker" for the peace process because "it can only delight the most extreme opponents of the peace process on both the Arab and Israeli sides," he said.

Jewish settlers reach out in meeting with Arafat

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – A group of Jewish settlers met secretly with Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat last week to discuss tolerance and joint business projects.

During the 90-minute meeting in Bethlehem, Arafat welcomed the participants and stressed that the recognition of Palestinian rights was the only way to peaceful coexistence.

"There have always been Jews among us and we have lived as good neighbors," he was quoted as saying. "While we spoke mainly about economic dialogue, this depends on recognition of the political rights of the Palestinian people."

David Bedein, a resident of Efrat who participated in the meeting, said it was prompted by an interest in tourism and business on both sides.

He said many Palestinians in the business community who had been approached by their Jewish counterparts were unwilling to pursue contacts without the go-ahead from Arafat.

Bedein said it made sense for Jews and Palestinians to work together on tourism, especially in areas between Bethlehem and Hebron, which have numerous Jewish, Christian and Muslim holy sites.

The meeting also addressed political issues, Bedein said, but added that regardless of the difficulties in the political process, he believed that economic ties could flourish.

"You can do business with your neighbor, even if you hate your neighbor," he told Israel Radio.

Among those who attended the meeting was Yehuda Wachsman, whose son Nachshon was kidnapped and killed by members of the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement two years ago.

Wachsman said he sought Arafat's support in establishing a centre to teach tolerance among Jews and Arabs.

"I described the plan for the centre and offered to include the Palestinian Authority," he said.

Wishing all of our clients and friends a Happy Chanukah.

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Slovak Jewish group seeks restitution from Czech bank

By RANDI DRUZIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PRAGUE – The Association of Slovak Jewish Communities has called on the Czech National Bank to provide compensation for gold that was taken from the local Jewish community during World War II by the Slovak government.

Location of gold not clear

Association spokesman Jozef Weiss told a Czech newspaper that the gold "was stolen from Slovak Jews during the war and then transferred to Prague."

The Czech National Bank is a successor to the State Bank of Czechoslovakia, which obtained the gold from the Slovak government in 1953.

The association wants Slovak victims of the Nazis to be compensated by the bank, which was created by a Nazi-puppet government in Slovakia.

The location of the gold, however, is not clear.

Bank spokesman Pavel Palivec said all its assets, gold included, were divided between the Czech Republic and Slovakia when Czechoslovakia split into the two countries in 1993.

But the Slovak government maintains that the gold in question was kept separate from other assets and was therefore not included in the division of former federal assets.

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This Journey Lasts A Lifetime

Israel & the Jewish World

Syria's chemical arms to head talks agenda

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israel and the U.S. launch a two-day strategic dialogue this week in Washington that will focus on Syria's chemical and biological weapons, and terrorism against U.S. and Israeli targets, defense officials said on Sunday.

The strategic talks, called the Joint Political Military Group, are held twice a year, alternating between Israel and Washington. They include officials of the Pentagon, the Defense Ministry, and the intelligence agencies of both countries. The talks on the Israeli side are headed by Defense Ministry director-general Ilan Biran and ministry adviser David Ivry.

The talks review strategic issues from the last meeting, six months ago, and assess developments expected in the next half-year. The key issues have been terrorism, weapons proliferation and arms supplies.

Iran and Syria will continue to be a major issue of discussion, officials said. This includes what Israeli defense officials assert is a newly-acquired capability by Syria to produce chemical and biological warheads and place them on Scud surface-to-surface missiles.

The officials say Syria has received the help of Russian scientists in its chemical and biological weapons program, which is conducted in fortified, underground facilities. The program includes the manufacture of Sarin, VX nerve-gas and anthrax, a lethal bacteria.

Strategists have suggested that Syria's non-conventional arsenal might have played a role in restraining Israel during Syria's troop redeployment near Israeli positions in the Golan Heights in August. In an interview published Nov. 25 in the London-based Arabic daily "Al Hayat," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said, "We know that Syria increased its production capacity, particularly that of VX. I want to stress that we have information regarding this matter."

But Yiftah Shapir, a researcher at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, played down the significance of Syria's chemical weapons arsenal as a means of pressuring Israel. Shapir said chemical weapons are no match for Israel's purported nuclear capability.

"Chemical weapons are a deterrent," Shapir said. "They are meant to stop us from doing something, not to force us to do something.

"The weapons cannot force us to withdraw from the Golan," Shapir added.

Other issues in the strategic dialogue, officials said, include bilateral defense cooperation such as the Arrow anti-missile defense system and ways to maintain the U.S. pledge that Israel would keep a qualitative military edge over the Arab states. In the past, this commitment has meant that Israel will have the latest U.S. weapons and technology approved for export.

Counter-terrorism and the stability of Middle Eastern regimes will be key issues in the strategic talks, defense officials said.

Defense sources said that since the Dhahran bombing in Saudi Arabia in June, in which Saudi authorities withheld key information from the FBI, U.S. officials have been quietly moving personnel out of the kingdom to alternative areas for military training. Last month, 1,200 U.S. Marines and support staff, in a trip planned before the Dhahran bombing, arrived for several days of training in the Negev.

"I have talked to people in the U.S. government and they have said clearly that they are looking for alternatives to Saudi Arabia," Gerald Steinberg, senior researcher at Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, said.

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More housing settlements planned

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Jordan Valley and Ma'aleh Efraim will be an "integral part of Israel in any final-status agreement," Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told Jordan Valley settlement leaders, adding that they will soon be given final approval to build 470 new housing units.

A spokesman for the prime minister said Netanyahu assured the settlement leaders that the government is "fully obligated to the development of the Jordan Valley, and that even in this difficult budgetary year, money was allocated for the infrastructure development of Jordan Valley roads and for the development of Ma'aleh Efraim."

David Elhayani, head of the Jordan Valley Settlements Committee, said that 124 of the new housing units are to be built in Ma'aleh Efraim and 350 others in settlements throughout the region.

Elhayani said this was the first time since Netanyahu took office that he has been so unequivocal about the future of the region. "Rabin made similar statements, but Netanyahu, since taking office, has never said anything like this," he said.

Netanyahu's statement, made during a meeting with Elhayani, Jordan Valley Regional Council head David Levy, and Ma'aleh Efraim Local Council head David Kopolovitch, comes just a few days after Netanyahu assured Ariel Mayor Ron Nachman that his settlement would also remain part of Israel in any final agreement map.

In addition to the new housing units, Elhayani said Netanyahu promised some NIS 80 million over the next two years to refurbish and expand Route 90, which runs the length of the Jordan Valley. "This will turn the road into a key artery and enable much development," Elhayani said.

Elhayani said National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who attended the meeting along with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, broached the idea of turning the region into a free-trade zone similar to what exists in Eilat.

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Jan Zwartendijk Humanitarian Ethics and Values Award

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by the Canadian Friends of Boys Town Jerusalem

In the summer of 1940, the darkest days of World War II, 150,000 Jews were trapped in Lithuania between the Nazis on one side and Stalin's Red Army on the other. The Jews were desperate to escape, but the countries of the world had closed their doors to them. In a desperate scheme, Jan Zwartendijk, a gentile Dutch businessman acting as the honorary Dutch Consul in Kovno, Lithuania, agreed to issue bogus visas to the Dutch island of Curaçao, which, together with transit visas supplied by the local Japanese Consul, allowed 2300 Jews to escape to safety. Zwartendijk and his family returned to his Nazi-occupied homeland and his lifesaving act of heroism, all but forgotten, was never recognized by the world Jewish community.

Dutch diplomat Jan Zwartendijk, who rescued 2300 Jews during the Holocaust.

Fifty-six years later, a Jewish historian brought this unsung hero's story to the attention of the leaders of Boys Town Jerusalem, one of Israel's leading centers for technological education. Its dean was a student of one of the Jewish scholars who survived the Holocaust thanks to Zwartendijk. The school was determined to give Zwartendijk and his family the long overdue honor and thanks that he deserved. After a Holocaust garden was dedicated in his honor at the Boys Town Children's Park in May, the school resolved to establish **The Jan Zwartendijk Institute of Humanitarian Ethics and Values**, to inspire the youth of today, both at Boys Town and around the world, to emulate the heroic example of Jan Zwartendijk and to promulgate his standards of "common decency".

An audience of Boys Town friends and supporters at the November 17th reception in honor of Leslie Dan, held in North York, Ontario.

On Sunday, November 17th, the Canadian Friends of Boys Town Jerusalem presented one of Canadian Jewry's most distinguished lay leaders, Mr. Leslie Dan, with the first JAN ZWARTENDIJK HUMANITARIAN ETHICS AND VALUES AWARD at a reception in North York, Ontario. The event was held under the joint patronage of the State of Israel and The Netherlands, and in the presence of Consul Generals of each country. The many friends of Leslie Dan and supporters of Boys Town in attendance, listened to a presentation by Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Director of the Research Institute of the United States Holocaust Museum.

The International President of Boys Town Jerusalem, Michael Scharf, presented the award to Mr. Dan with the following remarks: "GIVEN THE MEANS, ANYONE CAN BE A *PHILANTHROPIST*. HE MERELY NEEDS TO SHARE HIS RESOURCES. HOWEVER, IT IS THE RARE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A *HUMANITARIAN*. THIS REQUIRES CHARACTER, PRINCIPLE, SPECIAL SENSITIVITY AND ETHICAL FORTITUDE. MR. DAN, THESE ARE THE ATTRIBUTES OF YOUR HUMANITARIANISM WHICH IS AN INSPIRATION TO ALL. AND IT IS WHY BOYS TOWN IS PAYING YOU THIS WELL-DESERVED TRIBUTE BY ESTABLISHING A CHAIR IN ETHICS AT THE JAN ZWARTENDIJK INSTITUTE OF HUMANITARIAN ETHICS AND VALUES."

Mr. Dan is the Chairman and CEO of the Novopharm Group of pharmaceutical and manufacturing firms. Mr. Dan founded the Canadian Medicine Aid Program providing medicine and aid for the sick of the third world, and has given generously to many of Canada's leading hospitals and medical research institutions, in addition to his support for Boys Town Jerusalem. Mr. Dan recently received the government of Canada's highest honor, the presentation of the Order of Canada, which is presented with the Commemorative Medal for "significant contributions to compatriots, community and to Canada."

Presentation of the Jan Zwartendijk Humanitarian Ethics and Values Award to Leslie Dan (2nd from right) by the International President of Boys Town Jerusalem, Michael Scharf (2nd from left). Also pictured are Dr. Michael Berenbaum (left), Director of the Research Institute of the United States Holocaust Museum, the guest speaker at the event, and Rabbi Ronald L. Gray (right), Executive Vice President of the Boys Town Jerusalem Foundation of America.

Born out of the ashes of the Holocaust, Boys Town Jerusalem was founded in 1949 as a positive, visionary response to the loss of 1.5 million Jewish children and for the children of the masses of destitute Jews who have poured into Israel from countries around the world. Today, the school which is located on an 18-acre campus in the Bayit Vegan suburb of Jerusalem, is a leading educational center, providing its 1,000 students -- including many recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union -- intensive Torah studies coupled with a quality academic and technological education. Boys Town's students come from over 170 communities in Israel and trace their origins to 44 countries and 6 continents. Over 75% of the students come from disadvantaged backgrounds, requiring extensive scholarship aid. The Canadian Friends of Boys Town Jerusalem is located at 2788 Bathurst Street, Suite 200. Toronto, Ontario M6B 3A3; Phone: 416 789-7241.

"A little light can dispel much darkness." This ad was made possible by an anonymous donor who hopes that humanitarian acts of people like Jan Zwartendijk and Leslie Dan will inspire others to help make the world a better place.

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Israel and Turkey agree to continue defence accord

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israel and Turkey have signed an accord to continue defence cooperation in 1997, a move regarded by officials in both countries as a considerable achievement in the face of opposition in Ankara's Islamic-led government.

The agreement signed last week will maintain military exercises and launch new defence industrial projects, officials said. Under a first accord signed Feb. 23, Israeli pilots conducted training flights in Turkey.

"It's more or less a continuation of the agreement we have been implementing this year," a defence official said. "That, in itself, is an achievement."

The accord was signed in Ankara by an Israeli delegation headed by Defence Ministry adviser David Ivry.

The meeting in the Turkish capital marked the first time strategic dialogue was held between Israel and Turkey. Defence Ministry officials said those talks further strengthened Turkish and Israeli military cooperation.

Ivry, special adviser to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, met with the Turkish Army's deputy chief of staff Gen. Chabek Beer. Ivry was joined by Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazy, assistant director of the General Staff Branch.

The proposed upgrading of 54 Turkish F-4 Phantom fighters in a deal worth more than $600 million is being held up by the Turkish government, Israeli officials say, despite Israeli bank guarantees of $410 million.

One official said the deal requires the signatures of all Turkey's more than 30 ministers. The only holdout, he said, is Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan.

Turkish and Israeli defence sources said Erbakan, who entered office last year on a pledge of reducing military cooperation with Israel, is complaining the deal is too expensive for Ankara.

"He has some reservations in the financial sphere," an Israeli defence source said.

But Erbakan apparently was overruled by the Turkish military, which has been demonstrating increasing defiance of the prime minister's authority. Last month, Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller signed a $5-billion defence-procurement package while Erbakan was travelling in North Africa.

Israeli officials said Erbakan, embarrassed over his failed trips to such countries as Libya, has apparently ended his efforts to decrease defence cooperation with Israel. In what analysts regard as an attempt to establish a balance with the cooperation with Israel, Ankara has formed a bilateral defence committee with Jordan to study joint efforts in industrial cooperation and counter-terrorism.

Still, both Ankara and Jerusalem will maintain a low-profile relationship, in order not to arouse Arab or Islamic opposition.

"Each side knows the sensitive side of the other," an Israeli official said.

Funding questioned

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The dovish religious group Netivot Shalom called upon National Religious Party (NRP) MKs last week to distance themselves from an appeal by two leading rabbis, Haim Druckman and Avraham Zuckerman, to raise money for the defence of Nahum Korman.

Korman, security officer at the Hadar Betar settlement near Jerusalem, has been accused of the Oct. 27 murder of 11-year-old Hilmi Shoushi. He has denied the charges.

"We are not saying that Korman does not deserve legal defence like all other citizens," a letter the group sent the NRP MKs read. "But an appeal like that at a time like this is tantamount to giving support for his action. We are concerned about the educational message that will be deduced from this. The public is liable to think that these acts are justified and legitimate in the eyes of the rabbis."

Last week, Rabbi Druckman defended his appeal for funds for Korman, saying on Israel Radio: "I am speaking about a man who is responsible for security in a settlement. Children came and threw rocks, and he [Korman] claims that he did not do anything. The court will determine. I want to make it possible for him to defend himself...I am not saying who is right or not, I want the court to determine. But I don't want people to already determine that he is guilty."

Regarding the publicity surrounding the case, Rabbi Druckman said that although Korman was not "physically lynched," he has been "morally lynched."

Rabbi Druckman said that there are two sides to the story.

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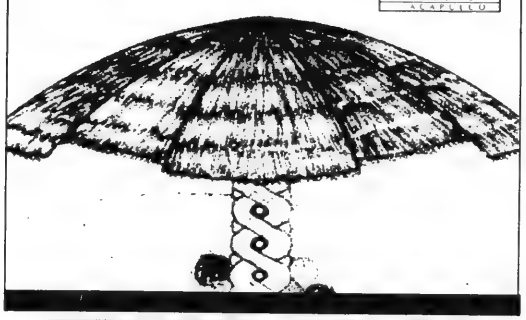

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Israel & the Jewish World

Netanyahu, Arab leaders exchange barbs

[Cont'd from page 1]

"Our neighbors will learn that instead of cursing and threatening, they should cooperate with us to advance peace," he said.

In an effort to tone down Arab rhetoric against the government, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said an agreement on Hebron redeployment was at hand and reminded the Arab states that nothing would be gained by force.

"Forcible steps will be met with forcible steps. It won't be worthwhile for the other side to act this way. It will be better if they seek other ways," Mordechai said following a meeting with Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny.

Regarding the Arab League's warning, Mordechai said, "I demand that Arab states reduce their belligerent tone, which isn't helping anyone."

Mordechai's meeting with Bassiouny, which took place at a Jerusalem hotel, had been planned in advance, but defence officials said Mordechai used the opportunity to stress to the Egyptians that an agreement with the Palestinians on Hebron was very close. Mordechai urged Bassiouny to have Egypt agree to serve as a bridge to the Arab world – particularly the Palestinians – for Israel, Defence Ministry officials said.

Mordechai said Israel and the Palestinians have agreed on most issues and he hoped that negotiators would be able to draft the agreement within the coming days.

"Many times we have said, 'Look, it's about to happen.' I think [now] that if the Palestinians don't lay any land mines, as they have lately, we will be able in a very short amount of time, even this week, to conclude matters," Mordechai said.

Mordechai said later that the Hebron agreement with the Palestinians needed to be wrapped up quickly to move on to other agreements with Arab states.

Regarding the Syrians, Mordechai said Israel had no intention of going to war and called on Damascus to return to the peace talks.

Meanwhile, Arab League secretary general Esmat Abdel Meguid said at a news conference last Sunday that "Israel is endangering the peace process with settlements which are considered against international law and are totally rejected by Arab countries and the world community."

He was speaking at the end of an emergency session of the 22-member league's council at which the Palestinian Authority's (PA) mission and Syria requested a protest over the settlement issue.

A statement the PA issued at the Arab League meeting declared, "Israel insists on ripping apart the West Bank to prevent the creation of a Palestinian state, but we are determined to defend our lands by all possible means against [Israel's] racist settlement plans."

Meguid said he would contact the United States, Russia, the European Union and foreign ministers of the Islamic Organization Conference to convey Arab dismay concerning Israel's settlement policy.

Meguid said the league does not have the power to ask the member states to reconsider steps towards normalizing relations with Israel, and would leave the issue to each state's leadership.

There were several other examples over the weekend of continuing hostility in the region.

Jordan's King Hussein said he was becoming a "little impatient" with the pace of the Middle East peace process and talked about the urgency of ensuring the peace talks do not go off track.

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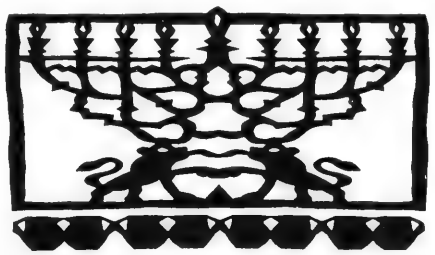

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Hebron settlers are torn by fear

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The Jewish settlers of Hebron -a hotbed of Arab nationalism and Islamic fundamentalism - fear for their security.

Mideast Analysis

Worried that their safety will be compromised by an Israeli withdrawal from the Arab sector of Hebron, the only major Arab urban centre in the West Bank with a Jewish population, they have repeatedly urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to redeploy.

A minuscle minority in a town of 120,000 Sunni Muslims, the Jews know full well that they are vulnerable to Arab attacks,whether or not Israel complies with the Oslo accords and redeploys.

Cognizant of their vulnerability, the Sephardic chief rabbi of Israel, Eliahu Bakshi Doron, recently decreed that Hebron's Jewish community can be uprooted if leaving them in a Palestinian-controlled town would endanger their lives.

It was the last thing they wanted to hear. For the Jewish settlers of Hebron – the site of the oldest Jewish community in the world – are determined to remain, come what may.

The concern for their well-being is precisely the issue which has held up an agreement between Israel and the Palestine Authority since October. Last week, there was still no sign of an imminent breakthrough, heightening the settlers' angst.

Judging by what has happened in the past, they have cause to be nervous. Hebron, though rich in Jewish lore, has a blood-soaked history.

Hebron, which is equally holy to Muslims, has been ruled by the Canaanites, the Israelites, the Babylonians, the Romans, the Byzantines, the Arabs, the Crusaders, the Mamelukes, the Ottomans, the British, the Jordanians and the Israelis.

Israel captured Hebron in the 1967 Six Day War. But with the signing of the Oslo 2 accord in September 1995, the Palestine Authority assumed authority for virtually all the civilian affairs of its Arab residents, while Israel retained control of several Jewish enclaves in Hebron and of the adjacent settlement of Kiryat Arba.

Religious Jews revere Hebron. The patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) and the matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca and Leah are buried in the Tomb of the Patriarchs. King David was annointed in Hebron, which is mentioned 87 times in the Bible.

Jews lived in relative peace following the Arab conquest in 638 CE. The Arabs, however, converted the Tomb of the Patriarchas into a mosque and forbade Jews to pray there. Expelled from Hebron by the Crusaders, the Jews returned with the Mamelukes in 1260.

The advent of the Ottoman Turkish era in 1517 was marked by a pogrom. The survivors fled to Beirut, only to return in 1533. The Jewish community grew, but the majority of its pious inhabitants were poverty-stricken, largely sustained by donations from abroad.

In 1775, when Hebron was a rabbinic centre of note, the Jews were rocked by a blood libel. Accused of murdering the son of a local Muslim dignitary, they were forced to pay an enormous fine. In 1834, when Hebron was home to about 700 Jews, another pogrom broke out.

During World War I, the community was assailed by hunger and disease. The British occupation eased conditions. But in 1929, the community was subjected to a pogrom which claimed 67 lives and prompted the survivors to flee to Jerusalem. Thirty one Jewish families returned two years later, but they were evacuated by the British in 1936, during the Arab Revolt.

In 1968, on the eve of Passover, a group of Jews, led by Rabbi Moshe Levinger, checked into Hebron's Park Hotel under the guise of Swiss tourists. After a month, they moved into an Israeli army camp overlooking Hebron. In 1970, much to the indignation of the Palestinians, who feared that their lands would be expropriated, the Labor party government sanctioned the construction of Kiryat Arba.

Emboldened by the rise of Kiryat Arba, more zealous settlers tried to reestablish a community in Hebron itself, moving into buildings where Jews had once lived. In each instance, they were evicted by the Israeli army. But finally, the authorities relented.

In 1980, after the murder of seven yeshiva students in Hebron in two separate assaults, the Likud government decided to rebuild Hebron's Jewish quarter. The fateful decision brought Arab strikes and further bloodshed.

Since then, the community has expanded, and now includes the enclaves of Beit Hadassah, Tel Rumeida, Beit Schneerson, Beit Kastel, Beit Chason and Beit Romano.

For nationalistic and religious reasons, the Palestinians are irreconcilably opposed to a Jewish presence in Hebron. By all accounts, there are about 450 Jews in Hebron. As a result, Jews have borne the brunt of numerous terrorist attacks. In response, Jewish vigilantes have gone on the rampage. Baruch Goldstein's murderous onslaught in February 1994 was the bloodiest example of such revenge killings.

The tension persists and, sadly, Hebron has become a symbol of Arab-Israeli violence.

The Week in Israel

Nov. 25

• The Supreme Court unanimously upheld a a law banning the import of non-kosher meat.

• The Central Bureau of Statistics announced, as of November '95, there were approximately 61,000 legal and 47,000 illegal foreign workers in Israel.

Nov. 26

• During a visit to the town of Ariel, Prime Minister Netanyahu reiterated he would adhere to his policy of expanding existing settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

• Israel's national student council was accepted as a member of the European Union's student association, thanks to the efforts of Palestinian and Arab student groups, after initial opposition from Scandinavian student councils.

• In an interview with a London magazine, Farouk Kaddoumi, a senior Palestinian official, said that some suicide bombings against Israel had been justified.

Nov. 27

• A group of 12 Jewish settlers from Hebron and Kiryat Arba met with Yasser Arafat in Bethlehem to discuss coexistence.

Nov. 28

• Justifying his decision on the persistence of high inflation, Prof. Jacob Frankel, governor of the Bank of Israel, decided not to lower the key lending rate for the month of December. The bank set a target of between eight to 10 percent inflation for the year 1997.

Nov. 29

• The central committee of the Labor party met to discuss the future leadership of the party. Ehud Barak and Shimon Peres met the previous night at Peres' home to try to find common ground on the issue. No agreement between the two was reported .

Jerusalem 3000 Events

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Excited about role

Two Toronto girls star as 10-year-old Jane Eyre

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Two young girls sit side by side on a dressing room couch, their voices blending harmoniously as they practise a song from the musical *Jane Eyre*.

Sara Farb, 9, and Sophia Perlman, 11, alternate the role of the 10-year-old Jane in the production now on at the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

The poignant song over, the girls revert to their natural exhuberance in a joint interview.

Although both have several years' acting experience, they are duly impressed by the venerable Royal Alex.

"It's big. Huge! Cool!" says Farb, a student at Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto.

The play, based on the novel by Charlotte Bronte, is also "cool," the girls agree.

Farb, who appeared in *Annie* , a production of the children's musical theatre troupe Charactors, also sang recently in *A Kiddush for Yiddish*.

She tried out for *Jane Eyre* at the suggestion of one of the owners of Charactors and "reached the ceiling" on learning she had the part.

Perlman, a student at Alpha Alternative School, was equally thrilled to be cast as Jane, screaming with excitement when she was told she had the part.

Sophia Perlman (left) and Sara Farb star as the young heroine in Jane Eyre. [Frances Kraft photo]

Perlman has been acting since the age of four, when she appeared with the Kensington Carnival Arts Society in a show about the history of Kensington Market. At a young age – with the support of her parents – she set out to get herself an agent. She has sung for four years with the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus.

"This is the biggest thing I've ever done, although at the time everything else seemed big," she says. "It was sort of one of my goals to get into a big musical like this, but I never dreamed it would happen so soon."

Perlman enjoys acting because it enables her to express her feelings and "be someone else." (Unlike her, the young Jane is well organized, she points out. "There's stuff all over the place," she says, indicating her area of the dressing room.)

In addition to acting, Perlman expresses her creativity by writing short stories and plays as well as articles for the bi-monthly community newspaper (*The Kensington Drum*) published by her parents.

Farb also enjoys writing short stories, as well as playing the piano. Like the young Jane, she likes birds and books; unlike the character, Farb loves her relatives and refrains from talking back to people, "because I get in trouble [when I do]."

She likes acting and loves singing, and says she'd like to be an actress when she grows up, but Perlman, wagging a finger playfully at her younger friend, cautions her that "you can't count on it."

Perlman might want to be an actress herself, she says, but if it doesn't work out, she's thinking of going to law school.

"I mean an actress in *this* kind of play," specifies Farb.

"You can't count on it," repeats Perlman. "We're lucky!"

"Yeah!" agrees Farb. "We're lucky."

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Buffalo – The New Jerusalem

While in Buffalo recently, I visited the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society building, 25 Nottingham Court off Elmwood Avenue (near the Knox-Albright Gallery), an elegant architectural remnant of the 1901 Pan American Exposition.

Inside, as part of the exhibition, Neighbors, which explores the area's ethnic and cultural diversity, I came across a remnant from an earlier era: the cornerstone for Ararat, an envisioned city for the world's Jews that Mordecai Manuel Noah, a Philadelphia-born writer and politician, attempted to found on Grand Island in the year 1825.

The little-known story of Ararat is one of the most fascinating chapters of the early history of Jews in North America. In the biblical account of the flood, Ararat is the mountain where Noah's ark came to rest when the waters receded.

This story involves another man named Noah and another place called Ararat, located about 160 kilometres from Toronto.

In 1825, Grand Island was an uninhabited and heavily wooded island in the Niagara River. Noah, dreamed of establishing a community called Ararat there as a "city of refuge" for all the Jews of the world.

An early, ardent Zionist, Noah never surrendered the messianic dream of a return to Palestine. In the meantime, however, he felt that his oppressed Jewish brethren around the globe deserved a "temporary and provisionary" home where they could live with freedom and dignity.

He informed international Jewish leaders that "an asylum is prepared and hereby offered to them (the Jewish people) where they can enjoy that peace, comfort and happiness which have been denied to them through the intolerance and misgovernment of former ages."

One rabbinical authority branded Noah a charlatan and – according to a Buffalo newspaper of the day – "demanded authentification of the prophetic text which points out a marsh in North America as the spot for re-assembling the scattered remains of Israel."

A city of 400 hectares

Noah envisioned levying a small tax on all Jews for the maintenance of Ararat. He also wanted to establish a modern Sanhedrin "in which the affairs of the Jewish nation will be principally discussed." His model was the 70-person Sanhedrin, the supreme court of the ancient Jewish nation, as well as the modern counterpart that Napoleon Bonaparte had dramatically reconvened in Paris in 1806, less than two decades earlier.

Ararat was to be a city of 400 hectares built on the southeastern section of the 124 sq.km. island. Noah's plan was to divide the city into 1,000 even lots and sell them for $100 each to cover the isle's purchase price. The land certainly was about to rise greatly in value, as Noah had foreseen, because of its proximity to the western terminus of the newly built Erie Canal.

On Sept. 15, 1825, Noah presided over a ceremony in which he dedicated a cornerstone for his dream city in the wilderness. Crowds hoping to witness the historic event lined the shores of the Niagara River, but the river had been too difficult to cross, so the event was moved at the last minute to St. Pauls' Episcopal Church in Buffalo.

The *Buffalo Emporium* headlined the story, "Revival of the Jewish Government."

The large cornerstone prepared for the dedication ceremony was inscribed: "ARARAT – A City of Refuge for the Jews Founded by Mordecai Manuel Noah, in the month of Tizri 5586, Sept. 1825, & in the 50th year of American independence."

The cornerstone was the only part of Noah's dream to become concrete. After the failure of his plan, he turned his energies toward the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine.

Today, a large Holiday Inn stands on the site of his proposed Jewish Utopia, across the river from what is now the Buffalo suburb of Tonawanda.

Visitors to Buffalo interested in local Jewish history may also wish to visit the Cofeld Judaic Museum at Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Ave., 716-886-7150.

Fund supports Jewish film

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Some 300 people gathered recently at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) to celebrate Jewish filmmaking in Canada at a gala screening and reception sponsored by the Leah Fund.

The gala was the Canadian premier of the full-length version of Francine Zuckerman's latest film, *Punch Me in the Stomach*, starring Deb Filler, a story about the family of one Holocaust survivor. A shortened version of the film was broadcast on CBC in March.

Videos of films by Cayle Chernin – *In the Shadows* (about Syrian Jewry) and *Uncle Boris and My Russian Relatives* – and Karen Shopsowitz's two-award-winning films – *My Grandparents Had a Hotel* and *A place to Save Your Life* (about Jews in Shanghai) – were shown at the reception following the featured screening. All three filmmakers have received support from the Leah Fund.

The keynote speaker was Irving Abella, past president of Canadian Jewish Congress, and a board member of Vision TV. He stressed the importance of Jewish film in depicting the role of Jewish people in Canadian history and praised the Leah Fund for being a catalyst in the creation of several important Jewish films.

The endowment fund, created in memory of Lillian Shopsowitz following her death in 1984, was established to encourage film and video projects pertaining to Jewish life.

"I think it's essential to document our history in video and film for our children and their children," said her son Noah at the gala.

For more information on the Leah Fund, call Noah Shopsowitz at 785-1135.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Literary Affairs

• Far-right xenophobia has raised its ugly head and intruded into cultural affairs in France. Jean-Marie le Chevallier, mayor of the town of Toulon, recently vetoed the participation of the French Jewish writer **Marek Halter** as a guest of honor at the city's book fair. Organizers of the fair had intended to honor Halter for his new book *The Messiah.*

According to a report in the *London Jewish Chronicle*, le Chevallier, a member of Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front, lashed out on French TV against Halter's "internationalist vision," saying he was "not attached to a nation or a national soil."

While the Polish-born Halter complained of the mayor's "devastating" comments, he said he would still attend the fair, and several French political leaders indicated they would make a show of support for him.

Meanwhile, the town prepared to honor ex-actress **Brigitte Bardot**, who recently published her memoirs.

• Several momentous works by Irish novelist **James Joyce** have been translated into Hebrew. The books include *Ulysses*, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and *Dubliners*. Joyce always had an interest in the Jews, as evidenced by the fact that Leopold Bloom, the lead character of Ulysses, was an Irish Jew.

Music & Drama

• A&E at the JCC, an eclectic evening of literary readings, dance, film, comedy and music, is set for Thursday Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m., Bloor JCC. Participants include **Stuart Ross**, **Omo Dance Company**, **Morley Torgov**, **Ellen Besen** and **Ronna Bloom**. Non- members $6, members $4. 416-924-6211.

• The Broadway musical phenomenon *Rent*, written by **Jonathan Larson**, makes its Canadian premiere in Toronto at the Royal Alex in November 1997. Its Toronto producers are David and Ed Mirvish. It is scheduled to play here for 20 weeks before moving to Vancouver.

Film News

• *The Champage Safari*, a documentary feature film by Toronto artist-animator **George Ungar**, opened in November at a cinema in Manhattan, and both film and filmmaker were the subject of a thoughtful article in the New York Jewish newspaper *Forward*. The film, which took Ungar nearly two decades and some $500,000 to make, focuses on an obscure and enigmatic figure, **Charles Bedaux**.

A flamboyant industrialist, Bedaux went on a lavish safari in British Columbia in 1934, and later became a Nazi collaborator in Europe.

However, Ungar asserts Bedaux, who died under mysterious circumstances in 1944, wasn't a Nazi ideologue. "His collaboration was similar to that of Oskar Schindler, who also played both sides. But unlike Schindler, who ended up a hero, Bedaux got caught."

Media Watch

• *From The Right* is a new right-wing journal of Canadian politics, now available on news-stands. Its editor-publisher is **Michael Taube**, a writer and former student of political studies and economics. According to neocon guru **David Frum**, the paper "is an exciting and important new venture, at a critical juncture in Canadian history."

Awards & Prizes

• Tourism Toronto, the city's official tourism sales and marketing organization, has named Livent chief **Garth Drabinsky** as the 1996 Tourism Person of the Year, citing his "unparalleled role in positioning Toronto as a dynamic performing arts destination. Through his efforts, tens of thousands of people have visited our city."

Now in previews, Livent's production of *Ragtime* opens Dec. 8 at the Ford Centre, North York.

• Toronto-area harpist **Erica Goodman** was recently named Best Classical Musician by a readers' poll conducted by *Now* magazine. Goodman, who shared the honor with pianist **Anton Kuerti**, has performed extensively in Europe, Japan and the United States this past year. She is due to perform with the Canadian Opera Company this month at the Ford Centre.

Concert celebrates Jerusalem 3000

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

MARKHAM, Ont. — A crowd of diplomats, MPPs, mayors, town councilors and other notables filled the 400-seat Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts recently for a concert featuring award-winning Israeli musicians Vadim Gluzman and Angela Yoffe, a violinist and pianist, respectively.

A young and vibrant husband-and-wife musical team, Gluzman and Yoffe have performed frequently throughout the United States and Europe, particularly in New York, where they are temporarily based. Sponsored by Joey and Toby Tanenbaum, their Markham recital was presented jointly by Markham Mayor Donald Cousens and Israeli Consul-General Jehudi Kinar, and came near the end of a brief Canadian musical tour.

Commemorating the Jerusalem 3000 anniversary, the concert featured numerous works with Judaic themes. The highlight was the Canadian premiere of *Tefillah* (Prayer) for violin solo, composed by 23-year-old L. Auerbach. The programme also featured composers A. Schnittke, C. Franck, E. Ysaye, E. Bloch and M. Castelnuovo-Tedesco.

"I hope we've started a tradition," Kinar remarked before the music got under way. "For my part, I promise we will not wait another 3,000 years to put on such a celebration."

Cousens, who visited Israel earlier this year, announced the city of Markham has designated a permanent Jerusalem 3000 Rose Garden, which will be established in the spring.

"Markham council unanimously endorsed the project," he said. "The Jerusalem garden will signify the importance of this anniversary while honoring the extraordinary city of Jerusalem."

Paralleling their rich musicality, Gluzman and Yoffe have outstanding musical credentials. Born in Zitomir, Ukraine, Gluzman has appeared with major symphony orchestras throughout Europe and North America after winning accolades from Yehudi Menuhin, Isaac Stern and other prime violinists.

Yoffe, a native of Riga, Latvia, has received top prizes in many competitions and festivals, and together with her husband has recorded a CD with Koch International.

Guests included MPP Monte Kwinter, Attorney-General Charles Harnick, cellist Ofra Harnoy, and consul-generals from more than 20 countries, including Britain, Greece, China, Togo and Cyprus.

"We're delighted to expose the Canadian community to Israeli culture," said Alisa Siegel, a representative of the Israeli consulate responsible for cultural affairs. "We were really interested in bringing these two young Israeli musicians to Canada."

Besides Markham, the musical duo also played in Calgary, Edmonton and London

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Jewish wedding performed on stage

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — At a Jewish wedding performed here recently, Harvey, the top-hatted groom, stopped the proceedings to scrutinize the ketubah before signing it.

"What does all this mean in English?" he asked warily, examining the Hebrew document as everybody waited.

"Don't worry about it, you can read the fine print later," came the stern reply. Then, after he had signed it, he was told: "It means you're giving up all your worldly goods, among other things...and, according to Jewish law, you have to ransom her in case of kidnapping."

On this day, Harvey's caution seemed appropriate, since he had met the white-veiled bride, Naomi, just 10 minutes earlier.

The occasion was *The Wedding Project*, a participatory theatrical event exploring the traditions of the East European Jewish wedding, that was performed at the Morris Winchevsky Centre three times over a recent weekend.

It began when Allan Merovitz, the Toronto-based Yiddishist performer, chose *de kalle* (bride) and *der chosn* (groom), then cast a variety of secondary roles such as *mispoches* (families), *machatonim* (in-laws), *gests* and *fraynts* (guests and friends) from among audience members, who had paid $10 apiece for the privilege.

The festivities were enlivened almost continuously with klezmer music played by clarinetist Martin Van de Ven and accordionist Alexandr Luminsky.

Taking their cue from Merovitz – a spritely full-bearded gentleman dressed in a bright red jacket – the musicians were also dressed theatrically in bright clothes, recognizing their roles as key players in a recurring drama of Jewish life.

For the *kalle bezetsn*, the seating of the bride, Naomi was seated on a white throne because, Merovitz explained, "On her wedding day the *kalle* is a queen." Dancing before her, her three friends methodically wove a large braid from strands of fabric, entwining "their best hopes and dreams."

The *Bazingn di Kalle*, the *Sad Song for the Bride*, seemed like something out of vaudeville or commedia dell'arte, as Merovitz and others produced oversized, brightly colored handkerchiefs and feigned an exaggerated weeping.

"Oy!" he sobbed. "Seeing this young innocent girl, making the transition to womanhood! This is the saddest event that these two will ever experience!"

After the groom covered the bride's face (*Badekn de Kalle*), the men danced around her seven times; then the women circled the groom (*Arum der Chosn*). Two candles were lit and their flames brought together. As they touched, Merovitz – who seemed equal parts rabbi, magician and special-effects artist – they produced a momentary fireball.

Next came the *chuppe* (the marriage canopy "symbolizing the temporariness of life"), the blessing on the wine, the rings, the vows.

"The rabbis insisted the rings be made of plain metal so poor couples wouldn't be embarrassed...even a garbage-bag twist-tie will do."

As at a genuine wedding, the crowd sang out mazel-tov and the music reached a frenzy. Typically, Naomi shrieked and steadied herself by holding onto the shoulders of those lifting her in a chair (*Chosn, Kalle*). As the dancing commenced, Merovitz danced briefly with bent knees, kicking energetically in the Russian style. Then he kissed the bride.

"Everybody loves a wedding!" exclaimed Eileen Chudnovsky, a paying guest. Born in a *shtetl*, she had come to Canada as a child and had been married at the former Hebrew Men of England Synagogue 51 years ago, she told *The CJN*.

"My mother once told me that the wedding was the most happy event in the town – it meant that everyone would be fed," she said as her 4-year-old granddaughter, Emily Chudnovsky, tugged her toward the refreshment table.

All in all, it was a hearty simchah. Merovitz has been invited to stage *The Wedding Project* at the upcoming second International Yiddish Festival in Amsterdam.

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Klezmer band preserves music of the past

By SYLVIA BROOKE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — In keeping with the spirit of Chanukah, the klezmer band Brave Old World featured supporting band on Itzhak Perlman *In the Fiddler's House*, performs at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Dec. 8.

Brave Old World lead singer and violinist, Michael Alpert, was among a group of young American Jews in the 1970s, who sought to revive the sounds of the old country. They interviewed musicians, reviewed old records and tapped into their family memories. They were able to develop a type of music that is still thriving.

Alpert, who grew up in a Yiddish-speaking home, is comfortable both composing and performing in Yiddish. The group's musical director Alan Bern is touted as a leader of the accordion revival in the United States. Kurt Bjorling brings an unmatched passion to the song of his clarinet, and the multi-talented Stuart Brotman accompanies on bass, wind and fretted instruments, percussion and the little-known cimbalom.

The band strives to preserve the music of the past, including never-before or rarely heard pieces, such as *Songs Of the Lodz Ghetto*. What sets them apart from other klezmer bands is their ability to bring current or non-traditional themes into their melodies, as in Alpert's composition, *Chernobyl*.

The concert is a joint effort of the Committee for Yiddish, Jewish Music-Toronto and Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Tickets are available at Israel's, Matana, Aleph Bet, Miriam's or Negev Judaica centres. Call Jerry Nesker, 510-1888, ext. 230; Koffler Centre for the Arts, 636-1880, ext. 299, or Beth Tikvah at 221-3433.

Wrong name

In the Nov. 21 Party Planner of *The CJN*, page B39, we incorrectly spelled Bobbi Lewin's name. Lewin is the owner of Picture Perfect (416-486-5245). *The CJN* regrets the error.

Business Profile

David Mirvish:

Mirvish Productions launches "ambitious project"

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Impresario David Mirvish has become one of the most prominent figures in Canadian theatre since taking the helm of the family entertainment business 10 years ago.

His impressive list of accomplishments includes the production of award-winning musicals like *Les Miserables* and *Crazy for You*, the construction of the 2,000-seat Princess of Wales Theatre and the promotion of Canadian theatrical talent.

Now there's a new feather in Mirvish's showbiz cap. He has just produced his first original musical — *Jane Eyre*. The show, based on the 19th-century classic by Charlotte Bronte, had its world premier at the Royal Alexandra Theatre this week and is scheduled to move to Broadway in the fall of next year.

In a recent interview at Mirvish Productions headquarters on King Street, Mirvish, 52, said going through the birth pangs of an original show — he referred to *Jane Eyre* as his baby — has been a thrilling experience.

He's convinced that the show is "a winner," noting that it has attracted some major talent, including three Tony-award winners — director John Caird, male lead Anthony Crivello and set designer John Napier.

"We have assembled an extraordinary cast," Mirvish said. "The lure of knowing that you're going to originate a new role on Broadway is extremely attractive to performers."

The staging of *Jane Eyre* marks a "new creative level" for Mirvish Productions, he said. "This is really the most ambitious project we've undertaken."

Mirvish, who was made a member of the Order of Canada last February, began his career as an art dealer in 1963, exhibiting and collecting the works of some of the most important contemporary abstract expressionist painters until he closed the David Mirvish Gallery in 1978.

Although he still considers himself an art dealer —his personal collection is worth millions— he said he was not interested in selling art as a livelihood. He joined the family entertainment business because he thought it would be a more productive way of earning a living, he explained.

David Mirvish founded Mirvish Productions in 1986.

His entrepreneurial father Edwin Mirvish of Honest Ed's fame, purchased the Royal Alex in 1962 and staged travelling American and British shows for subscription series. He also acquired the Old Vic in London some 20 years later.

The younger Mirvish formed Mirvish Productions in 1986 – today it is one of the largest live entertainment companies in the country – to create a connection between the two family-owned theatres.

He took charge of the programming for both theatres and began producing his own shows rather than booking the travelling Broadway shows. Producing gave him more control over the quality of the productions, he said.

Mirvish showcased Canadian and international productions for Royal Alex subscribers until 1989, when he shifted his focus to the co-production of long-running megahit musicals like *Les Miz* and *Miss Saigon*.

"We felt that the subscribers wanted to see the most successful, the most engaging musicals that existed," he said.

Many of the key roles in these productions were given to local actors, because Mirvish strongly believes in supporting Canadian talent he said. "I always look to hire our people. They have to be at least as good or better than [their Broadway counterparts]. I look to include us first because I'm part of us."

The musicals were expensive to mount and had to run longer than the subscription plays to justify the expense, Mirvish said, noting that *Jane Eyre*, "will have a life after Toronto," because like the other large-scale musicals, it needs an extended run to recoup the initial $6-million investment.

Construction on The Princess of Wales Theatre, located on King Street just west of the Royal Alex, was completed in 1993. Built for $22 million, the new theatre, whose inaugural production was *Miss Saigon*, is the first privately owned free-standing theatre to be built anywhere in North America in more than 30 years.

With the Princess of Wales Theatre designed as a venue for long-running shows — today it houses Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* —the Royal Alex was able to revert back to its "traditional subscription role," a format conducive to launching original musicals like *Jane Eyre*, Mirvish said.

"We're now working three or four years ahead on new musicals. We can do a series of dramatic plays and have one new musical in the season in which we can end up owning world rights and which we can look to take further beyond Toronto."

While having the world rights to a successful show can be a very lucrative business proposition, Mirvish said money was not his main motivation for backing *Jane Eyre*: The project was "the most exciting" new pre-production theatre work he'd seen in five years, he said.

Jane Eyre is the brainchild of Los Angeles-based pop song writer Paul Gordon. He started composing the music and lyrics in 1991 and after recording some songs with cast members from *Les Miz*, Gordon was able to interest *Les Miz* director John Caird in the project, Mirvish said.

"When John heard the music, he was very excited because he thought he had found a new original voice in the theatre."

The show was further developed in workshops in New York City and Wichita, Kansas, with Mirvish Productions getting involved about a year ago when 90 percent of the show was completed, Mirvish noted.

In the market for an original production he attended a workshop in Wichita and was "very taken" by what he saw, he said. "John and Paul were telling a story I wanted to hear."

His decision to help bankroll the project was based on intuition rather than formal market research, he explained. "I feel I have pretty good intuition. I've had more successes than failures."

As the producer , Mirvish did not interfere in the artistic direction of *Jane Eyre*, but said he envisions himself taking a more hands-on role in the creative process when future projects go into production.

He said he currently has several projects on the go: Sir Peter Hall, the artistic director of the Old Vic is in the midst of forming a repertory company and he will be staging 11 plays in 40 weeks; auditions for the February production at the Royal Alex of *Death of a Salesman*, starring Judd Hirsch were just completed; auditions for the fall production at the Royal of *Rent*, which Mirvish called "the most exciting show on Broadway," will start next month; and he's getting ready to announce the Broadway debut of *Two Pianos Four Hands*, the Canadian show to which he acquired world rights.

Mirvish declined to discuss figures pertaining to the specific earnings of the various productions.

And while he indicated a preference for discussing the esthetics of *Jane Eyre*, he was quick to acknowledge that seat sales — some 130,000 tickets have to be sold during the show's three-month Toronto run — are the ultimate indicator of a show's success.

But the public will not be lured to the theatre by a glitzy advertising campaign, Mirvish said. "With this show we have taken the attitude that you cannot buy the audience... You hope you'll touch their hearts in some way.

"It's really going to be a question of people going in and telling 10 friends. Word of mouth is what will make a success of this show."

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Happy Chanukah

The candles and their glow are at the centre

The holiday of Chanukah tugs at the imagination of children perhaps more than any other holiday. The reasons are not too hard to understand.

There are a great many fun parts to Chanukah: the spin of the dreidel, the exchange of gelt - real or chocolate - the delicious latkes and the sweet, fluffy sufganiot, perhaps even a gift or two.

But the real reason is the glow of the candles. Apart from the Shabbat, there is no other holiday where the beautiful glow of candles is at the centre. And, as we all know, there is hardly anything as captivating as watching the "magical" glow from the orange, blue and white of the candles' flames.

The photos on this page show us the "magic" in action.

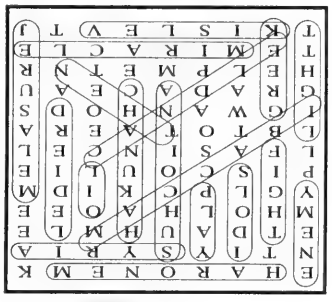
Below we see a young boy concentrating on the very last candle of the chanukiyah. To the right we see Yaacov Tsabari, his wife Sada and their infant daughter lighting the Chanukah candles for the very first time in their new home in Israel. They have just arrived from Yemen. The baby's eyes are firmly fixed on the candle in her father's hands. To the far right, we see young Dor, also transfixed by the flame, pointing to the candle as if to touch it.

Happy Chanukah to all the children and their families.

Israel photos

WORD SEARCH

Read the list. Find the words in the puzzle and circle them. The same letter may be part of more than one word. The words can be up and down, across, diagonal or backwards. You will have 17 letters left. With those letters, you can describe something we do on Chanukah.



E	H	A	R	O	N	E	M	K
N	T	I	Y	S	Y	R	I	A
E	T	D	A	U	H	M	L	E
M	H	O	L	H	A	O	E	E
Y	G	L	P	C	K	I	D	M
P	I	S	C	O	U	L	I	E
L	F	A	S	I	N	C	E	L
L	B	T	O	T	A	E	R	A
I	G	W	A	N	H	O	D	S
G	R	A	D	A	C	E	A	U
H	E	L	P	M	E	T	N	R
T	E	M	I	R	A	C	L	E
T	K	I	S	L	E	V	T	J

Chanukah
Maccabi
candle
Kislev
Syria
Greek
enemy
Antiochus
idols
Temple
miracle
oil
Jerusalem
menorah
dreidel
light
then
fight
play

CONGRATULATIONS!

The CJN enjoyed all of the color Hockey (He Shoots...He Scores) cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Noam Halberstadt, Daniel Klerer and Kelly Rubenstein. Each will receive a $20 cheque from The CJN.

Kids' news

Book Review & cartoon too

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Everything about Jewish holidays-even riddles!

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Let's face it, books that talk about all the Jewish holidays can be very boring - they often seem to say the very same things.

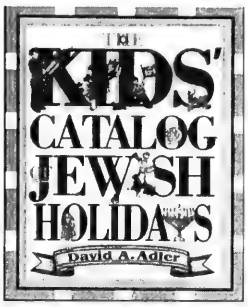
The Kids' Catalog of Jewish Holidays, by David Adler (Jewish Publication Society, 1996) is different. Oh, it talks about the meaning of the holy days, and their customs and histories, like all the rest, but there is so much more.

For each holy day , there are stories that illustrate one of the morals of the holiday, recipes, jokes, arts and crafts, poems and pictures.

For instance, in the chapter about Chanukah, you can read about Chanukah in Yemen, in a European village and in a Nazi concentration camp, learn two tunes to *Moaz Tzur,* and make menorahs out of acorns or bottle caps, and a dreidl out of paper. There are even riddles.

In other parts of the book, you can learn how to make your very own spice ball for Havdalah, get ideas for Purim costumes, find a reading list about the Holocaust, and get recipes for Rosh Hashanah carrot tzimmes and Israeli pita sandwiches for Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Some of the stories will make you cry, some of the stories and certainly the riddles, comics and jokes will make you laugh. But you will certainly want to read the book over and over again.



CHANUKAH RIDDLES

(From *The Kids' Catalogue of Jewish Holidays*, by David Adler)

1)What time is it when you sit on a burning candle?

2)How can you light a Chanukah candle without a match?

3)Why did the foolish cook run out of the house when he was making latkes?

4)What has four sides, spins, and hops?

5)Why won't the candle maker make candles any longer?

6)If a candle and a half need a wick and a half, how long would it take a candle maker to make a candle using noodles and soup?

Answers

1)Springtime

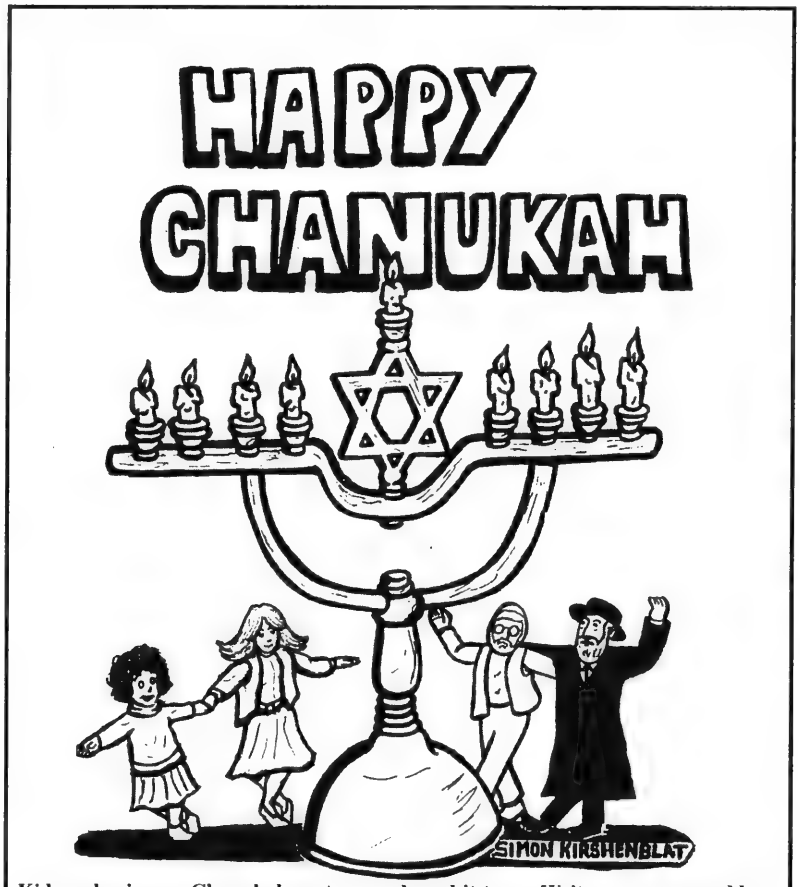
2)Take one candle out of the box, and the box will become a candle lighter.

3)Because the recipe said, "Take one egg and beat it."

4)A dreidel with hiccups

5)Because the candles are long enough.

6)Do you give up? So did the candlemaker!



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U of T centre would probe Nazi medicine's 'legacy'

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – As a doctor and teacher of medical students, Dr. William Seidelman is troubled by the fact that many physicians have little if any grounding in the horrific role medicine has played in history, particularly before and during the Holocaust.

Seidelman feels that doctors today aren't fully aware of the many complex ethical issues that arose from Nazi Germany, and that they continue to suffer ethical lapses.

His plan to counter that is to establish a Centre for the Study of Medicine and the Holocaust at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine. Combining research, curriculum development and teaching, the centre – a first in the world if approved – would foster the study of Nazi medicine, and what Seidelman calls its "continuing legacy."

It's his contention that in the past 50 years, there have been "recurring" violations of the codes of conduct that arose from the Nuremberg trials of Nazi war criminals – including 23 doctors. The vulnerable – patients, prisoners, visible minorities, children in institutions, women and soldiers have all been "exploited" for medical experimentation.

How, Seidelman asks, can supposedly caring, compassionate professionals be co-opted by the state to harm? And why today do "the powerful appear to have forgotten the innocent?"

In October, Seidelman, who teaches at U of T's medical school and directs the HIV Ambulatory Program at Wellesley Hospital, addressed a conference in Nuremberg. In his speech to the German chapter of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, he spoke of his profession's "moral culpability" in its failure to address the ethical dilemmas that arose from the Third Reich. Particularly, he called doctors to task for sidestepping, even ignoring, the lessons of the Holocaust with their belief that it was only a few evil practitioners who carried out Hitler's will, and that the lessons of Nuremberg are no longer relevant.

Seidelman can point to several modern examples of doctors becoming tools of oppression and cruelty: In Canada in the 1930s and '40s, hundreds of mentally handicapped people were forcibly sterilized. In the 1950s, the CIA used human guinea pigs to test LSD. The leader of the Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, who has been indicted on war crimes, is a psychiatrist. And on another level, around the world, the debate over genetic selection and doctor-assisted suicide rages.

Dr. William Seidelman

Seidelman even uses the cuts to Ontario's health care system as an example of the conflicting interests of the physician and the state.

But the main focus at the proposed centre at U of T will be Nazi Germany, where it was doctors who did the state's bidding when it came to propagating theories of racial purity, fanatical hygiene and eugenics (the science of improving a population by controlled breeding). It was also the role of doctors to select so-called "inferiors" for forced sterilization. And even before the war, it was doctors who helped carry out the state-sanctioned murder (officially called "The Euthanasia Program") of thousands of physically and mentally handicapped – "undesirables" and those "unfit for life."

It all set the stage for the gas chambers and crematoria to come.

In the death camps, doctors carried out pseudo-medical experiments on inmates, injecting them with dyes, subjecting them to freezing and infecting them with cancer and contagions to try out new drugs. Corpses of victims were often shipped to German medical schools for use as specimens.

Not to mention one infamous doctor – Josef Mengele, the "Monster of Auschwitz" – who performed inhuman experiments on camp inmates, notably on twins.

In the Third Reich, society's healers succumbed to evil.

It's an uneasy contrast: Germany is the birthplace of modern medical science and the German medical school served as the prototype for all others. But today, German medical classes shy away from the Holocaust period. "In Germany, this subject is taboo," Seidelman told *The CJN*. "If a German academic doesn't want to advance his career, he pursues this."

In Austria, two universities still rely on a classic anatomy atlas in which the cadavers portrayed are believed to be victims of Nazi terror. Yad Vashem in Israel has asked the schools to investigate.

Seidelman feels that if doctors are expected to do the right thing, they must first learn that moral obligations come with the power and privilege of the job, and learn too how to respond to "institutional abuses."

Even medical schools outside Germany have "tiptoed" around the issue, he adds. While courses in bioethics are offered, there has never been an organized approach to developing study of the subject.

The Centre for the Study of Medicine and the Holocaust proposed by Seidelman and his colleague, Dr. Edward Shorter, a U of T professor of the history of medicine, would work with other institutes, notably, Yad Vashem, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and various medical schools. Experts in German history and the Holocaust would also be utilized.

Plans call for it to develop a curriculum for use in medical schools everywhere, put together a bibliography and, at U of T, teach the subject in the Faculty of Medicine and interested departments.

It all adds up, Seidelman says, to a need "to address basic issues that challenge the very core of medical practice and behavior."

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CHAT grad scores big as York shooting guard

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There isn't much glamor playing women's college basketball, even if it's at the varsity level. Sure, you get to go on road-trips and visit some charming cities, like Montreal, but most of what you see is through the windows of a bus.

Still, Dena Weinroth isn't complaining. In her second season with the York University Yeowomen, she's enjoying the camaraderie and family-like feeling she gets being with her teammates, not to mention the rush she gets playing basketball.

Weinroth, 20, is a 5-foot-6, 130-pound "off guard" who plays mostly in a backup role. A deadly shooter, Weinroth's confidence has improved over last year and so has her playing time.

"It was disappointing [last season], but you have to put the team first," she said. "I think I'm playing more than last year. I've got more experience than last year."

No longer as intimidated by the top players in the league, Weinroth feels "I have a lot more confidence now. I feel I can play at this level. I've also improved my shooting."

In addition to making the team on her first try, Weinroth went on to be named CIAU Academic All-Canadian last year by combining an "A" average in kinesiology and health issues with her courtside prowess.

The Yeowomen, ranked eighth in the country, tip off against teams from McMaster, U of T, Ryerson, Queen's, McGill, Concordia, Laval, Bishop's and Laurentian.

Short of the national team, it's the elite of women's basketball in Canada and for Weinroth, it comes as the culmination of many years of training and hard work.

Back when she was 10, she and her two brothers and sister convinced their parents, Judith and Simeon, to set up a basketball hoop. Her older sister, Eva, introduced her to competitive basketball at the former Jewish Community Centre (JCC) on Bathurst, where she played in the house league. In fact, when she started there, she was the only girl playing on the coed basketball team.

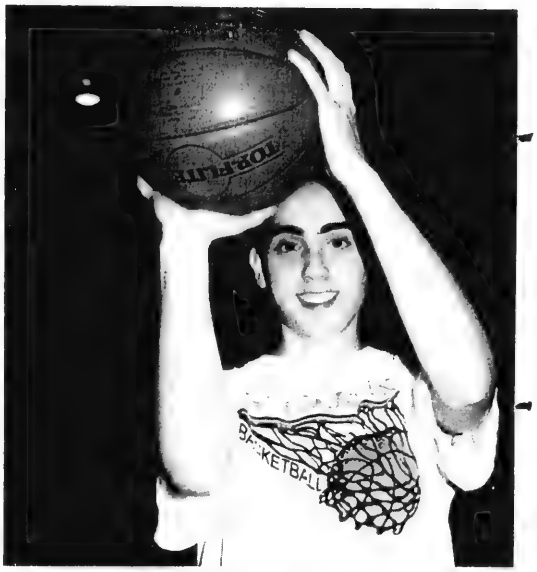
In high school, she played for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) Tigers girls team in their TDCAA league games against Roman Catholic schools and in 1994 she was named CHAT female athlete of the year for her all-round abilities in basketball, volleyball and softball.

During those years, she and other CHATniks who played at the JCC represented Toronto at the Youth Maccabi games in Detroit, New Jersey, Pittsburgh and Baltimore. They had a very good team and won the silver in Jersey and the gold medal in Pittsburgh in 1993.

Weinroth credits her coach at the JCC, Sy Herling, with teaching her the fundamentals along with Aubrey Zimmerman, a CHAT alumnus who coaches at the Jewish high school.

While Weinroth was finishing high school and competing in the Maccabi Games, her sister Eva was playing for the varsity team at York between 1990 and 1994 along with another CHAT grad, Michelle Sund.

Weinroth hopes she too can serve as an inspiration and role model for other Jewish girls and young women who aspire to excel in sports and schooling.



Dena Weinroth

CHAT CHAMPS

The class of 1989 were winners of a CHAT alumni tournament held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre recently. The tournament raised over $2,000 towards funding the eight-team Israel Becker CHAT Invitational Basketball Tournament, which will be held in December in memory of the late CHAT student who was killed in an auto accident. Teams from Toronto, Winnipeg, Montreal, New York and Boston are expected to attend. The '89 alumni beat the '90 team by a score of 58-43. Shown here is the winning team. Top row from left: Hart Heller, Jeff Rafael, Paul Weinberger, Morley Conn, Elliott Birnboim, Rich Kaminker and Howard Buckstein. Bottom row from left: Mike Tylman and Jay Heller.

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NOTICE: The following products under the PLANTERS label were inadvertently labelled incorrectly. Chocolate Covered Almonds 600g and Chocolate Nut & Raisin 910g should not have been labelled COR 345 as they are not kosher approved products. Planter's Canada apologizes for any inconvenience this label error may have caused.

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Looking for Leonard (Len) Miller, lived in Hamilton or Toronto in 1945, stationed in Picton or St. Jean's, Quebec. Call Joe Kramer (954) 458-5210.

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Female, 32, n/smoker, blue green eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male, 32-42. CJN Box 6843

Female, 37, brown eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male, n/smoker, between 38-42. Call 222-3056.

Jewish male, early 60's, sep., active, healthy, very fit, caring, prof., beginning to stop & smell the roses, with traditional family values, seeking early 50's slim, attr., finan. ind. woman, to motor South (or camping) for sun, fun, adventure Let's talk! CJN Box 6858

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SJF, redhead, mid 40's, looking for a tall, estab. SJM, 48-52, who likes reading, music, long walks, quiet dinners & good conversation. CJN Box 6822

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Carole Gliklich (nee' Abitbol) and **Ian Gliklich** are proud to announce the birth of their son, **Aaron Max**, born November 5, 1996, 7 lbs. 11 ozs. Proud grandparents are Elias and Jeannette Abitbol and Asher and Rava Gliklich.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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330 OBITUARIES

BIDERMAN, Rose - on November 14, 1996, late of 5244 Duenas

BRILL, Carol - on November 15, 1996, late of 219 Times Rd

SALAMON, Sarah - on November 16, 1996, late of 1111 Steeles Ave. W., #302.

SHAPIRO, Dr. Bernie - on November 16, 1996, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #2102.

KANAREK, Henry - on November 17, 1996, late of 246 Searle Ave.

MANDEL, Dr. Fred - on November 17, 1996, late of 34 Ava Rd.

RAYMAN, Louis - on November 18, 1996, late of 35 Lynnhaven Rd.

POSEN, Rose - on November 18, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #719.

BENDER, Victor - on November 19, 1996, late of 10 Josephine Rd

PLANT, Sylvia - on November 19, 1996, late of 1 Canyon Ave., #1205.

OCKRANT, Pearl - on November 20, 1996, late of 601 Clark Ave. W., #509

BERNSTEIN, Ruth - on November 20, 1996, late of 155 Marlee Ave., #1212.

IVERS, Irv - on November 20, 1996, late of 13 Berryman St

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

GREENBERG, Tina - on November 18, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst St.

WARMAN, Abraham - on November 18, 1996

ZEIDENBERG, Joseph - on November 19, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.

SPIEGELMAN, Harold - on November 19, 1996, late of 18 Evanston Dr.

WEISS, Olga - on November 20, 1996, late of 6200 Bathurst St.

SPIRO, Joshua - on November 22, 1996, late of 99 Frontenac Ave.

RUSSAK, Sylvia - on November 22, 1996, late of 7440 Bathurst St.

HARDAS, Arkady - on November 23, 1996, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

TREFLER, Isadore - on November 24, 1996, late of 3636 Bathurst St

FREEDMAN, Zalman - on November 24, 1996.

KRAMER, Jacob - on November 25, 1996, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Anti-racism symposium held

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

CRESTON, B.C. — British Columbia is creating "a new world order," one where there is zero tolerance for hatred, said Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh, at an anti-racism symposium here.

Speaking to an audience of about 200, Dosanjh promised that groups or individuals with complaints about hate activities will be able to use B.C.'s civil rights law and his ministry will help prepare the necessary legal action.

He said civil rights legislation is a "neglected" piece of law which "we are eager to use...I am anxious for individuals or groups to look at that legislation so that you can begin an action that we would dearly love to become part of."

The prospect of the attorney general's joining the fight against racism alongside an individual or community "will give tremendous support to people who feel victimized," said Peter Ashmore, chair of the Creston Valley Human Rights Coalition (CVHRC). "It takes the burden off the individual."

A segment of the symposium was broadcast on the CBC. In a studio interview after the show, Dosanjh described the town of Creston and a large part of southeastern B.C. and northern Idaho as a hotbed for hatred in which some residents "cower in the shadows."

Dosanjh, who was himself beaten in the 1980s as a victim of hate-motivated violence, said the fear of racism is palpable in the Creton area.

Commenting on a CBC report that suggested U.S. militia-style training is going on in the nearby mountains, Dosanjh said it's important "that we don't hear the sounds of the militia and the guns training in the wilderness around here."

The symposium included talks by Holocaust survivors Bronia Sonnenschein and Robbie Waisman, both of Vancouver, who were introduced by Sandy Bore of the B.C. Teachers Federation.

Sonnenschein said the only way to prevent another Holocaust is to remind people of what happens when hate is allowed to run freely through the streets and people's minds.

"I don't ever want my grandchildren called dirty Jews," Waisman said.

Both speakers told of their experiences in Hitler's camps.

The symposium was moderated by Marilyn Berger, associate director of Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region. The symposium was organized by CJC-P and the anti-racism educational outreach project of Multicultural B.C.

330 OBITUARIES

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The Inside Back

Jewish kids hit the right note

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Koleinu Tishma (from left) Michael Simkin, Haya Simkin, Avigail Gellman, and David Gellman, practise their prize-winning composition, *Hodu LaShem*. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

TORONTO – Move over, Avraham Fried and Yehuda – you have competition.

Well, maybe it will be a few years before Koleinu Tishma catches up, but the group, comprised of David Gellman, 11; Avigail Gellman, 9; Michael Simkin, 10; and Haya Simkin, 8, has made a great start.

A composition they wrote, a new melody for Psalm 118, *Hodu LaShem*, was performed by the well-known Amadeus Choir on Dec. 1, at the Recital Hall of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Koleinu Tishma will be invited on stage, and will receive a certificate and a small cash award.

It all began last summer, when the four youngsters, who have been friends for three years, were playing together during Kiddush after services at Or Chaim Yeshiva. Being musical (David and Avigail are in the Netivot HaTorah choir, and play clarinet and recorder respectively, and Michael and Haya play piano) and being very influenced by such popular Jewish singing groups, they decided to write a song that they could sing at the bar mitzvah of the oldest Gellman, Shai.

"We wanted to write something that was not too sleepy, but not too lively either," explained Avigail.

Their presentation was a smash success, and when they read about the annual Amadeus Choir Chanukah and Christmas song competition in *The CJN*, mother Elana Simkin, wrote the music on a music score, and they submitted it.

Last week, the four children had the opportunity to hear the choir rehearse their song. "It was like a dream," agreed Haya and Avigail.

The bond between Haya and Avigail is stronger than mere friendship. Haya is blind, and Avigail is her "sighted guide," explained mothers Elana Simkin and Eli Gellman. It will be Avigail who helps Haya onto the Ford Centre Recital Hall stage to be honored.

Avigail has also learned to read English and Hebrew braille, and she, Haya, Elana and Eli "daven together in braille. It's a group effort," laughed Elana.

Not that Haya is in the slightest inhibited about her disability. "I'm blind and I have perfect pitch," she announced enthusiastically.

The Simkins, originally from Vancouver, made aliyah 10 years ago. They came to Toronto three years ago, in an effort to get expert medical care for Haya. The Gellmans came to Toronto from Calgary, so that the children could get a Jewish education, Eli Gellman said.

Koleinu Tishma has already started writing another song, which they hope to enter in next year's competition.

Koleinu Tishma is not the only Jewish winner of the Amadeus song writing competition: 13- year-old Rachelle Magil won in the Child class, and Kerry Wilson and Bruce Silburt of Guelph won in the unpublished group class.

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POTATO APPLE LATKES

juice from half a lemon
6 medium baking potatoes
2 large or 3 small Granny Smith apples (not peeled)
1 small yellow onion
2 eggs
3 tblsp flour or matzah meal
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
fresh ground pepper to taste
oil for frying

Fill large bowl with ice water and squeeze in lemon juice. Grate potatoes and apple in food processor, putting them into the water as you grate them. Peel and grate the onion and set aside. Mix eggs, flour, baking powder, salt and pepper. Drain potatoes and apples in colander. Wrap in a clean dishtowel and squeeze to get out as much liquid as possible. Put potatoes and apples back in bowl. Stir in egg mixture and onion until combined. If mixture looks watery, add a little more flour.

Heat oil in pan. Use 1/4 cup mixture for each latke. Fry over medium-high heat until one side is brown and begins to get crispy. Turn and brown the other side. Remove to a plate lined with paper towels to drain. Serve warm with applesauce or sour cream.

MARTIN & FRAN CAPLAN WISH YOU A JOYOUS CHANUKAH

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About families

Dear Susan,

My 11-year-old son is experiencing some problems in school. He has been underachieving as of late and his school guidance counselor has recommended that he seek counselling. What should I do? Do I consult a psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker? Please help.

Dear Reader,

I know it can be disconcerting to a parent to hear that your child is struggling. The guidance counselor should be commended for their kind attention and speedy identification of your son's struggle. As a conscientious parent you are doing the right thing by seeking counsel. The question you so clearly articulate is what type of counseling should it be?

Before you do anything else, it is important to take a step back and try to determine when this problem arose and what the contributing factors might have been. The answer to this question will help direct you to the appropriate professional.

If your child has a history of under achievement, I would gather up his report cards and consult with a psychologist about the possible explanation for these occurrences. A psychologist can offer a variety of tests which will determine if your child has a specific learning or attention difficulty. Personality testing will help you understand how your child views his place within the family and in the world at large.

If the psychologist feels your child would benefit from family therapy, he would likely refer you to a social worker. The social worker would try to understand the history of the problem and how family dynamics have possibly impeded this child's progress. The therapy should empower the child as well, as challenging the family to change certain dysfunctional patterns.

If the social worker or psychologist feel the child is suffering from a clinical depression, there are various therapies he could recommend, including play therapy. If the child continues to be depressed a psychiatric consultation may be in order. Persistent clinical depression can often only be successfully addressed by psychopharmaceutical means, and psychiatrists are the king pins of the pharmacological world.

As you can see, knowing where to turn can be as complicated as the problem itself. Find a knowledgeable person who can understand your child as an individual, as a student, and as a member of a community at large. The treatment is only as good as the practitioner so choose wisely.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

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Resumes must be received by **December 13, 1996**, quoting **File MTHA 228/96**, at: **Metro Toronto Housing Authority, Equity & Human Resources Branch, 365 Bloor St. E., 15th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3L4. Fax: (416) 969-6015. The Hearing Impaired may call TDD at (416) 969-6227.**

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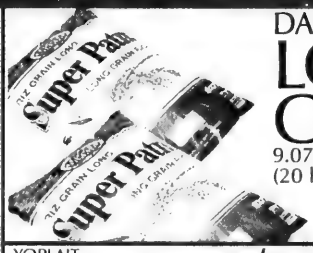

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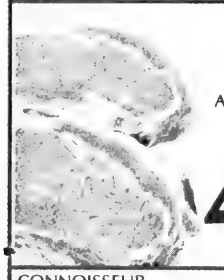

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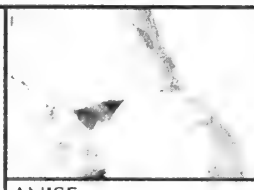

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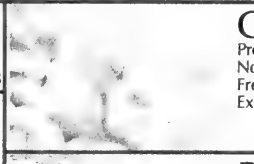

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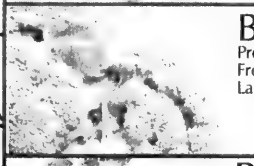

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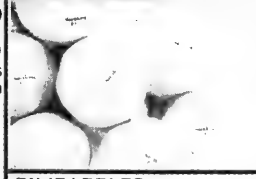

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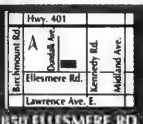

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The Canadian Jewish news

Chanukah 1944

There was no joy
No laughter, no hope
In the camp.
It was so cold
With snow on the ground
We stared bleakly at the flakes.

A murmur went
Through the group
A murmur so low
It was Chanukah...
Memories drifted in our minds,
Warmth, candles, family

We need to celebrate
But how, no candles
Fear for the moment
And the next day
Someone said laces, shoe laces

We cut up a lace into nine
When sundown came
We got a flame
We held hands and watched
The larger lace, the shamash
Light the other eight.

We prayed and hoped
Oh Chanukah, the miracle of lights!

Sandra Giddens, adult

From Israel

I saw a son of Judah Maccabi today
dressed in green and khaki
at the central bus station.
On his way.

Hitching a ride on the Haifa Road
rifle over shoulder – a modern archer.

Unwilling to admit or perhaps unaware
of the legacy, they stand strong
keeping the Ner Tamid burning bright,
with hangers-on, basking in the warm light.

Guarding the light without pretense,
with nonchalance, preserving us all.
Always on call,
These sons of Maccabi.

Jack Silverstone, adult

I remember

I remember,
we would light together.
When I was little, he would lift me up,
so we could light together.
He would tell me stories about ancient times,
and now it seems, he is ancient to me.
He has been gone for so long,
but yet it seems like he still lives.
Not only in my heart, but in my prayer as well.
When I light, I see him.
I have my fond memories of him,
that I will always carry with me.
Now as I touch the lit match to the candles,
I vow,
I will do like he did.
I will light with my children, and their children,
and their children's children.
So they can carry memories of me throughout their life,
like I will carry of him throughout mine.

Karen Greenglass, 15 years old

Light in the Darkness

It was a bitter cold winter in Auschwitz, 1943,
Reb Yankele was thinking, "Oh no, what will be?"
Yankele was not worried about the below zero weather,
Nor was it the meagre food that he received that was making him tremble.

The approaching holiday of Chanukah was on his mind,
All he could think was, "One little candle, where will I find?"

A young boy of 14, David, had been watching Yankele's pain,
And he felt it was time to act, before Chanukah came.

Late one night, with the fierce wind blowing on David's face,
He crept to the kitchen, for a Jew – a forbidden place.

The next morning, David approached the elderly man,
With a candle and a match in his quivering hand.

"Here," whispered David lovingly, giving Yankele the treasure;
Yankele's face shone with joy and pleasure.

He thanked the young boy with tears streaming down his
glowing face,
"May HaShem bless you, my boy, now I can celebrate Chanukah with grace."

On the eve of Chanukah, Yankele quietly called his fellow Jews together,
"It is time, my friends," he whispered with fervor.
He closed his eyes and began to sway,
His gentle voice could be heard as the blessings he did say.

After he lit the candle, not one Jew moved,
Everyone's eyes, to the rising flame, were glued.

And slowly, despite their condition,
They thanked HaShem for the miracles He had done on Chanukah for their nation.

"May this light," whispered Reb Yankele,
"Give us the strength to continue our fight!"

Chana Cohen, 17 years old

[CJN archives]

The Runaway Latka

I had a latka round and sweet
It was very very good to eat.
It had lots of fun playing on the ground
It even turned round and round.

But now it's not fun not fun anymore
Because it rolled out the door.
I followed it out the house
OH NO it got eaten by a mouse!!!!!

First I was mad.
Then I was sad.
But my Mom made more latkas
So I was glad.

Nina Kagan, 8 years old

The Lights

The Lights:
They are eternal
They are our past;
Our legacy.
Our future;
Our aspirations.

The Lights:
Burning forever
They are our hopes;
They are our dreams.
They are our life;
They are our essence.

The Lights:
Never dying
They are me;
They are you.
They are us;
They are the world.

The Lights:
Forever ablaze
They are our spirit;
They are the flame inside us all.

Adam Lazier, 12 years old.

Chanukah

Under the streets on Chanukah day
Families gathered their things and started to pray.
They wished to get out of the ghetto and be free
Like a strong and victorious Maccabee.
We tried to flee
We tried to fight
But the Germans managed to put out the light!
We couldn't take much more
Our hearts were so sore.
We waited
We waited
We were in so much pain.
But at last Chanukah night came
We were able to put aside the shame.
We lit the candles
And said amen.

Nicole Shomair, 10 years old

The Parts of Chanukah

Shining through
the glass windows
of the cheerfully glowing house

the stranger passes
catching a glimpse
of the eight tendrils of flame

shining the happiness
of the holiday
we now celebrate

the dreidel
with its mysterious Hebrew letters
carved into the polished wood

it turns and spins
in its brief moment
of life

it wobbles to a halt
falling on its side
revealing the letter
that will determine the victor

the laughter of children
and the happy sighs of the parents
the light of the chanukiyah
and the spinning of the dreidel

all these take part
in the creation of the holiday
that is the favorite
of so many.

Elana Steingart, 12 years old

Happy Chanukah

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Editorial

Well, it's come again. Winter, I mean.

Now, that shouldn't really come as much of a shock to us in Canada. After all, by December, we have had our first snowfall, cars have slid into ditches, and we have realized that we never did get around to replacing the kids' boots, because when spring came, we were so glad to see it, that we tossed the old ones down the basement just to get rid of the last snowflake.

But somehow, we always are astonished. How many of us have the squeegee ready for action and the warm gloves in our pockets before it really gets cold?

We sit around, grumbling that winter is coming, planning what we will do next spring and generally ignoring the speeding calendar.

And what happens when we can no longer deny that winter has come? We complain to our spouses, swear at the car and snarl at the kids to get those scarves on before they get pneumonia.

Maybe that's why we greet Chanukah so enthusiastically. Outside it may be snowing and blowing, but in our houses, there is light, wonderful foods and fam gatherings.

Sure, we always promise ourselves that we will cut down our entertaining, buy fewer and less elaborate presents, make latkes with egg whites and restrict ourselves to just one (or possibly two) *sufganiot*.

But we don't. And somehow, I don't think that it is merely because we are weak, just as I don't really think that we ignore the coming of winter completely out of wimpyness. (Well, maybe a little bit.)

Isn't it rather because in the middle of our complaining and gloom and doom attitude we basically have an optimistic streak? A core belief that life isn't really as bad as it appears?

Don't we look around as hard as we can for whatever goodness we can glean?

That's what the Maccabees did. When they managed to defeat (temporarily at least) the Syrian Greeks, who had not only tried their best to stamp out Jewish practice, but had defiled the Temple, the very centre of Jewish existence, they could be forgiven for feeling desolate.

But they didn't give in to that desolation. They cleaned the Temple and prepared to once again hold religious functions there. Even when they found only one flask of pure oil, they did not despair. In what the pagan world must have considered an act of supremely child-like faith, they lit that oil – and G-d responded to their faith by letting it burn for eight days.

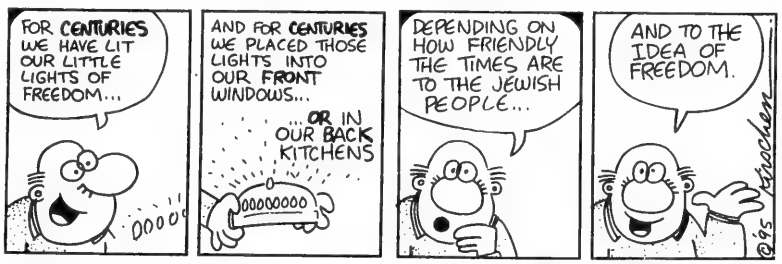
Few nations have as much justification for losing hope as we Jews have. We have endured century after century of persecution, of attempts to destroy us both physically and spiritually.

Even now, when the nations of the world appear to be concentrating on causing as much havoc on each other instead of on us, we Jews appear to be turning on each other, a situation which may well prove more destructive than swords or guns.

Let us take the lesson of Chanukah to heart. Just as the Maccabees took a chance and burned that single cruse of oil, let each of us take the initiative to spread the warmth of this season to each other, to accept that all Jews are brothers and sisters, members of one family.

From all of us at *The CJN*, to all of you, a Chag Samayach, a wonderful and bright Chanukah. **L.S.**

A celebration of blessings [JDC archival photo]


FOR CENTURIES WE HAVE LIT OUR LITTLE LIGHTS OF FREEDOM...
AND FOR CENTURIES WE PLACED THOSE LIGHTS INTO OUR FRONT WINDOWS...
...OR IN OUR BACK KITCHENS
DEPENDING ON HOW FRIENDLY THE TIMES ARE TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE...
AND TO THE IDEA OF FREEDOM.
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Dry Bones

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Happy Chanukah

History records that Jews lived in the Netherlands as early as the 12th century and well into the 14th century. But in 1349 and 1350, the majority died in the Black Plague.

The significant Jewish presence in the Netherlands really begins in the late 16th century with the arrival of the "merchants" from Portugal. These merchants, of course, were Jews, among them a great number of Marranos, secret Jews, seeking a home for their families, a place for their worship and comfort for their conscience.

Approximately 200 years after their arrival in increasingly large numbers from Portugal, the Jews in the Netherlands were "emancipated" in the Napoleonic manner which characterized western continental Europe in the 19th century.

The CJN *has asked Prof. Joseph Michman of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, perhaps the world's most renowned authority on the Jews of the Netherlands, to write a brief history of this remarkable story.*

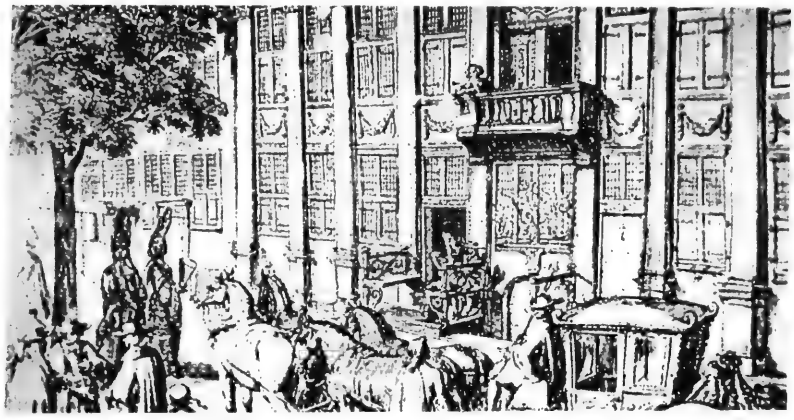
It is a remarkable story too.

In the space allotted to him, Michman can only sketch its bare outline. But he has done so in very bold images. The vivid portrait that emerges from these pages has, alas, provided the background colors for the tableau we call Jewish history: expulsion, resettlement and regeneration.

Driven forward by the instinct for survival, they place their steps on paths that were set for them by the values and the traditions of their ancestors. They protect and defend and care for each other, building community institutions whose brick and mortar were, essentially, the notion that they were all responsible for each other's welfare and well-being.

Their story was, indeed, a remarkable one. We thank Michman for bringing it to our readers.

Throughout the article we have included drawings of the Jews of Amsterdam drawn by Rembrandt. They are excerpted from Rembrandt, The Jews and the Bible, *Franz Landsberger, 1972, JPS.*



The Sephardic Synagogue in Amsterdam, de Hooghe engraving

The Jews of Amsterdam

On Sept. 4, 1598, the council of burgomasters and ex-burgomasters of Amsterdam convened and decided that the Portuguese merchants residing in Amsterdam would be permitted to buy citizenship in the city providing they were Christians. But these merchants were also advised that no religious services would be permitted other than those held in churches.

What was behind this cryptic phrasing to the merchants? What prompted the local authorities to take this decision about Portuguese merchants? Two years earlier, Emanuel Rodrigues Vega had purchased citizenship in Amsterdam. Vega was a prominent businessman, in modern terms a multi-national. He traded with Portugal, Brazil and the Baltic lands, but he was also an entrepreneur and maintained relations with various heads of state. He came from Antwerp, where a colony of so-called New Christians, i.e. Marranos lived. However, since Antwerp had sided with the rebels against the Spanish king and was recaptured by the Spanish army in 1585, it rapidly fell into decline. Amsterdam now assumed Antwerp's former trading role and prospered greatly; within a short time it became the principal world trade centre.

Vega was a man after the burgomasters' heart: after all, they were wealthy, enterprising merchants, men of vision, who, in exchange for economic advantage, were willing to compromise. His international connections, especially with Spain and Portugal, could be of great benefit to the city. But the city's administrators had to be careful and take the sensibilities of the church council into consideration, since the latter firmly supported the monopoly of the Protestant, i.e. Calvinist church. What was Vega's creed? Was he, as a New Christian, Catholic or crypto-Jewish? Indeed Catholics too, in Amsterdam were forbidden to practise their religion in public. And of course, there were no Jews.

The burgomasters-merchants circumvented the problem with their carefully phrased invitation that clearly meant: Iberian merchants, you are most welcome here but do not provoke us on religious grounds. Vega's associates understood the message and many of them settled in Amsterdam.

What motivated them to undertake the risky move from Antwerp or from Portugal and even Spain to establish themselves in the young Amsterdam republic? Were they economic considerations, the expansion of their family-based trading houses? Or was the real reason they gave to Amsterdam the measure of personal freedom they could enjoy?

Scholars differ in their opinions on what compelled them to settle in Amsterdam. Presumably it was a combination of factors: Amsterdam offers more opportunities for trade than Antwerp, and it had a liberal administration. Thus, family members followed each other from Antwerp, the Iberian peninsula, Italy and the Ottoman empire.

Not more than five years after the decision taken by the city council, an organized Jewish community was formed in the city. In October 1603, the police raided a private home where a Jewish religious service was being conducted by Rabbi Uri Halevi, an Ashkenazi. When questioned, he declared that he had been living in Amsterdam for a year-and-a-half; had led religious services at his home on "Sabbaths, Passover, Sukkot and on Shavuot." He performed circumcisions and the functions of a *shochet*.

There is a story about R. Halevi that a number of Portuguese merchants who had arrived in Emden, aproached him for advice as to where to settle. He told them to go to Amsterdam if they wished to return to the Jewish faith. He accompanied them on their journey to teach them or reteach the ways of Judaism. After spending two months in prison he was released but, without any further complaint against him, by the authorities. The secret synagogue service thus

[Cont'd. on page B 4]

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Happy Chanukah

The synagogues are built

[Cont'd from page B 3]

attained a certain measure of legitimacy. Rabbi Halevi was permitted to set up a Jewish cemetery near Alkmaar in 1604. It had been forbidden to do so in Amsterdam.

In 1612, Amsterdam authorities permitted Jews to settle in the city, two Jewish communities were established: Beth Jacob and Neve Salom, both of which held synagogue services in private homes.

In this respect the situation of the Jews was the same as that of the Catholics, who had to make do with "clandestine churches." This was not to the liking of the proud, well-to-do Jewish merchants. They wanted official recognition of the Jewish faith as a quid pro quo for the economic benefits they could offer their new place of residence. If this was not possible in Amsterdam, they would try other towns. And indeed, they did receive offers to settle from Alkmaar, Haarlem (1604) and Rotterdam (1605), on condition, that a minimum number of families would accompany them into each town.

In the end, after repeated rejections, Amsterdam relented. The authorities turned a blind eye to the construction of a synagogue. In addition the energetic leaders also arranged for other vital needs of a *kehillah*: a Jewish school, Talmud Torah; a *chebra* for the sick: *Bikur Holim,* and also a society who's task it was to entice Jewish brides to move to Amsterdam (Dotar). All this took place in 1616. Fourteen years after the first clandestine synagogue services, the Amsterdam Sephardim had acquired all of the essential components of an established *kehillah.*

Benedictus (Baruch) Spinoza

The kehilla is finally established

Matters did not always run smoothly though. In 1618, conflict broke out in the Beth Jacob community, which was resolved by a civil judge, resulting in the establishment of a third community – Beth Israel. But even this conflict did not interfere with the cooperation between all of Amsterdam's Sephardim.

Undoubtedly the end of the truce in 1621 between Spain and Amsterdam and the renewed fighting between the two countries, contributed to this cooperation. For the Portuguese merchants, direct trade with the Iberian peninsula was still possible, although with great difficulty. However, as shrewd merchants they managed to find a solution. Instead of running their accounts through the Amsterdam exchange bank, after 1621, they banked from Hamburg, which was not at war with Spain.

Nevertheless, it appears that the communities found themselves in financial difficulties. In 1622, representatives of the three *kehillot* reached a decision of a far-reaching nature: a tax of one (*pro mille*) — the *imposta* — was levied on the import and export of goods handled by community members. From the records, it appears that the three communities engaged in a level of commerce that exceeded that of the famous East-India Company, and this from a community that in 1621 numbered about 2,300 persons.

The *imposta* also boosted close

[Cont'd. on page B 5]

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Happy Chanukah

United into one community

[Cont'd. from page B 4]

cooperation between the three communities and in the year 1639 they finally united into one community named "Talmud Torah." No longer were there three synagogues but rather one (*Esnoga.*)

Over the years, especially after the peace treaty of Munster in 1648, more Sephardim settled in Amsterdam. Eventually, they decided to build a large synagogue. In 1675, the magnificent Esnoga was inaugurated. It is an impressive building even today. It spread the return of Amsterdam's Portuguese Jews far and wide and attracted many highly placed visitors from other countries. The Portuguese Jews of Amsterdam had connections with many states and many of the merchants functioned as envoys, or representatives, of foreign powers. In 1609, Don Samuel Palache arrived in Amsterdam as envoy of the king of Morocco. He brought with him two Torah scrolls from Morocco, which were sold to the community after his death. Even Prince Maurits, the governor of Amsterdam, took part in the funeral procession to the Jewish cemetery.

The worldwide fame of Jewish Amsterdam was enhanced in no small way by the reputations of several prominent personalities. For example, the rebellious Uriel Acosta, denied the existence of the soul and was excommunicated by the community. The same fate befell Benedictus (Baruch) de Spinoza, who later led a quiet, spiritually creative life as a philospher.

As opposed to the religiously heretical school of thought, we also find individuals who advanced and developed the ideas of Orthodox Judaism, such as the kabbalist Abraham Cohen Herrera and the opponent of Spinoza; Isaac Orobio de Castro.

Menasseh ben Israel

In 1666, Amsterdam was also tensely awaiting news of the false Messiah Sabbatai Zevi. Many Amsterdam Jews, Sephardim and Ashkenazim, were already preparing to settle in the Holy Land.

However we should not forget that the historical stature enjoyed by these personalities today overshadows a very simple and noteworthy historical fact: the creation and the flourishing in Amsterdam, of a strong, pious *kehillah* prototype that served as a model for other Sephardi communities, such as in London and New York. From the very beginning the community provided spiritual Jewish leadership, first by the "imported" rabbis like Isaac Uziel from Morocco, Saul de Morteira and Joseph Pardo, both from Italy. But soon their own Talmud Torah supplied local rabbis such as Moseh Raphael de Aguilar and Izak Aboab de Fonseca, who inaugurated the great Esnoga. The

[Cont'd. on page B 6]

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Happy Chanukah

A rich, varied cultural life

[Cont'd. from page B 5]

most famous, if not the most erudite of all, was Menasseh ben Israel. He was friendly with Rembrandt and various Christian scholars. His efforts to open up England for the Jews during Cromwell's regime are well-known.

A rich and varied Jewish cultural life developed in Amsterdam inspite of the strictly orthodox views, testifying to a liberal approach to literature and the arts. On the one hand there was the continued affinity to the old country, whose languages were practised in Amsterdam — Spanish for literary matters and Portuguese for daily use and for announcements in the Esnoga.

But Hebrew was also used. As a result of the teaching of Hebrew grammar, Amsterdam's Jews were able to continue the traditions of the Spanish Golden Age. Even before the revival of Hebrew literature during the period of the Haskala (Enlightenment), Amsterdam produced Hebrew poetry and plays. The most famous authors are Rabbi Selomo d'Oliveira and David Franco Mendes. In fact, when completing the study of a *massechta* in the *gemara*, festive gatherings were held, during which participants in the *shiur* (lesson) recited poems that they had written themselves.

Government circles of the Republic of the United Netherlands were very much aware of the economic contributions of the Portuguese Jews (as they were called, although there were many who had immigrated directly from Spain). Even after the singing of a peace treaty between the Republic and Spain, the Spanish government refused to recognize the Jewish merchants as subjects of the republic. If their ships were captured on the high seas, for example, this entailed serious financial losses to the Jews. They also ran the risk that they would be taken as prisoners and condemned as heretic Catholics.

Dr. Ephraim Bueno, by Jan Lievens

The government of the republic, the Council of State, repeatedly lent support to the Portuguese Jews. In 1657, a vessel with 27 Jewish emigrants en route to Barbados with a precious cargo was seized by an Irish ship on assignment by the Spanish government. On July 17, 1657, the Council of State passed a resolution, which determined that Jewish residents of the republic residing abroad were to be considered subjects of the republic and were to be treated accordingly. This resolution was intended to protect Jews abroad because in the various provinces and cities Jews were subject to all kinds of restrictions. Thus, Jews were no longer viewed as strangers by the people of the Netherlands. They were part of the Dutch population although with fewer rights than the Christians. It is noteworthy that the Catholics also suffered from restrictive regulations. By their wealth, energy, their cultural and political level, the Sephardi Jews achieved in the middle of the 17th century a high degree of civil status, and a measure of religious freedom, which their co-religionists in many other countries would not attain for another hundred years or more.

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Happy Chanukah

Jews become enfranchised

By JOSEPH MICHMAN

Part II

The word that Jews could finally become enfranchised citizens of their country came from Paris in 1789. The idea, though, that Jews should participate in contemporary culture had been advanced prior to this by Moses Mendelssohn in Berlin.

What was the situation for the Jews in the country north of Paris and west of Berlin, the Republic of the United Netherlands?

Jewish history in the republic had been an interesting one, mainly because of the notable Spanish-Portuguese community of Amsterdam. However, by the end of the 18th century this Sephardi community was no longer as wealthy or as influential as it had been in its heyday during the Dutch Golden Age, even though Portuguese Jews continued to be held in higher esteem than their Ashkenazi (or High-German) co-religionists.

By now, the number of Ashkenazi Jews far exceeded that of Sephardi Jews, both in the republic as a whole and in Amsterdam. Around this time the republic had over 40,000 Jewish residents — more or less the same number as in France. What made the situation different from that of *all* other European countries was the fact that more than half of these Jews lived in one city. Amsterdam had 20,000 Askenazi and 2,800 Sephardi inhabitants – the largest concentration of Jews in a single city anywhere in Europe. By comparison: in 1797, Warsaw had 7,700 Jewish inhabitants; Krakow (in 1824) 9,690; Berlin (in 1812) 3,293; and Paris (in 1798) no more than 500. The Jews comprised about 12 percent of the population of Amsterdam, constituting a distinct ethnic minority: a "Jewish Nation." Ashkenazi Jews had their own vernacular, Amsterdam Yiddish, an offshoot of Western-European Yiddish.

The Jews in general were a visible feature in the city scene, particularly because of their centrally located synagogues, towering edifices which, together with their adjoining administration buildings, created the impression of a form of Jewish government centre. At the same time, not a single visitor of the Jewish quarter could fail to notice the dire poverty. Over 80 percent of the Jews were dependent upon the community's *kupat zedakah*, the charity fund. Thousands of Jews were barely able to feed themselves and many did not have a roof over their heads. When speaking about the Jews of Amsterdam, one did not think of individuals, but of an amorphous grey mass governed by an autonomous Jewish administration composed of the powerful and wealthy *parnassim*.

A young neighbour of Rembrandt

The political significance of this sociological phenomenon can best be illustrated by the events that took place eight years before the occupation of the country in 1795 by the French army. An opposition party called the Patriots had been formed in the republic. The Patriots demanded constitutional changes, greater democracy, greater influence of the people on the government, and increased accountability of the authorities for their financial management. Despite the fact that the party was led by influential personalities, its following in Amsterdam consisted mainly of craftsmen and petty traders who regarded the Jews as dangerous competitors. The situation was aggrevated by the fact that, almost to a man, the Jews venerated the Stadtholders, the princes of the House of Orange, who, without exception, had been traditionally sympathetic to the Jews. The last Stadtholder, Prince William V, even employed a Jewish banker, Benjamin Cohen, with whom he was on excellent personal terms.

The Patriots, on the other hand,

[Cont'd. on page B 10]

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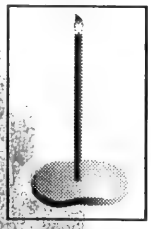

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Happy Chanukah

More Chanukah Poetry...

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Abdulezer, Joseph
Abenaim, A.
Abish, Alanna
Abish, Tammy
Abramsky, Diana
Meltzer
Adler, Adam
Adler, Daniel
Albert, Rachel
Altein, Nechama Dina
Altein, Yudi
Anafi, Ma'ayan
Anson, Celia
Applebaum, Sarah
Arje, Ilana
Arje, Tamar
Ashtor, Gila
Bacher, Janice
Baker, Carly
Baker, Liana
Banner, Brandon
Banner, Harrison
Barth, David
Baruch, Corinne
Bassel, Shauna
Ben-david, Nathalie
Ben-Israel, David
Ben-Israel, Karen
Bendavid, Laura
Benhaim, Jessie
Benhaim, Michelle
Berbrayer, Carolyn
Bercovitch, Stephanie
Berkal, Sherri
Berkofsky, Jason
Berkowicz, Naomi
Bernbaum, Rebecca
Bernstein, Judy
Bernstein, Rachel
Bilbul, Sabrina
Bindman, Amanda
Binman, Abigail
Bimbaum, Jordana
Bimbaum, Lorne
Bitton, Elie
Bloom, Benjamin
Blum, Daniel
Blumer, Paige
Braun, Adam
Bromberg, Marilyn
Brown, Naomi
Brown, Sacha
Budning, Erin
Budning, Erin
Bultz, Kayla
Cappell, Sarah
Cheskes, Ari
Choueke, Jessica
Cogan, Derek
Cohen, Adam
Cohen, Debra
Cohen, Michael
Cohen, Rebecca
Cola, Mandy
Consky, Liz
Cooperberg, Erin
Corcos, Leah
Dahan, Ariel
Debras, A.
Dichter, Marlee
Donath, Shira
Dreezer, Charlie
Druker, Jason
Dubrofsky, Andrew
Edelstein, Mark
Eliahoo, Gillian
Ennis, Miriam
Eric
Ezagui, Chaya Mushka
Falkovitz, Maital
Feldman, Leslie
Fenster, Jason
Fineberg, Sheri
Finestone, Ashely
Finkelstein, Joshua
Firestone, Chaz
Frankel, Melissa
Friedman, Alysha
Friedman, Joel
Friedman, Matthew
Frydman, Ari
Frydman, Rachel Shira
Gains, Eryn
Gallinger, Jacob
Ganz, Rachel
Ganz, Sonny
Giddens, Justine
Glazer, Emily
Glick, Tamara
Goldband, David
Goldberg, Stephanie
Goldfarb, Josh
Goldman, Samantha
Goldstein, David
Goldwater, Dorothy
Gonsenhauser,
Jonathon
Goodman, Joseph
Edward
Gordon, David
Gottlieb, Gordon
Gottlieb, Jonathan
Greenberg, Marissa
Greenblatt, Andrea
Greenspoon, Haley
Greenspoon, Jill
Griner, Jaclyn
Grossman, Lee
Gurman, Elissa
Guttman, Michael
Heller, Bracha
Herman, Shir
Hiscott, Rebecca
Hochfeder, Gaby
Horn, Douglas
Hospital, Montreal
Ickowicz, Sarah
Jacob, Lauren
Jacob, Resa
Joseph, Tiffany
Juster, Karina
Kandestin, Ashley
Karanofsky, Robert
Katz, Ariel
Katz, Danielle
Katz, Lauren
Katz, Michelle Robyn
Katz, Rebecca Jennifer
Katz, Shira Leah
Kay, Joseph
Kiriliuk-Zyrianov, Aya
Klein, Daniel
Klein,. Jonathan
Knecht, Brandon
Kohn, Russell Adam
Korin, Shawn
Korzinstone, Lauren

Poème de Hanouccah

Il y a longtemps au passé,
Antiochus le roi était très fâché.
Il n'aimait pas les Juifs
Il pensait que nous faisions des malices.
Il voulait tous nous tuer,
Les grands, les petits et puis les bébés.
Les Maccabées ne voulaient pas cela,
Alors ils ont battu Antiochus et ses soldats.
C'était là le premier miracle,
Et c'était vraiment tout un spectacle.
Les Juifs sont revenus le soir,
Le Bet Hamikdash ils ne voulaient pas voir.
Les Romains ont tout détruit,
Les Juifs pensaient que tout était fini.
Mais les Juifs sont restés fiers,
Voilà pourquoi HaShem nous a donné la lumière.

Ryan Pekeles, 12 ans

Hanouccah

On l'appelle la fête des
Maccabées
parce que Yehoudah et ses frères
ont chassé
d'Israël les Syriens
et les malins.

On l'appelle aussi
la fête des lumières
parce que les Cohen et les Levi
ont joui de l'huile bénie
pour allumer leur ménorah chérie.

Maintenant on joue
avec les toupies
et on se rappelle
notre histoire fleurie.

Finalement on remercie
Elokim pour avoir créé
ce miracle de l'huile
et pour les toupies.

Samuel Abourbih, 13 ans

Chanukah, Hip, Hip, Hooray!

Chanukah, Hip, Hip, Hooray!
Chanukah, the best Holiday!
I like to see all the candles when they give light,
They are prettier than three stars in the night.

Elizabeth Waitzer, 5 years old

Hurray, It's Chanukah

What's that I see?
Chanukah!
the menorah shines its light
making the house
all cozy and bright.

I want to sing and play
but so long ago on this very day...
There was a nation strong and
mean
and large, large animals could be
seen.

They wanted Jews to bow to
stone
but only one God for Jews was
known.
The Maccabees fought back so
brave
making all their people rave.

Although their army wasn't
strong,
they believed in God so much; so
long
The Greeks destroyed their holy
place,
Putting sad looks on every Jew's
face.

The menorah was found
but no oil turned up
until somebody saw it,
but it wasn't enough.

The Jews feared it wouldn't last
one day
but they lit the menorah anyway.
It shone one day and then eight
so the Jews began to celebrate!

And up to this very day
we remember the miracle and we
say:
"nes gadol hayah sham."

It's Chanukah
Hurray, hurray!!!

Jodie Shupac, 10 years old

Every Candle Tells a Story

Every candle tells a story of what
they remember.
Some tell of the Maccabees'
courage and might,
and some of what we remember
on this night.
Some tell of a bad man who
wouldn't even
Let the Jews speak their language
or pray!
Some tell of happy children
spinning a dreidel at play.
With some of the candles I can
even hear the cry of babies,
and with some I can even taste
the latkes that are yummy,
and the jelly doughnuts that fill
our tummy.
There is one thing very special
about these candles...

Thank you for all your entries

Happy Chanukah

...from CJN Readers

these candles don't burn out.
We will not forget!

Tamara Grundland, 10 years old

Chanukah

Nine candles burning,
The big leader, leading.
Watch as they burn,
Watch as we learn.

We're all happy and glowing,
Enjoying the Chanukah feeling,
We're watching the candles melting,
As the dreidel is spinning.

A kiss goodnight,
And knowing the candles
Will protect us,
All through the night.

Laura Menache, 11 years old

A Special Chanukah

A special Chanukah it will be,
Because someone special will be celebrating with me.
She was not here last year at all.
Until this summer when I got a call.
My best friend she came to be,
And I always will think of her as a CHANUKAH BABY.
It is not that she was born on this holiday,
It is just that she came the same way.
A miracle is what I mean,
And that is the way she will always be seen,
My best friend she came to be,
And I will always think of her as a CHANUKAH BABY.
I never thought that I would see
A beautiful baby sister that we called Marni.
To see her today,
Smiling away,
It is hard to believe that there was ever a day,
That I thought maybe,
There would not be a baby.

Cara Gladstone, 9 years old

Oh! How I Love Chanukah

People spinning and fussing
Around the menorah
All those nice candles
Burning away
Shrinking all the way
People happy and joyful
Little children spinning dreidels
Eating cholcolate gelt and smiling away
Their brown painted faces lighting up the day.

People standing around the menorah
Singing happy Chanukah songs

Candle flames
Comforting everyone
Bringing them together
In peace and harmony

Families enjoying their Chanukah feast
Eating latkes and doughnuts
Tasting even better on these special nights

Against the windows
For all to see
Our lit menorahs
Standing in pride for our past victory

Hurray for Chanukah!
Our message of love, peace and liberty!

Oh! How I love Chanukah!

Laura Cohen, 9 years old

The War

'Twas the Maccabees that won the war
Without them the Jews would be no more
More than one died for the Lord
As they faced the enemy's sword.

One by one the menorahs are lit
Right next to it we do sit
And the legend goes on and on
As we remember the moment the candles shone.

David Schecter, 9 years old

Nerot, Nerot

Nerot, nerot, you shine so bright to gaily light up our Chanukah night.

Nerot, nerot, do not burn too fast; we want our Chanukah night to last.

Nerot, nerot, you stand so tall; just like the Maccabees, one and all.

Nerot, Nerot, we see your light and hope for peace this Chanukah night.

Dana Nezon, 7 years old

Honorable mentions

Korzinstone, Michael
Krajden, Oren
Kraus, Ilana
Kraus, Samara
Krinsky, Daniel
Kurlan, Noah
Kurland, Daniel
Lalloun, Rebecca
Lavi, Elliot
Laxer, Michelle
Leibner, Alyssa
Lenetsky, Philip
Lerner, Lila
Lesser, Erin
Levine, Stephanie
Levinson, Erin
Levy, Jonathan
Levy, Lani
Lewin, Daniel
Lewin, M.
Lubelsky, Michael
Ludwin, Ilana
Lydynia, Ali
Maclin, Lawrence
Malach, Jessica
Malach, Rafe
Mann, Ryan
Marcus, Max
Markowitz, Jesse
Max, Andrew
Mednick, Milton
Menceles, David
Mendelsohn, Peter
Milgrom, Josh
Mizrachi, Sarit Kimberly
Moskovitz, Melissa-Anne
Mrejen, Tara
Nadler, Carrie
Nadler, Talia Sarah
Naiberg, Hayley
Notik, Chana Devora
Notik, Chaya Mushka
Ogniewicz, Tali
Ogniewicz, Yael
Oliver, Amanda
Papular, Liat
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Pervin, Renee
Platt, Rhonda
Podlog, John
Rapps, Michael
Rashkoven, Mariss
Reitman, Sam
Richter, Adam
Richter, Bobby
Richter, Sari
Rickhaus, Gregory
Ringel, Jessica
Rochwerg, Adam
Rogenstein, Carly
Romberg, Rose
Romisher, Chad David
Rosenberg, Morgan
Rosenberg, Shoshana
Rosman, Toby
Rotem, Ravid
Rothpan, Melanie
Rotman, Jessica
Rotman, Lauren
Rubin, Rebecca
Sachar, Karin
Saks, Warren
Samosh, Daniel
Sander, Sarah
Sandor, Ryla
Saperia, Jamie
Schachner, Aaron
Schacter, Erin
Schmerling, Fay
Schmerling, Matt
Schmidt, Franne
Schneider, Evan
Schwartz, Alexandra
Sedbon, Lauren
Segal, Dan
Segal, Matthew
Selchen, Malka
Sherman, Alexandra
Shimansky, Michael
Ship, Leona
Shragie, Josh
Shulman, Brandon P.
Shulman, Meryl P.
Sienna, Noam Ezra
Silver, Mara
Silverman, Sima
Silverstein, Yossi
Simon, Aaron
Sitzer, Nicole
Sklar, Naomi
Smith, Jennifer
Sobol, Amanda
Sohmer, Mitchell
Sosnowicz, Mark
Spiro, Aaron B.
Staviss, Michelle
Steele, Jeremy
Stein, Adam
Steinberg, Jonathan
Stern, Nurielle
Szames, Jason
Taub, Jillian
Taylor, David
Teller, David
Trachtenberg, Franklin
Turcotte, Naomi
Turkel, Emma
Vernon, Shirley
Waisgrus, Neil
Waitzer, Sara
Wallach, Rachel
Walsh, Lauren
Warner, Erin
Warshafsky, Chelsie
Warshafsky, Daniel
Waserman, Daniel
Weisberg, B.J.
Wenger, Jarred
Wilchesky, Amy
Willer, Kaley
Winterstein, David
Wisbaum, Aylon
Wiseblatt, Lorne
Woolfson, Hayley
Yelin, Shulamis
Zajdel, Michael
Zaltzman, Alina
Zur, Jordana
Zwingerman, Rhonda

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Skirmishes in Amsterdam

[Cont'd. from page B 7]

were fierce opponents of William V, whom they regarded as the embodiment of the corrupt *ancien régime*. In 1787, the Patriots rose in revolt and William V was deposed. His brother-in-law, the Prussian king, dispatched an army to the republic to suppress the insurrection.

Meanwhile, an extremely tense situation prevailed in the country. In Amsterdam, during the brief period of Patriot rule, there were many skirmishes, with the Jewish masses throwing their weight behind the Prince of Orange. There were several fatalities on both sides, and for a short time it looked as though a full-blown civil war was inevitable. The *parnassim* of both the High-German and the Portuguese community posted armed guards to protect their synagogues. Soon however, the Patriot city fathers concluded an arrangement with the *parnassim* preventing Jews from entering Patriot districts and Patriot followers from entering the Jewish quarter. Thus, the Jewish alliance with the House of Orange was neutralized, but in exchange, the Jews received a measure of territorial autonomy that they had never previously enjoyed. Peace appeared to be restored, although the mutual enmity had by no means disappeared.

By and large, therefore, the situation did not look very promising for the Jewish population when the Patriots came to power. Liberty, equality and fraternity was an exalted slogan, but the Patriots had no intention of allowing the Jews to share in the changes. In August 1795, there were several pogrom-like attacks on the Jewish quarter — the only ones ever to take place in the history of The Netherlands — and several Patriot journals published vituperative articles against the idea of granting civil rights to the "Jewish Nation."

A small number of progressive Jews united in a Jewish patriotic club named Felix Libertate, which, however, was not admitted to the confederation of Patriotic clubs. In both their writings and their speeches, these Jews attempted to convince fellow Jews and their party associates that the time had come to put an end to old, exclusive loyalties.

In March 1795, six members of Felix Libertate addressed a petition to the National Assembly of the republic requesting the enfranchisement of the Jews. The petition provoked a lengthy discussion in the assembly, which was noted for its high level of debate and absence of anti-Semitic expressions.

The fact that the assemblymen included quite a few ministers of the Church and several theologians explains the frequent recourse to theological arguments by the opponents of emancipation. According to their arguments, the Jews regarded themselves as a separate nation which would march up to Zion when the Messiah came.

[Cont'd. on page B 11]

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Equal rights debated at last

[Cont'd from page B 10]

Therefore, they could hardly be considered part of the population of the Netherlands.

The advocates of equal rights countered that if the Jews were given the opportunity to live as citizens with equal rights, they would surely choose to remain in The Netherlands even after the Messiah had arrived, as most Jews had chosen to stay in Babylonia after Cyrus had permitted their return to the Land of Israel.

Intensive lobbying took place outside the assembly hall, with two Amsterdam advocates opposing enfranchisement and the enlightened Jews pleading for the adoption of equal rights. The French envoy, a prestigious figure in the National Assembly circles composed exclusively of Patriot representives, brought heavy pressure to bear on the delegates to follow the French example and accord the Jews civil rights.

The Jews were granted full franchise. The principle that had decided the issue in France also turned the scales in The Netherlands. As the Comte de Clermond-Ferrand had declared in France: "Jews as individuals deserve everything, Jews as a Nation deserve nothing." In this spirit the Emancipation Decree was adopted by a unanimous vote on Sept. 2, 1796.

On paper, therefore, the Jews were now citizens with equal rights, and municipal governments no longer had any business with Jewish community affairs. However, the reality was rather different, as correctly foreseen by a French journalist who had attended the debates. He wrote that although the members of the National Assembly had accepted the Emancipation Decree, its implementation would be a long time in coming. In most cities and towns, the situation remained essentially as it had been before. Ten years after the adoption of the decree, six Jewish proponents of emancipation complained that the situation of the Jews in Amsterdam had worsened rather than improved, from both a political and an economic point of view. Not a single Jew had been elected to any official function or public office, and neither had Jewish craftsmen been admitted to the guilds. During the *ancien régime*, the Burgomasters had often turned a blind eye to infractions of anti-Jewish regulations, but after 1795, the authorities did nothing to give the Jews access to occupations which had been closed to them before the revolution.

A Jew from the city

Who knows how long this situation would have continued? But for the efforts of Louis Napoleon, who was appointed king of the newly created Kingdom of the Netherlands (1806-1810), the enfranchisement of the Jews might have remained hollow.

Louis Napoleon displayed unusual goodwill towards his new kingdom, and, it would seem, even more towards his Jewish subjects. Louis Napoleon appointed Jews to high offices: his personal physician was Dr. Emanuel Capadoce, and Dr. Jonas Daniel Meyer became the director of the Official Gazette of his realm. He also asked the High-German Jewish community of Amsterdam to propose names of Jewish notables as candidates for additional public offices.The public markets in the kingdom were moved from Saturday to a weekday, in order to enable Jewish traders to compete, and a letter was isssued forbidding provincial governments to apply discriminatory measures against Jews. He even wrote a personal letter to the Jewish community emphasizing that he would refrain

[Cont'd. on page B 12]

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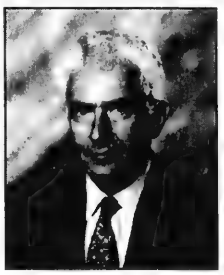

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Standing on the terrraces of their synagogues, the Jews of Amersterdam greet the arrival of Louis Bonaparte in 1808. The Portuguese synagogue is on the left; the Ashkenazi synagogue is on the right. [Langendijk etching, *Jewish Art and Civilization,* Office du Livre, Fribourg, Switzerland 1972]

High Consistory created

[Cont'd. from page B 11]

from doing anything that would offend Jewish religious sensibilities. Even the abject poverty of the Jews of Amsterdam, which was totally ignored by his Dutch advisers, attracted his compassion.

In order to put an end to the organizational chaos of Jewish communal life, which in his opinion, was one of the main impediments to the amelioration of the Jews' social conditions, Louis Napoleon installed a central governing body, called the High Consistory, to which all the previously independent Jewish communities were made subject. He also appointed leaders who were representatives of the small majority of Jewish proponents for a speedier integration of the Jews into Dutch society.

In the end, Louis Napoleon's good intentions failed because of the imperialistic policies of his brother, Napoleon Bonaparte, who regarded The Netherlands as an outlying French province, important only for its potential yield in money and soldiers. When in 1810 the kingdom was abolished and annexed to France, it was in worse economic condition than when Louis Napoleon had received it, and this was especially true for the Jews.

During the period of annexation, the hatred felt by the Dutch for their French occupiers became increasingly virulent, even in the Jewish quarter of Amsterdam. By the time the French Empire disintegrated, this anger had reached such a peak that riots erupted even inside the Great Synagogue of Amsterdam. A strong current among the Jews wanted to annul all the new French decrees, including the Emancipation Decree itself, and thereby return to the situation of before 1795.

The *parnassim* of the High Consistory, who as in France, were now

[Cont'd. on page B 13]

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A circumcision ceremony, drawing by Romeyn de Hooghe

Voices rise against the Jews

[Cont'd. from page B 12]

called *Commissaires-surveillants*, were physically assaulted and barely escaped being dumped into the canal. As well, within the Municipal Council, following the example of most of the German states in 1813, voices were heard demanding the abolition of Jewish emancipation.

But these demands were rejected. The new king, William III of Orange, was an enlightened monarch, whose advisors believed that the institutions of Louis Napoleon should be maintained to promote the integration of the Jews. The Jewish franchise was left untouched.

Even so, contrary to the trend under Louis Napoleon, no practical measures were taken to enable the Jews to enjoy the fruits of this equality. The Jews of The Netherlands were left to pursue their daily lives as they saw fit, but any anti-Semitism was of a non-violent character.

Nevertheless, only after many decades passed, would Jews be appointed to university positions or be allowed to sit on municipal councils. Until 1940, there was not a single Jewish burgomaster, and not a single Jew served as a Dutch ambassador. In government circles, a certain reserve continued regarding Jewish incumbents, even though this was never publicly voiced. Only after the Holocaust would the last vestiges of discrimination among Dutch officialdom disappear.

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Belmonte: the rebirth of an old Jewish community

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

BELMONTE, PORTUGAL — Clara Mouyal Cohen's family thought she was crazy when she announced her intention to marry Joaquim Manuel Vaz Morão, a Portuguese Marrano the Moroccan-born woman had met in Spain.

"Are they really Jewish?" her mother asked skeptically. Belmonte's clannish Marrano community, while outwardly Catholic — attending church at the very least for baptisms, weddings and funerals — had maintained Jewish customs in secret for almost five centuries following the expulsion of the Jews from Portugal.

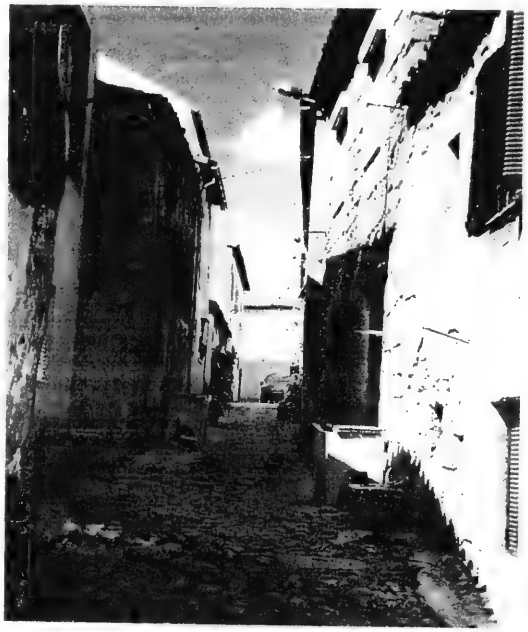
Today, more than a decade after the Morãos' marriage, the distinctions between Marranos and those who practise Judaism openly have begun to blur — at least in this mountain town's unique Jewish community of approximately 100 families out of a total population of 3,500.

This week, as Jews around the world recall the miracle of the Temple oil that lasted eight days, Jews in Belmonte, some 325 kilometres northeast of Lisbon, have an added reason to celebrate. On Wednesday (Dec. 4), a new synagogue, complete with a reception hall and basement mikvah, is being dedicated.

Other events scheduled in Portugal to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews this week include a special parliamentary session, the dedication of a monument in Lisbon and ceremonies being held at both the Dona Maria II National Theatre and the Shaare Tikve Synagogue in Lisbon.

"There's no question that there was a miracle here in Belmonte. The Jews here have kept their religion secretly for over 500 years without spiritual leaders, without access to the Torah or any of the Jewish books of laws," said Rabbi Joseph Sebag in *Expulsion & Memory: The Descendents of the Hidden Jews*, Simcha Jacobovici's recent film.

[Cont'd. on page B 15]



Medieval streets like the one above, in Belmonte, hint at Jewish life in Portugal before the expulsion. [Frances Kraft photo]

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From King Solomon's time

[Cont'd. from page B 14]

The rabbi, a descendent of Jews who were expelled from Spain, had been sent from Israel to Belmonte at the community's request. His description of their extraordinary survival is hardly an exaggeration.

According to legend, Jews came to the Iberian Peninsula at the time of King Solomon (10th century BCE).

From the time Portugal became an independent country in the 12th century, life was good for local Jews. Most knew how to read and write, and many were trained in mathematics or medicine, skills that were useful to the monarchs.

At its height, the community was spread out among over 130 *judiarias* (Jewish quarters) in various towns.

In the 1300s, however, tension began to arise between Jews and the greater Christian population. During the reign of King John I (1385-1432), Jews were forced to wear distinctive habits and had to abide by a nighttime curfew. In 1449, there was a riot against the Jews of Lisbon.

The Jewish population swelled in the 1400s, as Spanish Jews found temporary respite from ongoing persecution in neighboring Portugal. At one point there was a Jewish refugee camp of 5,000 people in the Portuguese town of Marvao, six km from the Spanish border.

Only four years after the 1492 expulsion of the Spanish Jews, Portugal's King Manuel I signed an expulsion edict on Dec. 4, 1496, to fulfil a condition of his marriage to the Spanish princess Isabella.

Within the year, he had instituted forced conversions, in an attempt to keep the Jews, with their valuable education and skills, in the country. Under a 20-year ban on persecution for religious indiscretions, a significant number of so-called New Christians adapted Judaism to their new lives. They began to pass on Jewish traditions from one generation to the next, even through the Portuguese Inquisition, which lasted from 1536 to 1821 and during which 1,200 Jews were burned at the stake.

A goodly number of medieval doorposts bear indentations which likely mark the spots once adorned by mezuzahs. Ironically, another common form of evidence that medieval Jewish communities existed in Portugal can be found in the Christian crosses which identified homes where the inhabitants had outwardly embraced Christianity, said Carmen Balesteros, a 35-year-old non-Jewish archeologist who teaches at the University of Evora.

Helena and Carlos da Costa [Frances Kraft photo]

In Belmonte, interestingly, researchers found inverted Christian crosses. "What can this mean?" asked Balesteros. One possibility, she suggested, was a sly indication of the community's anger and need to express their true religion.

Street names, both current and medieval, also provide clues to a medieval Jewish presence. Jewish quarters commonly have streets called *Rua Nova* (New Street) in reference to New Christians, said Balesteros.

While the medieval name meaning Street of the Midrash is obviously Jewish, the 15th-century name of another Portuguese street has a subtle but probable echo of anti-Semitism. Rua da Tinhoso refers to a contagious disease suffered by dogs as well as humans. A common derogatory term for Jews at the time was "dogs," explained Balesteros.

Although the Spanish term *Marrano* is still considered pejorative by some (it means "pig"), the crypto-Jews we met insisted it was no longer an insult. In fact, it's the word they use to refer to themselves.

Although it's no longer necessary for them to hide Friday night candles nor to bake matzah a day earlier or later than "open Jews," some Marranos continue to do so "because they want to keep the tradition of their grandparents and great-grandparents," said Clara Morão through an interpreter.

Her husband Joaquim, vice-president of Belmonte's Jewish community, underwent a formal conversion to Judaism 10 years ago under the auspices of the late Rabbi Abraham Assor of Lisbon. "He always thought he would like to marry a Jew," said Clara. "He wanted to live as a real Jew."

Unlike Joaquim Morão, most of the Belmonte Marranos married within their own sub-community, sometimes within their own extended family. As a result of inbreeding, some of them now suffer from congenital night blindness.

Whom to marry isn't currently an issue in the Belmonte community; those closest to marriageable age are only in their mid-teens.

Joaquim's mother is still Marrano, but "even if they don't go to synagogue, it's the same community," said Clara, who welcomed our group into her small, typically Jewish home adorned with mezuzot, Jewish needlepoint and Jewish ceremonial objects. "Marranos [here] don't go to church

[Cont'd. on page B 16]

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Happy Chanukah

Jewish presence is sunny and remarkable

[Cont'd from page B 15]

any more. If a Marrano Jew dies, they go to the synagogue and ask the rabbi to make a service."

The Belmonte community has been recognized by Israel and recently welcomed its third rabbi, sent for a minimum six-month stint by the Jewish Agency in cooperation with Jerusalem's Midrash Sephardi yeshivah. Rabbi Shlomo Haber (pronounced chaver, as in the Hebrew word for friend) is a 22-year-old Brazilian who is also trained as a *shochet*.

For the past half-dozen years or so, the Belmonte Jewish community has worshipped in a tiny apartment, the women in a separate room behind the men. A small window in the dividing wall enables them to hear and perhaps see the service.

The community is indebted to its Paris-based Moroccan benefactor, Shlomo Azoulay, who funded the building of the new synagogue. There are about 150 seats in its sanctuary — men downstairs, women in the balcony. "[Azoulay] was sent by God," said Clara.

The community can use more benefactors, she noted. Although many of the local Jews work as merchants or in their own businesses, it's a poor community, she said, adding that they could use children's toys and books.

Jewish children learn to read Hebrew and sing Hebrew songs during Sunday classes taught by the rabbi. During the week they attend school with local Catholic children.

One of the local schoolteachers, Helena da Costa, grew up Marrano in Lisbon and is now a committed open Jew. She and her husband Carlos, a physician who is also of Marrano extraction, decided to convert formally to Judaism a few years after their 1973 marriage.

Da Costa's efforts resulted in the placement last year of a large chanukiah of her own design on permanent public display in Belmonte.

The da Costas' spacious tile-roofed home in nearby Covilha contains a number of chanukiot, including a black iron one that she welded herself. An artist who teaches Grade 7 and 9 art and design, da Costa recently illustrated the cover of a book called *The Rescue of the Portuguese Marranos* and designed upbeat "Mazaltov" notecards to mark this week's events.

The Jewish presence in her home is sunny and unmistakable. Even the family pets are part of it. Of the da Costas' four cats, three are named Golda Meir, Oskar Schindler and Isaac Bashevis Singer. (The fourth is White Socks.)

In the classroom, da Costa has noted a harmonious relationship between Jews and Christians. An exception occurred when she found a swastika on her blackboard in an isolated incident that she used as an opportunity to educate her students.

A representative of the Belmonte mayor's office, which funded the public chanukiah, told a group of visiting Jewish journalists that there are "positive changes" now that the Marrano community has gone public. "Everyone knew they had strange customs, but now it's better because they're not so strange any more."

In 1979, when the da Costas moved to Covilhã, they sought out co-religionists in Belmonte.

As guests in a Marrano home for Friday night dinner, their only clue to their host's beliefs were his sister's repeated comments about having to get dressed, da Costa recalls. Finally the sister was told, "They are like us. You can speak."

Even now, Marranos are circumspect about their practices. Sara Molho, an Israeli sociologist researching a book on the Belmonte community, said it took her two years to gain the confidence of local Marranos before they would invite her into their homes.

The da Costas, who still live in Covilhã, are not typical of the Belmonte community, but it's evident they are warmly accepted. In the course of a brief stroll in town, Helena was greeted affectionately by a young Jewish student and an elderly Marrano woman, among others.

The da Costas are the only members of their families to have converted. When Helena first told her parents that her future husband was Jewish, her father told her, "Don't say that.

"Yes, they gave us a hard time," she said, "but I think they love that the girls [the da Costas' two daughters, ages 17 and 20] are studying [Judaism]."

Frances Kraft was in Portugal this fall as a guest of the Portuguese National Tourist Office and TAP Air Portugal.

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This Week

Coast to Coast

New AJC head says council should provide chaplaincy service to small communities. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Former JIAS director to overhaul Immigration Act. *Page 7*

Free trade agreement will make Israeli products popular in Canada, entrepreneur says. *Page 9*

Israel & the Jewish World

Israelis and Syrians engage in sabre rattling. *Analysis.* *Page 35*

TAB news

Ragtime: New musical a sure hit with fans and critics. *Page 38*

Sports news

Argo lineman, Noah Cantor, elated after Grey Cup win. *Page 42*

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Sabbath violators raided

Government targets Tel Aviv businesses

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The battle over whether so-called "blue laws" should be enforced, keeping businesses closed during the Sabbath, has taken a new turn.

Last Saturday, inspectors from the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry raided snack bars and newsstands in the Tel Aviv area that were open on the Sabbath.

In an effort to prevent the ministry itself from violating the Sabbath, the inspectors carrying out the checks were Druze Arabs, not Jews.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eliyahu Yishai said the inspections were part of an effort to ensure fair competition.

"There are many business owners in Tel Aviv who do not want to work on the Sabbath and they complain that because their competitors are open on the Sabbath, they have no other choice," he told the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*.

"The auditors are doing their work throughout the country and will continue enforcing the law," said Yishai, who is a member of the religious Shas party.

Last week, after an Orthodox-sponsored rally was held in Tel Aviv to prevent local businesses from desecrating the Sabbath, there were reports that the ministry was tripling the number of inspectors.

That rally was organized by the Agudat Yisrael party to demand the closure of Tel Aviv's numerous movie theaters, bars, cafes and other places of entertainment from sundown Friday until the end of the Sabbath. Organizers said that if the Sabbath is not observed in Tel Aviv, its observance could be further eroded in other communities.

The head of the labor law branch at the ministry, Ephraim Kechalon, denied that the inspections were related to the rally.

"The weekend raids had nothing to do with it," he told *Ma'ariv*. "This was an audit which was planned months ago."

During their rounds, inspectors slapped citations on the baffled owners of two snack bars in Ramat Gan, a municipality adjacent to Tel Aviv.

"We have been open [on the Sabbath] for the past eight years, and we were surprised to suddenly have auditors asking us for information," said Meir Ofer, an employee at one of the businesses.

Ramat Gan Mayor Zvi Bar said businesses that were open on the Sabbath did so with the consent of the municipal council, as part of the religious status quo.

The auditors also warned shopowners in northern Tel Aviv that the area would be a central target in coming weeks.

Until now, the battle between Haredim and secular groups over synagogue-state issues has focused on Jerusalem.

MADRID DVAR TORAH

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at a Madrid synagogue Dec. 3. He was in Spain on a one-day official visit for talks about the Middle East peace process with Spanish authorities. *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Cyclist pedals special cause in Israel

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — A Canadian cyclist who has pedalled 55,000 kilometres in three years arrived in Israel last week to keep a promise to Jewish friends dying of AIDS.

Bertrand Boudreau altered the route of his AIDS fundraising tour in order to be in Israel on Dec. 1 – International AIDS Day.

"I wanted to do something special in Israel because of a promise I made to Jewish friends in Florida," explained Boudreau, who has criss-crossed North America, Central America, Europe and west Africa on his bicycle.

He was scheduled to arrive in Turkey this week, but changed his plans in order to come to Israel first.

"My Jewish friends told me that we might never see each other again and urged me to visit Israel. Since then, some of them have died of AIDS. Others are alive and waiting to hear that I made it to Israel. They wanted me to bring my message here."

Feature

Boudreau, who is not HIV-positive, has been trying to increase awareness about the risk of AIDS and encourage people to have compassion for its victims. He embarked on his world cycling trip in August 1993 with $40 in his pocket and no sponsors. He pays for his travel expenses and raises funds for AIDS organizations by soliciting companies in the cities he visits.

SuperPharm sponsored the Middle Eastern leg of his trip, which will include stops in Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Turkey and Iran.

Until a chance encounter in a Victoria cafe with a woman whose brother died of AIDS, Boudreau had never known anyone with the disease. That meeting prompted him to volunteer at a the Victoria Persons With AIDS Society.

He says the idea of cycling around the world came to him in a dream.

Continued on page 34

EARLY DEADLINES

An early reminder that due to the upcoming holidays, advertising deadline for the Jan. 2 issue is Dec. 23 at 2 p.m.

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Sharansky opposes conversion law amendment — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Sponsoring Immigrants

MONTREAL — The Jewish community signed its third agreement with the Quebec government promising to sponsor up to 100 families from the former Soviet Union, in exchange for their receiving special attention by the province's immigration office in Vienna.

The families are expected to begin arriving in Montreal as landed immigrants in 12 to 18 months.

'Frum' Health

MONTREAL — Like a number of other cities in the world where there are large "frum" communities, Montreal's ultra-Orthodox Jews will soon have their own emergency medical response service.

Hatzoloh, as the service is known, is not intended to replace, but rather to supplement, the public Urgences Santé, assisting it in overcoming language or "cultural barriers," said local coordinator Zev Neuwirth.

ISRAEL

Beilin Enters Labor Race

JERUSALEM – The race for chair of the Labor party widened last week, after Knesset member Yossi Beilin announced his candidacy for the party's leadership.

The party is set to elect in early June a new leader who would run for the premiership in the next general election, expected in the year 2000.

Attack On Reform

JERUSALEM — A leader of the haredi Agudat Yisrael party last week stated that the secularized stance of Reform Jewry led to the Holocaust.

Pinchas Horowitz, the party's deputy chair, made the controversial remark during a Tel Aviv news conference.

Attorney General Resigning

JERUSALEM – Israel's attorney general has announced that he plans to step down effective Jan. 1.

When submitting his letter of resignation to Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi, Michael Ben-Yair gave no reason for his decision. Ben-Yair was appointed three years ago by Yitzhak Rabin.

WORLD

JNF Seeks New President

NEW YORK – It may be too soon to call, but Ronald Lauder – cosmetics heir, philanthropist and former U.S. ambassador to Austria – apparently is being eyed as the next president of the Jewish National Fund of America.

BA Apologizes

NEW YORK – British Airways has issued an apology for ejecting an Orthodox Jew from an airline lounge at London's Heathrow Airport.

Aaron Tyk, an assistant attorney general for New York State, went to the lounge last month to recite his morning prayers during a layover while he was travelling from Tel Aviv to New York. Tyk said an airline employee asked him to leave because the lounge was "only for Muslims."

Cemetery Desecration

MOSCOW – For the first time, Russian federal officials are launching an investigation into the desecration of a Jewish cemetery.

The office of Russia's prosecutor general initiated a criminal investigation after 16 graves were recently destroyed in the Jewish cemetery of Saratov, located some 450 miles southeast of Moscow.

Rabbi Knighted

NEW YORK – Rabbi M. Mitchell Serels, director of the Sephardic Community Programs at Yeshiva University, has become the first rabbi to be knighted by Spain's King Juan Carlos I.

Rabbi Serels received the Order of Civil Merit which recognizes "outstanding services or efforts in work of a civil nature" for helping bring about better relations between Spain and Sephardi Jews.

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DISCONTENT BLAMED ON SOVIET AGENTS

Some immigration officials and the leadership of Georgian Jews in Israel are blaming provocateurs for much of the alleged unrest among Georgians in Israel, which has been the headline news in the Israeli press. However, independent observers suggest there are other reasons: the special nature of Georgian immigration and the failure to take account of this in arranging their settlement.

Most of the Georgians are very Orthodox, yet do not have trades, crafts or professions, and are used to close community ties. On their arrival in Israel, they were sent to development areas, often with no regard to their close-linked community life and need for religious surroundings.

HEBREW APPROVED FOR CREDIT

Hebrew will be the first "ethnic language" to count for credit in Ontario's schools. The department of education has approved courses taught at Beth Jacob High School for Girls and Ner Israel Yeshiva College. Beth Jacob will grant one credit in Hebrew in Grade 12 and two credits towards Grade 13.

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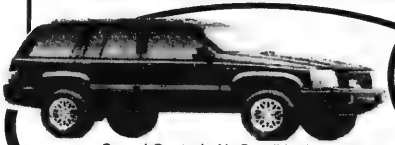

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New AJC president outlines his agenda

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Victor Goldberg has given himself two specific goals and several others as he begins a two-year term as president of the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC).

For more on the AJC conference see pages 22, 23

The Halifax lawyer, assuming responsibility at the biennial general meeting of the four-province organization Dec. 1, said the council must provide chaplain service to those small communities without rabbis in the Atlantic region.

The only communities with full-time rabbis are Halifax and Fredericton. Rabbi David Ellis left Moncton's congregation last summer and has not been replaced. Congregations in Saint John, St. John's and Sydney have been without full-time rabbinic service for several years.

Goldberg also is spearheading a senior citizen's residence initiative, either independent living or a home for special care, with Halifax seniors' residence Northwood Centre.

"There are many Haligonians now living at Northwood Manor in both the independent and care-programs. We feel we can service many more seniors from the entire region at the Halifax complex and can use Northwood's manpower and physical resources for this unique opportunity. We're working on a co-venture with Northwood and already have a co-chair in place with another person soon to be named."

Goldberg said he is prepared to work with JIAS to bring immigrant families to the region. "The long-term life of small communities will come by adding to the population. We have an initiative in its early stages."

He also emphasized that the AJC will continue to ensure no needy Jewish person in the region is deprived of participating in programming, "here or abroad, because of financial inability."

Goldberg replaced Larry Freeman, Halifax, who served four years as president.

In remarks concluding his presidency, Freeman said he had two goals as he started his second term in 1994. "We wanted to have a youth coordinator and, Yakov Feig, on staff for almost two years, has done a marvelous job with our youth and teens. It was a pilot project with Canadian Jewish Federation and United Israel Appeal and is now being adopted in other regions. We started a seniors activity program which has been well-attended, and continued to publish [regional quarterly magazine] *Shalom*, keeping costs in line."

Other executive members of the AJC are: first vice-president, Sheva Medjuck, Halifax; second vice-president, Mark Rosen, Halifax; secretrary, Barbara Paton, Halifax; treasurer, Michael Pink, Halifax; members at large: Irwin Lampert, Moncton; Ivan Levine, Fredericton; Sherry Pink, Seymour Prince, Zack Rubin, Kathy Zilbert, all of Halifax; legal counsel, Mark David, Halifax; regional CRC chair, Tom Kuttner, Fredericton.

Community representatives will be appointed from within Saint John, Fredericton, Moncton, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley.

* * *

Moncton judge Irwin Lampert was awarded the Bernard M. Bloomfield Award by Jewish National Fund for meritorious service at the conference.

Lampert has been chair of JNF Atlantic for 10 years and on the national executive for the same period. Mark Mendelson, executive director, JNF Eastern region, called Lampert a "devoted JNF worker, willing to open doors for us and introduce us to people who can make a difference."

KING DAVID

The Neighbours, a Tel Aviv group of young people aged 16-18, will be performing the Biblical Rock Opera King David at the New City Playhouse in Vaughan, Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. They have also appeared in Montreal, Vancouver and Calgary. See Eye on Arts item on page 40.

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Greater Toronto Area

Filmmaker asks hard questions

Last week, I received an article by Ilan Maget that appeared in the Shabbat supplement to the Dec. 12 issue of the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* about philosopher, writer and filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici.

Jacobovici will be familiar to readers of *The CJN* and indeed, to millions of North Americans. In September, he and Elliot Halpern won an Emmy award for "outstanding investigative journalism" for their 1994 documentary about the Ebola virus called *The Plague Monkeys*. The film also won a Cable Ace Award in 1995 and a Gemini Award in 1996. (See *The CJN* Sept. 19.)

Plague Monkeys is part of an impressive corpus of documentary films whose chief hallmarks are originality of theme, social relevance, unembellished photo-journalism and hard-hitting exposition. That body of work includes: *Falasha, Deadly Currents, The Selling of Innocents* and *Expulsion and Memory*.

Maget interviewed Jacobovici at his home in Toronto. The Emmy award was the springboard for the interview. From there it soared into a biographical sketch and a wide-ranging exploration of the ideas and purposes that motivate Jacobovici.

Jacobovici was born in Israel in 1953. His parents were survivors. When he was nine years old his family moved to Canada. He describes himself as the type of person who does not keel over in the face of authority, which he attributes to the influence of his parents and of his Israeli upbringing.

From his early days as a young student leader of Network, he was a firebrand, never afraid to ask the hard, impolitic question.

Among Jacobovici's current projects are a film based on the Neil Gabler book, *How the Jews Invented Hollywood*, and a film on the 10 lost tribes.

His insights, as recorded by Maget, are interesting and even inspiring. I record some of them to let the readers judge for themselves.

(All translations from the Hebrew text are by The CJN.*)*

On the classic Hollywood western: "Just think for a minute about the plot of a typical western. A group of decent, law-abiding, unprotected, somewhat timid citizens live in a small town. Outside the town is a group of hooligans. They ride on horses, wear tall leather boots. From time to time, these hooligans ride into town, pillaging, plundering, raping and murdering.

"What is really being described here is a group of marauding Cossacks. The western was not born in Wyoming or in Utah. It was taken directly from the *shtetl*."

On the search for the 10 lost tribes: "Of course, I am not the first person to search for the tribes. Columbus, for example, did so too.

"Some people think that he was in search of India. But I think that he was searching for the 10 tribes. We know for a fact that the translator with him was Jewish. Why would he have needed a Jewish translator? In order to speak in Hebrew with the 10 lost tribes.

"It may sound somewhat like Mel Brooks, but I am convinced that when Columbus and the translator left the ship, the first words that were spoken on the shores of the new world were *Shalom Aleichem*."

To introduce Jacobovici's thoughts on the influence of his Judaism on his work, Maget informs the readers that Jacobovici prays three times a day, observes the Shabbat and the laws of kashrut. But he does not wear a kippah.

On the Judaism within his work: "If someone is considered a good filmmaker, people usually say it is in spite of the fact that he is a believing Jew. In my case, it is because of the fact that I am a believing Jew.

"The three outstanding foundations of my life are my 'Israeliness,' my Judaism and the fact that I am the son of survivors.

"They are the driving forces behind the subjects of my work – oppressed and suffering groups – and the guiding hand that leads me in the manner of my work.

"It is simply the idea of *tikun olam*, that is, a little bit of *tikun olam*. After all, we are not angels."

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AFFIXING THE MEZUZAH

Four local rabbis came together last week to help *The CJN*'s staff affix a mezuzah to our new offices at 1500 Don Mills Rd. From left, reporter Leila Speisman; Rabbi Gunther Plaut; Editor Mordechai Ben-Dat; Rabbi Reuven Tradburks of Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogue; Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel: The Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning; reporter Paul Lungen; news editor Jeff Rosen, Rabbi Philip Scheim of Beth David Synagogue; chief copy editor Leslie Kinrys; and reporter Frances Kraft. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Investigator calls attention to Nazi war crimes

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Prior to setting out on his crusade to bring attention to Nazi war criminals living in Canada, Steve Rambam was invited to meet with a Nazi-hunter in Jerusalem. The man had heard about his intention to interview aging Nazis and he had a word of warning for the New York private investigator.

Be careful, he said. These old men talk to each other.

With that in mind, Rambam set out on a two-year venture during which he interviewed 62 alleged Nazi war criminals, while secretly taping their conversations. Forgoing appointments made in advance, Rambam decided it was better tactically to show up at their homes unannounced, presenting himself as an academic studying policing during the war. He would attempt to get them to describe their wartime experiences, while secretly recording their conversation.

On one occasion, one of his subjects was "confessing" to his membership in the Latvian Arajs Kommando, which collaborated with the Nazis in the murder of more than 20,000 Jews, when the man's wife left the room to make a phone call. A short time later, a large fellow drove up to the house, hurried in with his hand in his coat pocket, demanding to know what Rambam was doing.

"I asked him his name" — a good way to calm him down, Rambam recalled, because he was sure the man had a gun in his pocket and was ready to use it. By getting the man to identify himself, he would enable his friend and colleague, Joe Shachter, who was monitoring the conversation from a nearby car, to record the name of his assailant if things went wrong, Rambam said.

Although he was able to defuse the situation, it was one of two times he felt he was in any danger during the interviews.

Rambam's "investigation" and his claim that some of the men virtually admitted to war crimes, have drawn international attention to the government's handling of alleged war criminals in Canada. His story was a major feature item in the *Jerusalem Post* magazine, and he was accompanied on 20 of his interviews by reporters from that publication or others. He has been extensively interviewed by the Canadian media, and last week a CBC television crew was in his Toronto hotel room, filming him for a documentary.

Rambam said he is pleasantly surprised at the media attention his efforts have garnered in Canada, since the presence of war criminals and the government's inaction are already well documented.

Nevertheless, he believes "this is an issue that deserves a glaring media spotlight" to expose "the shameful inaction" of the Canadian government.

A fast-talking New Yorker who says he's a descendent of the great medieval rabbinic sage, Rambam exudes self-confidence.

A self-styled Jewish activist going back to his teenage years, Rambam was a member of the U.S. Jewish Defence League (JDL) in the days when lobbying on behalf of Soviet Jewry was the most pressing issue on the Jewish agenda.

At age 19, he and other JDLers were arrested and charged with transporting explosives across state lines. He was convicted but the conviction was later "expunged" and did not form a barrier to his obtaining a licence as a private investigator, he said.

His JDL ties led him to Canada many times in the mid-1980s and in 1983, he helped provide security for author John Loftus, who was promoting a book on Belarussian-Nazi collaborators.

At the program where Loftus appeared, Rambam was approached by someone he declined to identify and was given a list of 80 Nazi suspects. He filed it away, he says, with some embarrassment, only to retrieve it about 10 years later. As "a lark" he and some associates tried to track down some of the names. To their amazement, they found three of the individuals in one afternoon. The next day, they found others for a total of 12.

In January 1995, he decided to go full bore at the project. Obtaining a list of names from the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and from Yad Vashem, he and his associates eventually located 157 alleged war criminals and interviewed 62. One-third were found through the phone book, one-third through public records and the last third required the use of more extensive investigative techniques.

Taking more time to consider his words, Rambam said "I believe it's out and out wrong, perhaps even *chillul HaShem*... for any Jew to let them [war criminals] live comfortably and at peace."

He plans to return to Canada later this month to turn over the tapes and other information to the Canadian Jewish Congress. After examining the materials, Congress plans to pass them along to Canadian law enforcement officials.

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Crown summarizes Kalejs case

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Justice Department lawyers have filed a 117-page document summarizing the facts and legal arguments they believe disqualify alleged war criminal Konrads Kalejs from remaining in Canada.

The document filed with the Immigration and Refugee Board recounts the mountain of evidence presented before adjudicator Anthony Iozzo in which Kalejs is repeatedly described as a senior lieutenant and company commander in the notorious Arajs Kommando in wartime Latvia.

The document alleges that units under Kalejs' command probably were involved in the wholesale massacre of the Jews of Riga in November and December 1941; were involved in the massacre of civilians in the Russian villages of Saniki and Zabolotye; were stationed at the Porkova concentration camp when Jews were killed; and were involved in guarding and escorting Latvians imprisoned at the Salaspils concentration camp where prisoners were dehumanized, murdered and worked to death.

The document goes on to say that given the weight of documentary evidence and testimony of former comrades in arms, three of whom identified Kalejs from a photo spread, Kalejs' denial of involvement in war crimes is not credible. It points out numerous inconsistencies in his testimony and, in effect, accuses him of lying.

In one example, the document recounts how in 1984 Kalejs left the United States in anticipation of the start of legal proceedings to deport him. "When he returned in 1985, Kalejs went to Florida and registered at a hotel on Treasure Island under a false name (C. Michaelson). Kalejs had documents in his car in the false name and he failed to report to Immigration and Naturalization officials."

The document goes on to note that "at this inquiry [in Toronto], Kalejs described how it was his sister, Olga Michaelson, who had registered at the motel on Treasure Island as she was on vacation. Kalejs allegedly did not register at the hotel but stayed in Michaelson's room and this erroneously led the police to believe he had registered under [another name] and that he had assumed a false identity to escape apprehension."

Kalejs also told the Toronto inquiry that his sister died some time between his stay at the motel and his April 1985 U.S. bail hearing.

However, "on March 1, 1984, under oath, Kalejs testified that his sister Olga had died the previous year. In other words, Kalejs' evidence given at a time when he had no cause to lie, was that Olga Kalejs Michaelson died in 1983, not in 1985. Kalejs later stated his sister was still working at that time and she was on vacation when they met at the Treasure Island motel. When confronted with this inconsistency, Kalejs admitted his sister died before 1985 and he then stated it was not his sister who was staying at the motel but a non-relative — the step-daughter of his deceased sister by her second marriage."

Another inconsistency pointed out by Crown lawyers Donald MacIntosh and Bonnie Boucher was Kalejs' claim that he came to Canada partly to gather evidence to reopen his U.S. case, but that he had not yet attempted to do so.

"Contrary to the evidence presented by Kalejs at this inquiry, in 1992 Kalejs applied to the Federal Court of Appeal, 6th Circuit, to reopen his immigration case...The Court dismissed that application," the document notes.

A significant segment of the Justice Department's document addresses Kalejs' attack on evidence gathered in the former Soviet Union and his introduction into evidence of a videotape prepared by the Schiller Institute in which the case of John Demjanjuk was discussed. (Demjanjuk was extradited from the United States to Israel where he stood trial as Ivan the Terrible, a guard at Treblinka. He was found guilty at trial, but the Israeli Supreme Court later cleared him of the charges.)

The Schiller Institute, the Justice Department lawyers point out, was created by Lyndon LaRouche and his wife as part of "the LaRouche political cult...LaRouche espouses an extremism that defies categorization but which encompasses a virulent anti-Semitism...and paranoia." A U.S. court found that the LaRouche group "have linked prominent Jews and Jewish organizations both in this country and abroad with the rise of Hitler, Nazis and fascism, the international drug trade and a myriad of purported conspiracies..."

The document goes on to address allegations contained in the tape, including the claim that documents from the Soviet Union have been forged, saying in no war crime case yet have such documents been found to be false. It also notes that Kalejs did not request to have the documents in his case examined independently.

The Kalejs case is due to reconvene on Jan. 20 when additional oral arguments will be presented.

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Greater Toronto Area

Davis to help update Immigration Act

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The federal government has tapped a former national executive director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) to overhaul the Immigration Act.

Susan Davis and two other members of the review committee have until Dec. 31, 1997 to recommend changes to the act, which many immigration advocates have described as a mess.

The committee's mandate is to simplify and streamline the rules, Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard said recently. She called the current act complicated and lacking in coherence.

The federal statute has been amended 30 times since it was proclaimed in 1978.

The committee will also look at ministerial discretion, which is used to overturn previous decisions in an immigration or refugee case — usually for those deemed otherwise inadmissible to enter Canada.

Davis told *The CJN* the task force is bound to touch on another controversial area — refugees.

This is not the first time Ottawa has tapped Davis to review immigration rules. In 1994, she and Toronto immigration lawyer Lorne Waldman authored a report harshly critical of the government's policy on appeals for unsuccessful refugee claimants.

Entitled *The Quality of Mercy*, the report said federal rules "have failed miserably" and it slammed Canada's policy for its "inhumanity and financial waste."

The report spurred then immigration minister Sergio Marchi to change the rules on refugee claim appeals.

This time, Davis and her fellow committee members have a much wider mandate to revamp all the legislation. "The list is inexhaustible. We will be examining virtually every aspect of the act," she said.

Immigration has always been central to the Jewish community, Davis pointed out. "We are an immigrant community. So every issue raised [by the committee] will be of some import [to Jews].

"We look at the Immigration Act as a reflection of how we treat the stranger. Does it reflect our values?"

Davis said there is concern among Jewish immigration workers that Ottawa is not paying enough attention to family reunification.

The minister said that next year, the Liberals will hold the line on overall immigration levels at between 195,000 and 220,000 — the same as in 1996 and down from the roughly 300,000 a year promised in the red book of government policies.

Robillard said Ottawa is not raising the number of immigrants for fear of "a social backlash."

JIAS expressed concern at that, saying the government was caving in to public canards about immigrants.

Davis says her work will be apolitical. "We're going to be looking at whether the act meets its own objectives," she said.

Economic refugees unnecessary: Crispo

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – John Crispo, professor of political economy at the University of Toronto, and Mendel Green, immigration lawyer, recently faced off in a lively debate on immigration at the Beth Sholom Synagogue on Eglinton Ave. W.

Asserting that immigrants coming to Canada in recent decades have been of diminished benefit, Crispo said that Canadian citizenship is a privilege, not a right, and should be granted using a point system "solely on our needs, not anyone else's."

"I'm getting a little sick and tired of people who come here to be hyphenated Canadians," he said. "I don't mind if they teach their children about what they believe and what they stand for, but I don't believe that public funds should be spent on multiculturalism."

Crispo argued that Canada should accept no economic refugees and only its "fair share" of political refugees. "We can't take all the world's refugees; there are hundreds of millions of them," he said.

As well, he cited statistics alleging that one-sixth of all welfare payments made in Canada go to immigrants who have been abandoned by their sponsors.

"If I were in charge, I'd send them right back, and I'd send the sponsors back too, for misleading us."

The economics professor, who writes occasional newspaper columns on immigration and other matters, said that Canada should take a hard line on deporting undesirables and questioned the present policy of giving full legal rights to "anybody who lands on our shores by whatever means."

"I feel strongly about this country. I love it dearly and I want a rich diversity of people here," he said. "I'm not a racist."

Green defended the role of immigrants in building Canada and in strengthening our economy, and noted that business-class immigrants, especially those from Hong Kong have brought wealth to Canada. And he pointed out that, contrary to what Crispo had claimed, a point system for immigrants is rigorously applied, and immigration levels are set annually, "depending on the state of the economy and market needs."

He also noted that Canada only takes in roughly 26,000 political refugees each year.

Immigrants are often better educated than, and are employed and self-employed at the same rates as Canadians, Green said. Immigrants have revitalized urban neighborhoods, and have enhanced our ability to do business with Pacific rim and other countries, he added.

He acknowledged that some sponsored immigrants have been abandoned, saying, "In this recession, a small percentage of people have defaulted. But when you default, you can never sponsor again."

Green said that Canadians of an earlier era barred shiploads of Jews from entering the country, as well as a boatload of Sikhs who were sent back to India and later killed. Then he criticized Crispo for his supposedly uneven grasp of Canada's immigration system.

"Be careful," Green warned. "There are racists out there who will use your words improperly."

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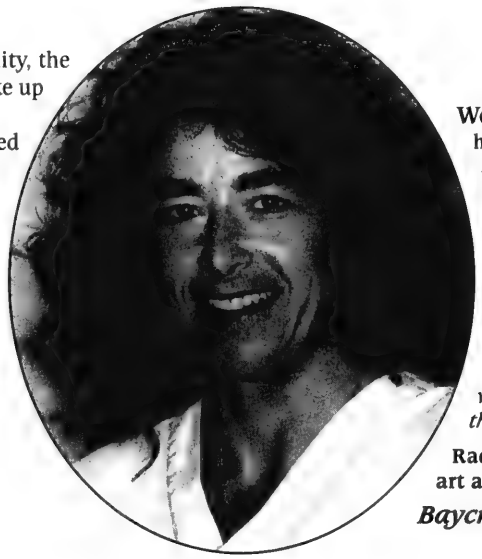

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Political acrimony in Israel is nothing new, Emunah told

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — People in the Diaspora shouldn't focus on the seeming acrimony of Israeli politics, according to Moshe Schwartz, an acting assistant district attorney in the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office.

"Insulting each other has always been a part of Israeli politics," he said, citing as an example David Ben-Gurion's referring to Menachem Begin only as "the Knesset member on the left of," rather than by name.

Schwartz previously worked for the Consulate General of Israel, and has ghostwritten for Ambassador Colette Avital and Maj.-Gen. Uzi Narkiss.

He was speaking at an Emunah dinner honoring his grandparents, Evelyn and Murray Hoffman. The event was held at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

There is a deep division in Israel between secular Zionists and the mainly central Orthodox, Likud supporters, Schwartz said.

After the 1973 war, Schwartz said, the Israeli population lost faith in the ability of the government to protect them, and so turned to the Likud party.

Since then, there has been a seesawing back and forth between Labor and Likud, as people became more disillusioned with each successive government's inability to handle the peace process.

The Orthodox are now the true Zionists, Schwartz said, citing a poll which showed that 99 percent of the modern Orthodox population, the ones who serve in the army, were anxious to serve in combat units, while fully 50 percent of the non-Orthodox did not want to. As well, he said, 40 percent of the officers in the Israeli army are Orthodox, even though they constitute only 10 percent of the military population.

The Orthodox voted for Benjamin Netanyahu in the last election, Schwartz said, "not because he is a poster boy for Torah values," but because he understands that "Jews have to live in Israel because it is ours," in contrast to former prime minister Shimon Peres, who believes, he said, in a state that just happens to have Jews in it.

The Israeli electorate is a sophisticated one, he said, with one of the highest percentages of voters, newspaper readers and army veterans. "They understand security issues, and they understand the rest of the world."

Funds raised for the dinner were used to build a new recreation hall at Neve Michael, a childrens' village in Pardess Chana. Originally built to house orphans brought to Israel by youth aliyah, it now serves mainly youngsters from troubled homes.

The Hoffmans were praised by son Dr. Samuel Silverberg and sons-in-law Dr. William Schwartz and Muttie Stein. Dinner chair was Shoshana Kurtz. Entertainment was by Marvin Rosenshein.

Evelyn Hoffman responded to the honors, saying that all those present were deserving of being honored, because of their contributions to the cause of Emunah and especially of Neve Michael.

Peter Bronfman to get medal posthumously

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Peter Bronfman, 67, a gentle and modest member of a well known Canadian Jewish family, died at his home in Toronto recently after a battle with cancer.

The funeral took place Dec. 1 at Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel.

Bronfman died one day before he was to be presented with the Order of Canada by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

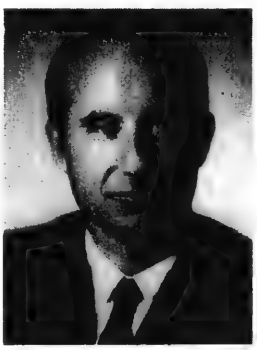
Bronfman' s family will be invited to take part in an investiture ceremony in Ottawa next year.

The citation accompanying the Order of Canada pays tribute to Bronfman's patronage of the arts, charities, hospitals and universities in Montreal and Toronto.

It says his focus on smaller agencies has ensured the survival of a wide range of services for the homeless, inner-city children and teenage mothers.

Peter Frederick Bronfman was born in Montreal in 1929, a son of Allan Bronfman and nephew of Samuel Bronfman, owner of the Seagram Company. He attended the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, N.J., and received a bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1952.

For more than 40 years, with his older brother Edward, he controlled the Edper Group which at one time



Peter Bronfman [File photo]

or another included some of Canada's largest and best known corporations. Its annual revenues today exceed $18 billion.

Bronfman and his brother, Edward, were forced to sell their block of shares in Seagram's for some $15 million to their Montreal-based cousins in the 1960s. Peter and Edward were sometimes referred to as the "poor cousins" of the family that ran the Seagram empire. .

Over the years he became more and more involved in Jewish communal activities and at one time served as president of Montreal's Jewish General Hospital.

A man who liked to keep out of the public eye, Bronfman was known to show up at glitzy Toronto affairs, tieless, wearing a cardigan..

One of his great loves was hockey. He and his brother owned the Montreal Canadiens from 1971 to 1978, years in which the team won the Stanley Cup four times. He often visited players after games but never interfered in the running of the team.

Surviving are his third wife, Lynda; his children Linda, Bruce and Brenda, as well as their mother and his first wife, Diane Bronfman, and six grandchildren, Marissa, Michael, Ryan, Daniel, Mallorie and Joshua. He also leaves his brother Edward, and his second wife, the former Theodora Reitsma.

The Canadian Jewish news

will not publish the issue of Dec. 26

Benefits of free trade discussed

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two and a half years ago, entrepreneur Freddy Faust met with counterparts from Israel involved in the home fashion and textiles business. With free trade on his mind and having seen the high quality of some Israeli merchandise, Faust believed the time was ripe to begin introducing Israeli fabrics and bed linens to the Canadian market.

As an owner of Revelle Home Fashions, Faust forged close business ties with Israeli counterparts and introduced the Israeli products to Canada under the Revelle name. Since then, they've become popular items on the Canadian scene. Faust believes that with the implementation of Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) and the resulting lower tariffs, prices will come down and Israeli products will continue to be popular.

Faust presented his optimistic evaluation of the potential for Canada-Israel trade at a recent dinnertime meeting of the international law section of the Canadian Bar Association — Ontario. He was preceded by Yael Varsano-Barzillay, Israeli trade commissioner and economic counsel.

Varsano-Barzillay described the tremendous strides taken by Israel's economy in recent years, including a 5.8 percent average annual growth over the last five. In 1995, Israel's gross domestic product reached $87 billion (US) and the country now enjoys a per capita income level of $15,650 US, comparable to Spain and greater than Ireland. Unemployment has dropped to 6.3 percent for 1995, down from 12 percent in 1992, she noted.

In recent years, Israel has been able to successfully integrate its highly skilled and educated work force, develop an advanced infrastructure in communications, transportation and banking, and increase its trade in an unprecedented manner, Varsano-Barzillay said.

Despite the country's relatively small size and correspondingly small domestic market, Israel imports $37 billion US in goods and services, she said.

"Israel's trade continues to grow in an unprecedented manner in the emerging and booming markets in Asia and Latin America," she added.

On the domestic front, the government of Israel is introducing a privatization policy in which state-owned companies such as El Al Israel Airlines, Israel Aircraft Industries, a portion of Bezeq (the state telephone company) and Mekorot (Israel's water works) will be sold off, she said.

These factors, combined with the removal of non-tariff barriers and the negotiation of free trade agreements with the United States, the European Union and with several Eastern European countries has allowed the duty-free flow of Israeli goods, boosting the Israeli economy, she said.

The Israeli economy has become so hot that in the past year, multinational firms have begun acquiring Israeli businesses or entering into joint ventures with private companies, she added.

Under CIFTA, tariffs will be removed from industrial products, leaving only a few exceptions. Varsano-Barzillay explained the rules regarding origin of goods, based on the "tariff shift" model, noting that only those goods considered to originate in the participating countries can enter free of duties.

Lawyer Ed Morgan, who has clients who do business in Israel, pointed out that CIFTA was modelled on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), even though it was designed to apply to three countries.

He said the rules of origin and the dispute resolution mechanism are two of CIFTA's key elements and noted that despite Israel's trade agreements with the United States and the European Union, Israel is still not being used by either of those two bodies as a tariff-free "bridge" to the other. The rules of origin require some value be added to the product in Israel, he suggested.

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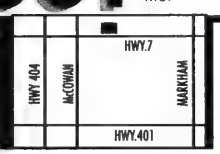

Editorials and Letters

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Applying the lessons

The Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) had its origins in Helsinki more than two decades ago during the first tentative days of detente, when the Cold War was still being waged, and proxy states still paid in blood the price of the conflicts they fought for their benefactors.

At the time, some political observers stated that the creation of the OSCE was the *quid* demanded by the West for agreeing to the hegemonic *quo* imposed by the East.

Looking back, it seems hardly relevant now. The Cold War has ended. Proxy states no longer fight their arms suppliers' wars. There is far greater security and a great deal more cooperation between eastern and western Europe today than there has ever been before in this century. As history ultimately proved, the weight of the iron in the totalitarian curtain caused its own collapse, destroyed the economy and made the people unwilling to carry the burden across their necks any longer.

Last week Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu participated in the two-day summit meeting of the OSCE in Lisbon, Portugal. Taking advantage of the occasion and of the opportunity to address leaders from the 54 nations assembled, he reminded his audience that the OSCE forged ahead despite the many contradictions that existed in the geopolitically competitive, even hostile, East-West superpower structure.

He spoke about the need to learn from the founding of the OSCE 21 years ago and apply the lessons to the modern day search for security and cooperation in the Middle East. Specifically, the prime minister mentioned three lessons.

"The first lesson the Middle East can learn from the Helsinki process is that diplomacy must be based on agreed fundamental norms. The most important of these is the absolute commitment of all parties to refrain from the threat or use of force in the resolution of political differences.

"The second lesson of Helsinki is that the broader the peace, the broader the security achieved. For peace and security to become a fact in Europe it had to reach from the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains...For a solid, comprehensive security to prevail in the Middle East, our quest for peace must cover the entire region from Morocco to the Gulf.

"The third lesson of Helsinki is that contact between former adversaries must remain constant...Above all the parties must understand that once a decision for peace is made, all other options for settling differences must be discarded."

The prime minister's message from the European podium came at a most appropriate time. Many political commentators have recently observed that the unceasing criticism directed at Israel from the Arabs over the past few weeks seems to be a "well-orchestrated campaign," which in the words of Uri Elitzur of *Yediot Aharanot*, "are deliberately and cynically regressing the situation to the brink of war. Arafat extends the Hebron crisis; Assad moves troops and releases reports of gas weapons. Mubarak vilifies and mongers a verbal war. King Hussein expresses deep concern. Each according to his strength walks exactly to the brink and no more."

His message was an important one emphasizing that peace is found as much in the process as in the result. If there is to be any progress in the search for peace, carping about disagreements must eventually yield to trying to resolve them.

As the prime minister himself noted, "A peace built on norms, comprehensiveness and constant dialogue may not lead to instant peace, but it has the best chance of ensuring...the kind of peace that our children will celebrate every day of their lives."

If the students are willing, the lessons should not be too hard to apply.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Knowledge is like the sun; it dissipates darkness."
Talmud, Baba Batra

SYRIA IS READY TO RE-OPEN TALKS WITH ISRAEL!
IT IS?
SYRIA CLAIMS THAT THE LAST ISRAELI GOV'T SIGNED A SUICIDE NOTE.
AND?
... AND IT WANTS THIS ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO...
HONOR THE COMMITMENT!

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 14, 1956 Golda Meir made her first official visit to Ottawa as the Foreign Minister of Israel.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Congress already acting on deficits

The From the editor's desk column, "Adapting to deficit reduction policies" (*CJN*, Nov. 28), reported that Morris Zbar of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto urged federations to get into the business of "government relations, coalition-building, advocacy and social policy planning." Zbar's call, it was stated, grew specifically out of the Ontario experience of severe budget cuts by the provincial government.

It is precisely this experience in Ontario, however, which back in November 1995 prompted the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region and Toronto's federation jointly to address the impact of provincial government policies which sought to rationalize expenditures and infrastructure in pursuit of deficit reduction. The division of labor was clear: Congress organized an ethnic and faith communities' coalition and acted as the liaison to government while the federation analyzed the impact of the cuts on the Jewish community and worked with the Jewish communal agencies. Both Congress and the federation were integrally involved in the drafting of a consensual coalition position paper for presentation to government.

One is left wondering, therefore, why it is at all necessary in Canada for federations to take on functions on behalf of the Jewish community which Canadian Jewish Congress, both nationally and regionally, effectively has been exercising for decades.

Manuel Prutschi
Executive Director
Canadian Jewish Congress
Ontario Region

The good work that honorees do

In his protracted diabtribe insulting individuals who accept to be honored on behalf of communal fundraising organizations, Shel Krakofsky is slapping the face that feeds. Having worked in the community for over 16 years with thousands of dedicated volunteers, I have only respect and admiration for those who willingly give their name, their time and their money for the communal good.

Without them the poor would be poorer, the sick would be sicker and the elderly more isolated and alone than ever. I notice that Krakofsky is actually a physician in Komoka, Ont. Well, I don't know about your town, but in Montreal, honorees augment health institution coffers to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

This money buys much needed and expensive medical equipment, spruces up hospital waiting rooms for cancer patients, shelters abused mothers and their children, subsidizes Jewish education and ensures quality services and health-care programs for all. These honorees also raise money for similar good works in Israel and anywhere that individuals need a helping hand.

Sherry Stein
Vancouver

Reading Hebron an offensive exercise

Jason Sherman recently appeared on CBC's *The Lead*, and stated that although he has never been to Israel, this should not disqualify him from expressing his views on the relationship between Arabs and Jews there, nor even from writing a play on the subject. This he has done in *Reading Hebron.*

By the same logic, one does not have to see Sherman's play to know that it is more a commentary on the playwright's spoiled upbringing on the golden-paved streets of Toronto than on the situation in the Middle East. Not only does it speak to his lack of understanding of issues of personal responsibility and sacrifice, the historical record and basic notions of Judaism, it also comments (in the most ironic fashion) on that peculiarly Jewish penchant for self-flagellation and the equally regrettable "What will the gentiles think?" attitude of too many Jews who have drifted too far from their heritage.

If Sherman requires assistance in understanding the absurdity of questioning his own responsibility for Baruch Goldstein's murderous actions, I would suggest that he ask some of his fellow Canadians how many of them assume responsibility for Paul Bernardo, Carla Homolka et al.; indeed I would encourage him to consider his *own* responsibility in these cases. And then let him ask if it is worthy of a play.

Lorne Katz
Toronto

Name of metro station just a blip

After the TV news showed a man calling for the changing of the name of Lionel Groulx metro station, the radio talk shows were clamoring away the next day, as callers supported or rejected the idea.

We have enough to worry about with what's going on now in the world without digging up past conflicts that will only divide us. None of us were angels then, neither are we now. Besides it would be too expensive and impractical to change all the street signs and monuments in Montreal and in the whole world that were named after men, some of whom, I'm sure, weren't too crazy about Jews and other people.

We have to realize that we are very lucky we have made as much progress in human relations as we have since those crazy days of long ago. I think it will take much more to fight racism and other present day ills than fighting about changing the name of a Metro station.

Jack Ravinsky
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Rabbi David Buzaglo: great poet and scholar

By CANTOR AVIV OUANOUNOU

Music and liturgy have been a part of Jewish worship since we started to pray.

The book of Exodus beautifully records the exultant song that Moses and the Israelites sang in praise of G-d after they crossed the Red Sea. Music was used to worship G-d by the *Levi'im* in the Beit Hamiskdash (the Holy Temple) and by King David in his book of Tehilim (Psalms).

In our days, when we think of serving G-d through music, we may think of the synagogue where our cantors lead us in music and prayers. Moroccan Jewry is particularly famous for its rich liturgical music that includes many prayers and *piutim* (poems) from the book of *Shir Yedidou*, many of which were composed by great medieval and Middle Age poets.

Rabbi David Buzaglo, one of the greatest poets and composers of our time, was born in 1903 in Setat, a village near Rabat, the Moroccan capital. He was a member of the well-known Buzaglo family, whose lineage included many great rabbis and scholars.

From an early age it was evident that David Buzaglo had unusual attributes. While other children were busy with games, David was intent on the study of the Torah. He studied in various Torah institutions in Casablanca and the breadth of his knowledge became well known to all the rabbis in the city at that time. The rapidity of his learning and his ability to concentrate for extended periods was particularly noteworthy.

He studied the Talmud and most of the commentaries. Wherever a question in the Gemara arose in any rabbinical institution in Casablanca, students would approach David, who was still a child, for the answer. But he became particularly famous for his *kol arev* (beautiful voice) and his ability to learn difficult pieces of music in a very short time. He had a phenomenal memory and everything he learned literally "lived in his mind." He studied liturgy with a prominent Moroccan rabbi and poet named Hacham Haim Benatar from Marakesh.

In a short time he learned all the *piyutim* in *Shir Yedidout* (about 550), and had most of them memorized. Furthermore, he was a master in Arabic music, particularly the Andalousian music (composed of 11 different complex modulations) which was known to only a selsect few Arab composers in North Africa.

In addition to his mastery of musical liturgy, Rabbi Buzaglo was known as one of the first Hebrew teachers in Morocco at the beginning of the 20th century. In 1920, he was the secretary of Chevrat David Hamelech, an organization whose goal was to revive and strengthen the Hebrew language in Morocco. Until he lost his sight in 1949, he taught *dikduk* (Hebrew grammar), Hebrew language and Judaic studies at Chevrat David Hamelech schools and at the schools of Em Habanim.

He also composed hundreds of songs in Hebrew, Arabic and Jeudou-Arabic, in which he used tunes from the rich Andalusian music which he cherished and loved. The subject of these *piyutim* varied from holy songs about *galut* (exile) and *geulah* (redemption) to more modern ones that dealt with Yisrael and the unity of Jerusalem after the Six Day War of 1967. He wrote about *emunah* (faith), stressing the importance of complete and ultimate faith in HaShem, and of his prayers for Mashiach. The coming of the Mashiach was the central hope of his life and could be heard in all his songs.

The Rabbi at one of his readings.

Listening to his crying voice reciting the *kinot* (lamentations) of Tisha b'Av was a very emotional experience. When he was reading the lamentations of the destruction of the Temple, his voice shook with grief.

He also wrote many poems touching on personal tragedies of his life and the lives of the Jews of Morocco. One such example is the famous *ksida* (a form of poetry in the Moroccan liturgy) about the earthquake that shook the city Agadir in 1960, where more than 5,000 people lost their lives.

The collection of Moroccan *piyutim* called in Hebrew, *Shirat Habakashot*, was significantly influenced by Rabbi Buzaglo. Devout Moroccan Jews have the custom of waking up early in the morning on the Shabbatot between Sukkot and Pesach, and gathering in the synagogues to sing the *piyutim* of *Shirat Habakashot*. The *piyutim* are organized into chapters according to the weekly Torah portions. Preceding the *piyutim* is Tikun Chatzot, a prayer recited in memory of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Rabbi Buzaglo mastered all of the beautiful songs of the *paytanim* (liturgical poets) and he regularly functioned as the *mekadem* (the *paytan* who led the group).

His beautiful voice and his exceptional knowledge of traditional Moroccan music, both Jewish and Muslim, made Rabbi Buzgalo a legend among the people of Morocco. He often sang on Moroccan national radio and performed for royalty. He gained appreciation and followers from all levels of the population, both Jews and Muslims. Hundreds of people used to wake up early on Saturdays to find a seat close to Rabbi Buzaglo in the synagogue, which was always full.

Particularly noteworthy was his officiating as the chazzan on the Yamim Noraim (the High Holy Days), when his prayers brought tears to the eyes of many of the congregants and he brought special warmth to the service. It was a great sight to see Rabbi Buzaglo wearing his white *gelaba* (a tradtional moroccan garment), the trembling of the Day of Judgment clearly on his face. He was instrumental in the development of many of the tunes in the High Holy Day machzor used in Sephardi synagogues.

In time, Rabbi Buzaglo's reputation as a man devoted to the poor spread and he was entrusted with money for charities to aid needy families, a role he always undertook modestly and without seeking recognition.

In the 1950s and '60s, wave after wave of North African Jews moved to Eretz Israel. Rabbi Buzaglo also decided to fulfil his dream to settle in Israel. In 1965, he emigrated to Israel and lived in Kiryat Yam.

The news of his arrival in Israel spread and leaders of many communities gathered to greet him and welcome him to the Holy Land.

In Israel he continued his mission in teaching *Shir Yedidout* to the next generation, and continued to compose songs that were quickly adapted by many of his students, who saw him as the highest (and only) authority when questions arose on any subject.

Shortly after his arrival in Israel, Rabbi Buzaglo became very ill, but never abandoned chazzanut or the teaching of the *piyutim*. His memory was clear until the last moments of his life.

A story told by his followers is a testament to the rabbi's strength of mind during his final moments. It is customary in the Moroccan tradition to read the prophecy of Yechezkel on the death bed of a great rabbi. The head of the *chevra kadisha* who was reading the passage skipped one verse. Rabbi David signalled the omission and the correction was made right away.

As the bitter news spread that the great Rabbi Buzaglo had passed away, grief and sorrow poured into every part of the world where faithful *talmidim* (students) and *maaritzim* (followers) were found. That Friday morning, erev Shabbat Parshat Reeh, thousands of people from all over Israel and the world gathered to pay their last respects as Rabbi David Buzgalo returned to his Maker, a crystal clear soul without blemish, leaving behind hundreds of students.

Cantor Ouanounou is the chazzan of Magen David Sephardic Congregation in Toronto.

עִם נֶאֱמָנַי

עִם נֶאֱמָנַי, זֶרַע אֱמוּנַי
הוֹדוּ לַה', כִּי גָבַר חַסְדּוֹ.

פִּימִי מַתְחָיָה, וְקַן יְדִידְיָה,
רַב עֲלִילְיָה, פָּקַד צֹאן יָדוֹ.

פָּנָיו חֲנִיכָיו, יוֹצֵא יְרִיכָיו,
הָלְכוּ בְדַרְכָיו, לָכְשׁוּ אֶת מִדּוֹ.

עַם יָנֵן סִגִּיף, אֶת צִיּוֹן הִתְקִיף,
וַה' הִשְׁקָף, מִשְׁמֵי הוֹדוֹ.

גִּבּוֹרִים נָקְלוּ, וּטְמֵאִים חָדְלוּ,
וְגַאִים שָׁפְלוּ, הָרַב עִם עָבְדּוֹ.

חֲלָשִׁים נָאֲחוּ, צַדִּיקִים צָלְחוּ,
וּטְהוֹרִים שָׁמְחוּ, אִישׁ וּמַחֲמַדּוֹ.

פָּאוּ לְמַקְדָּשׁ, שָׁרוּ שִׁיר חָדָשׁ,
לְאֵל הַנִּקְדָּשׁ, גָּדוֹל כְּבוֹדוֹ.

וּטְהוֹר שָׁמָיִם שָׁאוּ יְוָנִים,
וּקְהַל מְהָנִים, חֵשׁ לְהַקְדּוֹ.

וּבְחִפּוּשׁ יַחַד, מָצְאוּ פָּךְ נִכְחַד,
רַק לַיְלָה אֶחָד, סַפָּק לְבַדּוֹ.

(This poem written by Rabbi Buzaglo is called My Faithful People. *It celebrates Chanukah. Like most of the paytan's poetry, it contains quickly paced rhymes, an elegant lyrical pace and strong imagery. The title's translation is by* The CJN.*)*

Opinions

Middle East is an unstable region

The "new Middle East," if it develops in the future, will depend as much on internal developments in the Arab countries as it will on their relations with Israel. Indeed, for those Arab countries that have embarked on a course of political dialogue with Israel, the decision was part of an effort to cope with a deteriorating internal situation. For Egypt, for example, the state of war had to be terminated in order to attract capital, foreign aid and entrepreneurs. The price of conflict had become unacceptable in terms of the domestic situation.

By Shira Herzog

Economic data in the Middle East points to a gloomy future for Arab societies. The forecast for the next decade is for 0.4 percent per capita growth annually. Between 1970 and 1990, wages rose by six percent on average, compared to 150 percent in East Asia. In terms of population growth, the Muslim East will double itself within 25 years. By the year 2025, the region will have 600 million people, six times the population of 1948, when the State of Israel was established.

Arab intellectuals and social scientists are debating this picture of weakness intensely. Some observers note that since the great debate of the '40s and early '50s, following the great defeat in the 1948 war, the current soul-searching for causes and remedies is the most agonizing experienced in Arab society.

Under the early military socialist regimes, best exemplified by President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Arabs experienced rising expectations. Their expectations were lowered under the technocratic regimes of the '70s. When these regimes failed to produce a solution, expectations declined even further.

Today, the most dynamic sector in Arab societies is the new class of entrepreneurs and speculators. While these "new Arabs" are at the forefront of the push for peace with Israel as part of their general strategy to integrate into the global economy, they have a negative impact on other sectors in Arab countries. Governments' huge bureaucracies are being challenged, and the attendant decline in salaries causes resentment. The middle classes and the intelligentsia in these societies are suffering as the new speculators become wealthy, thereby providing fertile ground for the Islamic movement. Since none of the Arab regimes has been able to embark on significant profound economic reforms, the new entrepreneurial class can succeed even as the circle of poverty widens — especially in urban centres. In turn, the old military and security elites are protecting their power bases.

For reforms to have real impact in Arab societies, huge sums of money are required for infrastructure development and education. Some estimates put these amounts at $1,000 billion. Funds of this magnitude are not available from regional or foreign sources, and the huge Arab labor force has nowhere to turn for work, while jobs internally are simply not there. Egypt alone needs 750,000 new jobs annually. For the new Arab entrepreneurs to succeed in making their case for peace, they have to succeed at home by displaying a broader social responsibility than they have demonstrated hitherto.

Given the magnitude of these problems, there is virtually nothing that Israel can do to improve the lot of Arab societies. With a GDP larger than that of its neighbors combined, increased trade and a flow of goods and services can do little but fuel the existing resentment of Israel's economic power. The historic view of Israel as a tool of the West has been translated into a view of Israel as a dominant economic superpower seeking to expand its sphere of influence in the region. Today, most Israeli economic analysts acknowledge that the benefit of peace will be not in the expanding circle of trade with Arab countries, but with the opening up of new international markets that were closed during the years of hostility. Most of these benefits are already evident as a result of the preliminary progress with the Palestinians. The concern of the Israeli business community, as the pace of talks has slowed down, is that these new markets and opportunities may be jeopardized.

An Arab writer, George Kharam, recently wrote that the region runs the risk of ending up with "peace without peace." Ironically, that is also the fear of many Israelis. Unfortunately, in the Middle East, peace between Arabs and Isralis is not a guarantee of stability and prosperity. The question is the price of the alternative for both Israelis and Arabs. Both sides pay a price — albeit different — for sustaining the conflict. As they face their options, they must weigh the relative costs of conflict and peace, and choose their course.

The gambling bug

I recently spent a few days in Detroit and, of course, read the local newspaper. I noticed that a fair amount of space was given to the gambling casinos that were about to locate themselves there, and the public discussion occupied itself primarily with the location rather than with the desirability of having a gambling institution in the city's midst.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

That gave me the opportunity of looking up figures about American gambling and I found that in 1996 the citizens of that great country will spend more on legal wagers than they will spend on groceries to feed themselves and their families. This represents a 3,000 percent increase in gambling expenditures in the last 20 years. I do not have access to the Canadian figures, but I suspect that our percentage is no less — and possibly even more. The recent publicity surrounding the opening of a gambling casino at Rama, Ont., was directed even at communities located 100 kilometres or more from the new casino.

Students of the social implications of gambling are agreed that, besides addicted gamblers (about two percent), wagering at casinos, horse races and lottery wickets is done by ordinary people — and most of them are from a stratum of society that can ill afford to live on the hope of winning when there is hardly enough cash to buy the groceries.

In consequence, I have always been opposed to community-run affairs that prey on the gambling instincts of the masses, and I say this knowing full well that there are many religious institutions in North America who obtain a significant portion of their income from such activities. (Only when Native people — themselves among the poorest elements of society — are the beneficiaries, am I inclined to look the other way.)

Lest you get the idea that gambling is something that is not terribly prevalent amongst Jews, think again. It has been a part of our society from its very beginning. Open your Bible and look at Chapter 14 of the Book of Judges, and you will find that already Samson engaged in betting. If you have an Encyclopedia Judaica at home, open it up to the seventh volume and look under "Gambling." In turn, the article will open your eyes. For instance, you will read of old rules that deal with professional gamblers — the Mishnah disqualifies them from giving testimony. Jewish tradition has generally looked askance at betting, though occasionally, as on Purim or Chanukah, the strictures against games of chance were let down. But on the whole both in the Jewish ethical literature and in today's Israeli law, gambling is discouraged and considered not to be in keeping with the spirit of our faith.

Part of our negative attitute has been the recognition that a portion of society — those who could least afford to lose money — are usually the ones who hope that gambling will improve their lot. Since the chances are against them, they will likely be further impoverished. This knowledge is no secret, but communities blithely go ahead and deal with their deficits in a manner that helps one segment of society and hurts another. To be sure, raising one's voice against communal lotteries is like shouting into the wind. But that does not relieve me from shouting.

Supreme Court decision regrettable

The recent 7-2 decision of the Canadian Supreme Court, which legitimated the Ontario government's policy of funding Roman Catholic schools but not those of any other religious denomination, is unfortunate. From the perspective of this non-lawyer, the two-part reasoning summarized in news accounts of the judgment seems unusually narrow and flawed. One part seems to rest on an interpretation of Section 93 of the Constitution, which guarantees funding to Ontario Catholic schools. This is seen as a specific "historical compromise," and not as a "guarantee of fundamental freedoms." The judgment then argues against extending the original Catholic model to other groups using Section 2(a) guaranteeing of freedom of religion, because that would suggest that one section of the Constitution is "violative" of the other.

By Morton Weinfeld

If this reasoning becomes commonplace, the notion of an evolving Constitution would disappear, and moral perspectives common in 1867, or earlier, would trump the Charter of Rights passed in 1982. Strict constructionists — the Karaites of legal philosophy — would be delighted. It also suggests ominously that reasons of state or political expediency — like the "historical compromise" needed to push through Confederation in 1867 — might also be used to justify restrictions on fundamental rights and freedoms.

The claim here that one section of the Constitution cannot be "violative" of another is a linguistic red herring, as well as verbal overkill. The rights of Ontario Catholics are in no way limited by extending school funding to other groups. Moreover, the Constitution of Canada, which includes the Charter, is full of sections which could very well, in specific cases, contradict or "violate" one another. These tensions and opposing thrusts are not flaws in the Constitution, they are intrinsic to it. Evolving notions of minority rights require Constitutional interpretation by the Supreme Court.

Courts always are evaluating and determining the limits or extensions of various rights. Imagine an American Supreme Court legitimating continuing slavery, or racial discrimination by some states, by citing the original Constitution's tolerance of slavery as a needed "historical compromise."

The second part of the reasoning is equally troubling. Looking at both sections 2 and 15 (the non-discrimination clause), the court maintains that since the funding of Catholic schools, as opposed to others, is constitutionally mandated, it therefore cannot be subject to a Charter challenge. Moreover, in the view of another justice siding with the majority, denying funding for some religious schools is not the same as removing the fundamental freedom to educate children in religious schools, which remains.

But surely the notion of equal rights means the opportunity for an equal exercise of those rights. Here the state clearly penalizes groups because of their religious affiliation. In fact, the combination of Section 15 and Section 2 (and possibly Section 27 on multiculturalism) elucidates clearly the rights violations found in the current Ontario policy.

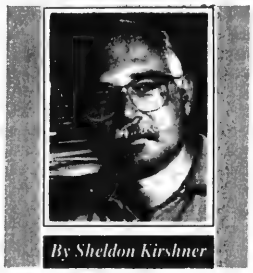
But is widening governmental support of private religious schools good public policy? The question may have more resonance in Ontario, Canada's largest and most diverse province. Six provinces offer partial funding to all variety of religious schools. There is no scientific evidence from these six provinces — or from Europe — that governmental funding of religious schools has adversely impacted on collective goals such as good citizenship, tolerance or higher educational attainment. In these six provinces the policy has clearly not led to a destruction of public education.

If all religious schools were of the ultra-religious sorts — monasteries and convents for Catholics, fundamentalist schools for Muslims and Protestants, and ultra-Orthodox yeshivot — and Canadian students were flocking to those schools, there might well be a future problem of weakened social cohesion and Canadian civic purpose. But most religious education — certainly this is true of Jews — offers a wide spectrum of educational options. Schools would have to follow provincial curricula which would preach good citizenship. Private schooling would still be costly, and most students would prefer the public system. Ontario would have little to fear.

The Kirshner File

Mining memories of Montreal

When I picked up William Weintraub's new book, *City Unique: Montreal Days and Nights in the 1940s and*



By Sheldon Kirshner

50s (McClelland & Stewart, $32.50), I expected to be transported into a familiar universe. I was not disappointed.

Weintraub, a Montreal-born journalist, has written a vivid account of a city which, in his view, reached its apogee of influence some three decades ago.

Having been raised in Montreal, and having followed its fortunes since my departure in 1973, I can attest to the worthiness of *City Unique,* a serious-minded book based on primary and secondary sources.

In writing it, Weintraub – a McGill University graduate and a former reporter for the *Gazette* – mined the memories of English and French Montrealers, immersed himself in books and old newspapers and delved into dusty archives, including those of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Public Library.

Weintraub, who grew up in the Montreal neighborhood of Verdun, credits novelist Mavis Gallant for having inspired him to write the book.

It took him 2½ years to research and write it, and now it is in bookshops across Canada.

City Unique is framed by two events – the tour of King George VI and his wife Queen Elizabeth in 1939 and the death of Quebec Premier Maurice Duplessis in 1959. "For Montreal, the Royal Tour would be the outstanding event in a year that marked the beginning of a new era," he observes. "Within four months, Canada would be at war with Germany. With the war would come an end to the Depression that had impoverished the city for almost 10 years. The year 1939 would usher in two decades of prosperity, growth and a flowering of the arts. Montreal would begin to think of itself as a city unique in the world – bilingual, cosmopolitan, exceedingly handsome and wonderfully odd."

City Unique is replete with eccentric characters like Camillien Houde, who was mayor of Montreal for 18 years; Lili St. Cyr, the femme fatale whose name was synonymous with sin; Max Shapiro, one of the founders of the Ruby Foo's restaurant; Max Wolofsky, the publisher of the *Kanader Adler;* and Irving Layton, the bohemian poet.

Weintraub, a vivid writer, evokes historic scenes effortlessly. Consider his treatment of VE Day on May 7, 1945: "...thousands headed for the corner of Peel and St. Catherine streets, the focal point of the pandemonium. The crowds there, and in other parts of the city, were so thick that cars could barely get through. People were waving flags, marching, shouting, dancing and kissing. Police moved discreetly, making sure that all the bars and taverns were closed, and that no restaurants were serving alcohol."

Weintraub, 70, the son of of a Romanian Jew who arrived in Montreal via New York at the age of 17, deals extensively with Montreal's Jewish community.

He tells us that Jews constituted the largest group of immigrants in the city, whose wealth was mainly controlled by the Anglo-Scottish elite. By 1941, Montreal was home to 64,000 Jews, three-quarters of whom once lived within a one-mile radius of Jeanne Mance and Villeneuve streets.

The poorest ones lived just east of St. Lawrence – the Main – and the somewhat more affluent ones resided in streets to the west like St. Urbain and Waverley. Outremont, by contrast, was the abode of Jews "with healthy bank accounts," while Westmount was the lair of the wealthiest members of the community.

By the late 1940s and early 1950s, increasing numbers of up-and-coming Jews had vacated the older districts, having moved to Snowdon and Côte des Neiges. More often than not, their places were taken by Jewish refugees, such as my parents, who had been displaced persons in Europe after the Holocaust. During the 1960s, Hampstead and Côte St. Luc came into vogue as popular Jewish neighborhoods.

By Weintraub's count, 14 new synagogues were built or were under construction between 1951 and 1956, all designed to accommodate the rush to newer areas.

City Unique, Weintraub's third book since *Why Rock the Boat?* and *The Underdogs,* is vitally alive with nostalgic-laden reminiscences.

He evokes the glory years of the *Kanader Adler,* the Yiddish daily which became "the mainstay of Yiddish culture in Montreal and a guiding light for immigrants trying to make their way in a bewildering new world."

The *Kanader Adler,* he adds, served another role as well. By publishing the poetry, fiction and essays of Montreal writers like Sholem Stern and Israel Rabinovitch, it put the city on the Yiddish literary map. Indeed, on the eve of World War II, Montreal ranked with Warsaw and New York as a centre of Yiddish literature.

And during those halcyon years, Montreal spawned a group of world-class Jewish poets, ranging from Leonard Cohen and Louis Dudek to A.M. Klein and Irving Layton.

Being a wide open town where illegal gambling and prostitution flourished, Montreal produced its share of disreputable, seemingly larger than life figures.

Halcyon years

The most famous was probably Harry Ship, a bookie who was the proprietor of the White House casino and the Chez Paree nightclub.

Montrealers who could afford the tab headed for Ruby Foo's, which claimed to be the finest restaurant in the country. There, amid the fragrance of Chinese food, Jewish garment manufacturers, Anglo insurance executives and French Canadian notaries mingled.

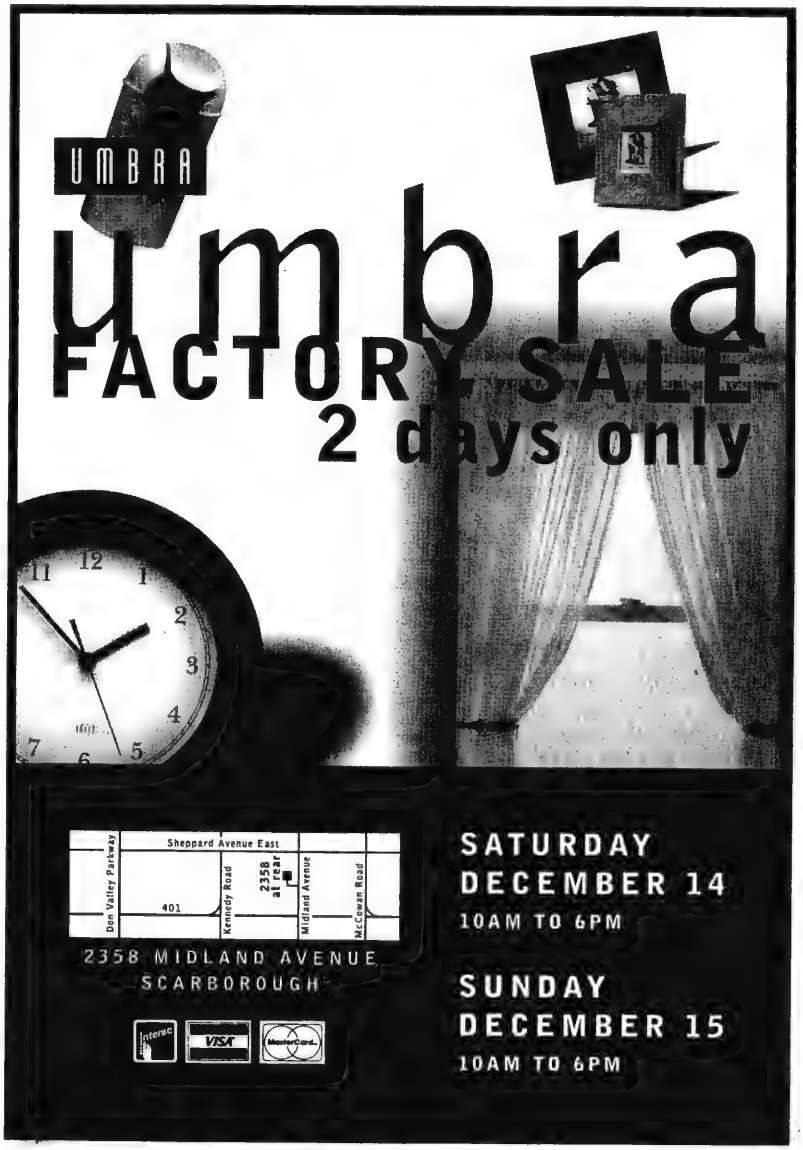
When one of the owners retired, the business was run for awhile by his two capable sons, Harold and Bernard Shapiro, who have since become president of Princeton University and principal of McGill.

Anti-Semitism was a factor during this period, and Weintraub is not oblivious to it. He recreates the heyday of Adrien Arcand, Montreal's local fuhrer, and he reminds us of a sermon delivered by a Catholic priest in Ste. Agathe – the summer resort of Montreal Jewry in the Laurentians – who advised the village to rid itself of Jews.

Weintraub also reminds us that "the literary sensation" of 1944 was *Earth and Heaven,* a novel about anti-Semitism by an unknown Montreal novelist named Gwethalyn Graham. Her book , which was published in the year Hungarian Jewry was decimated by the Nazis, sold 600,000 copies in Canada and the United States and 1.2 million copies worldwide.

By Weintraub's reckoning, Montreal has been in a state of economic decline since the 1960s. "Montreal was such a prosperous and optimistic place when Duplessis died," he said in an interview. "No one ever thought Toronto would catch up."

Weintraub loves Montreal and claims that he wouldn't live anywhere else. "But if I were 20 and starting on a career, I'd leave right away," he admitted, alluding to the spectre of separatism. "Definitely."



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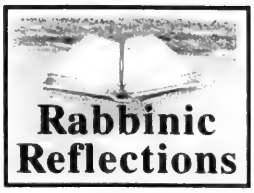


Rabbinic Reflections

Candles' significance

By RABBI MARTIN J. BERMAN

The Talmud records that there was a difference of opinion among the rabbis concerning the lighting of the Chanukah menorah, the chanukiah. The School of Shammai insisted that the first night you light eight candles and on each subsequent night you light one less. The School of Hillel maintained that you begin with one light and each night you add one more.

What was the basis of their opinions? According to one rabbi, the School of Shammai wanted to count the number of days left in the holiday, while the School of Hillel was counting the number of days past.

Another explanation was that the School of Shammai was paralleling the decrease in number of sacrifices offered on the holiday of Sukkot. The first day 13 bulls were sacrificed, the second 12 and so on. The School of Hillel said that one should always increase in matters of sanctity and not decrease. In any case, for Shammai the light diminished while for Hillel it increased.

Now in a certain sense, the position of Shammai makes more sense. If the lights commemorate the story of the oil, then each night there was presumably less oil in the Menorah in the Temple until it burned out the last night when new oil was ready. Yet think how that would affect the way we celebrate the holiday. The first night the Chanukah would glow with all of its lamps burning brightly. Then the next night there would be one less lamp lit. Instead of a holiday that built up in joy, it would be a slowly diminishing time, with fewer lights each night. Each night we would see greater darkness in our lives.

Instead, we follow Hillel. Each night we add to the light, each night we push away the darkness and despair.

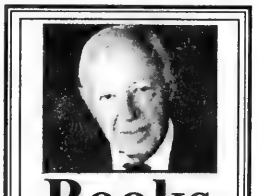
In the Greek world, there was a notion of a glorious golden age in the past. Everything that was to follow was less, since nothing could ever match the glorious past. Judaism is more optimistic. Sure, there were great things in days gone by, but tomorrow holds the promise of something more. We anticipate the coming of the Messiah, we don't mourn for a past that can never return.

Chanukah celebrates the idea that our ancestors never gave up hope, never fell into despair. Outnumbered by their enemies, they went out to battle and they won. They did not look back thinking that this was the end, but they took heart in the hope that this was a new beginning. They were right and they won the war.

What must they have thought when they entered the Temple and found it a shambles? They could have despaired and said that it was just too much. They did not. Instead they went forward and cleansed the Temple and went to light the Menorah. Then they discovered only a little oil, enough for one day. They again could have given up, but they did not. They took what they had, lit the Menorah and praised God for his deliverance.

That is the most important message of this holiday. Do not give up, do not despair. No matter what the challenges, we the Jewish people, wherever we are, will succeed. There may be setbacks, there may be moments when it looks bleak, whether it be the question of peace in Eretz Yisrael or the survival of our people in the Diaspora. But in the end, we shall triumph. We will continue to add to the light.

Rabbi Berman is the spiritual leader at Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Thornhill.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Exploring intermarriage

Embracing The Stranger, by Ellen J. McClain (Basic Books, $25 (US)).
Embracing The Covenant, by Rabbi A. Berkowitz & Patti Moskovitz (Jewish Lights Publishing (paperbound), $15.95 (US)).

There are two statistics that sear the consciousness of North American Jews: about half of young Jews marry out of faith, and less than 15 percent of non-Jewish spouses convert to Judaism. It is astonishing that close to one-third of the Jewish community — somewhat less in Canada — is now intermarried and that a solid majority of Jews have a close family member married to a non-Jew. The result of these trends is a community torn between a desire to prevent intermarriage and the recognition that it is a fact of modern Jewish life.

Embracing the Stranger is an informed, eloquent, persuasive appeal for the acceptance of intermarriage. The author, twice married to non-Jews (the second husband now converted to Judaism), asserts that many gentile spouses show more devotion to Jewish values and rituals than Jewish ones. Given the dismal record of Jewish-Jewish households to turn out committed Jews, the author is convinced that many children of mixed marriage are likely to have a better chance to create a positive Jewish future.

Does it make sense, she asks, after we teach our children that everyone is equal and that everyone is a child of God, and after we have given them little more than a modicum of Jewish knowledge and spirituality, to reject them when they bring home a non-Jewish fiancé(e) and tell them, "I'm sorry, this person is not quite good enough."

To focus on the Holocaust, she believes, only reinforces the negative attitude that being Jewish is dangerous. She deplores the attitude of many young Jews who disdain members of the opposite sex and rule them out as marriage partners. This includes the male dismissal of the stereotyped demanding JAP, and the female reaction, "You're exactly what my mother wants me to marry, therefore I can't go out with you."

This provocative, feisty, frequently amusing volume is a necessary book for all concerned with the complex, many-sided issue of Jewish continuity. The reader, however, is left with the feeling that despite outstanding exceptions, intermarriage contributes inevitably to the breakdown and disintegration of Judaism.

* * *

In *Embracing the Covenant* about 50 converts to Judaism, in brief essays, explain why they chose Judaism. Some were in search of new spiritual and intellectual approaches to faith; some found in Judaism the capacity to transform mundane moments into manifestations of holiness; some were attracted to Judaism because of its emphasis on family and community life; and some were attracted to a religion that despite four millennia of exile, prejudice and untold suffering, remains secure and indomitable.

This practical book of deeply felt testimonies includes chapters on the process of conversion, questions and answers on how to begin, a list of organizations across North America involved in providing information to potential converts and a list of recommended readings.

Two excerpts from the book: "My beloved parents, if you visit my Jewish home on a Friday, evening, you will see the *Shabbat* candles burning brightly. I hope you will join us as we recite the *berachot*, the blessings, which celebrate the kindling of these lights and the drinking of the wine...I won't be eating bacon when I come for breakfast anymore, but please come over for lox and bagles, anytime!"

"The question for me is not 'Why should I be Jewish.' The question is, 'How can I be sincerely humane?' For me, being Jewish is the best way to be a human being," Amen.

Jewish Life

More bright Chanukah lights found on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

And now, the continuation of my Top Eight List of reasons to travel the Jewish Highway this Festival of Lights:

Reason No. 5 – The Music

Chanukah has some of the most delightful songs of any Jewish holiday and you'll find most of them on the Jewish Highway. At Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/chansong.htm]** you can read the lyrics and listen to *Oh Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, I Have a Little Dreidel, Sevivon, Sov Sov Sov* and *Mi Yemalel*. (To hear the music which is in MIDI format, you will need an application such as Quicktime **[http://www.quicktime.apple.com/sw/]**.) And over at Hanukkah – Festival of Lights – Songs **[http://www.ort.org/ort/hanukkah/songs.htm]**, there is even sheet music for *Maoz Tzur*, *Mi Yemalel* and *Hanukkah*.

For something a bit more formal, go to **[http://www.613.org/chanuka.html]** where you will hear Pinchas Rabinovicz, "the first Cantor of the Internet," sing the Chanukah blessings, *Hanerot Halalu*, *Maoz Tzur* and other songs. (You'll need RealAudio **[http://www.realaudio.com/]** to hear Cantor Rabinovicz.)

Reason No. 6 – The Gelt

The exchange of coins is a tradition of Chanukah, but in From Gelt to Gifts **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/961121_Geltl.html]** Eliezer Siegel looks at the curious frenzy of gift giving that has evolved at this time of the year.

If you are looking for gelt to give away, then you can take a look at the coins and medals issued by the State of Israel **[http://www.coins.co.il/]**. And if you do decide to exchange other presents at Chanukah, there are some tips on gift giving **[gopher://www.shamash.org:70/00/places/boston/bakol/hanukkah/hanugift]**.

Reason No. 7 – The Oil

Central, of course, to the story of Chanukah is how oil enough for one day miraculously burned for eight days. Olive oil has played a crucial role for the Jewish people as you will see in Striking Oil! The Complete Story of Oil and the Jews. **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/strike.htm]**. This site goes on to explain the science (and art) of how olives are pressed and how olive oil has played a crucial role in everything from anointing kings to being part of sacrifice rituals to medicines and cosmetics to becoming a symbol of peace.

If you need to know more about olives, there is always the massive Ode to Olives page **[http://www.iac.co.jp/%7Edaccordo/olive.html]**. With over 50 links to other olive sites (including Israel's Gilboa Beit-Hashita Olives **[http://www.gilboa.co.il/olives.htm]**), this is clearly the work of somebody who loves his olives.

And Reason No. 8 – The Food

Perhaps the best place to put that oil is on a hot skillet for latkes or inside a deep fryer for sufganiyot.

The Jewish Communication Network's International House of Latkes **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/hanukkah/recipe.htm]** has a traditional latke recipe, as does Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/recipes.htm]**. And if you're looking for something really different like North African style sweet potato pancakes or potato pancakes with apples topped with nectarine and sweet basil compote, then you won't want to miss Potato Pancakes with a Twist **[http://www.caryn.com/holidayHrecipes.html]**.

And what would Chanukah be without sufganiyot, those jelly-filled, oil-fried, sugar-sprinkled, waist-enlarging treats. At the Jewish-Food Chanukkah Archives **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jeffree/recipes/chaindex.htm]**, you'll find no fewer than nine recipes for sufganiyot, including incredibly a recipe for No Fry Sufganiyot **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jeffree/recipes/sufgan8.htm]**.

Sufganiyot without oil? Sacrilege!

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New Jewish board games for Chanukah holiday

By JORDAN MAX

With Chanukah here, you're probably starting to panic about what gifts to get for the kinder or grandkinder.

Guest Voices

Instead of the usual, batteries-not-included, single-use toys, how about some new family board games specially designed for the Jewish market.

Kiddush Time: Each player moves his little elbow piece around a- board filled with Kiddush goodies. The objective is to land on as many different foods as possible in the shortest amount of time, while still having room left over for Shabbat lunch. Filled with obstacles such as Herring Gone Bad, Lengthy D'var Torah, High Blood Pressure/Cholesterol, as well as the grand prize, Invited to Bar Mitzvah celebration, and the super grand prize, Wedding Sweet Table.

Day School Pursuits: The family budgeting board game. Work together to set and maintain a budget to afford mortgage/rent, child care and/or day school tuition, shul dues, tzedakah, food, clothing, toys and games, summer camp and vacation, and still have left for a phone call or even an occasional dinner out. Obstacles include Child Needs Braces, Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration. Wild cards include Win the Lottery, Third Income, Government funds Day Schools (really wild card).

Mashgiach!: The game of kashrut skill and knowledge. Each player is given a set of miniature meat and milk pots to move around the kitchen and prepare imaginary recipes. But keep the pots separate! When one player makes a mistake, the first one to yell *Mashgiach* gets points for describing the problem and how to fix it. Also available soon in Glatt Kosher/Cholov Yisroel Mashgiach (advanced version) and Passover Mashgiach (the super-advanced version).

Assimilation/Continuity: The double-sided, intergenerational, educational game of chance that's on everybody's mind. Based on reverse psychology, players attempt to assimilate the fastest possible. Each player begins as a child, and proceeds through life using Choices cards to move to next consequence. Obstacles include Ba'al T'shuvah' Encounter, Spouse Wants Christmas Tree, Summer Program in Israel. Or, turn the board over and play Continuity, with a similar process. Obstacles include Door-to door Missionaries, concerts/parties on Shabbat, post-Shabbat/Yom Tov electricity bills, Gala Fundraiser events, Day School tuition fees.

Big Macher: Players compete to become the Biggest Macher in town, by getting on as many committees, attending as many Gala events, making as many donations to as many charities as possible, thereby accumulating plaque cards. Obstacles include Revenue Canada Tax Audit, Lose Appointment Book, Partner Embezzles Firm, Competitior Gives Bigger Donation.

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פומפיאה בנפילתה?!

חנה לסלאו היתה בעיר. לא, אל תטעו! לא הלכתי! אבל אביא לכם מונולוג של חבר שהלך:

"פשוט לא יאומן כמה וולגאריות אפשר להוציא בערב אחד. מהתחלה ועד הסוף מתחת לחגורה. אין רמזים, אין ניחושים - הכל במילים ברורות ובשם המפורש. הקהל צחק ואני הייתי עצוב: אם הדבר הזה עם החזה הכמעט חשוף מסמל את מה שקורה בישראל - כמה עצוב."

עד כאן החבר. Well, לא נעים להגיד, אבל זה כן מסמל את מה שקורה שם. הינה עוד דוגמא: כשהיינו שם הקיץ הוזמנו לחתונה של ילדי חברים. מיד אחרי החופה, עוד הרב והחזן וזקני המשפחה עושים את דרכם לשולחנות - במקום מרש החתונה פצחו הצעירים בריקוד סוער לצלילי להיט עכשווי של זמר תורן. השורה העיקרית בפזמון החוזר מציינת איבר אינטימי בשם הסלנג שלו, ודימויו למדינה.(חשבתי לצטט לכם את השורה, אבל אני יודע שהעורך היה מוחק אותה). קפאנו על מקומנו: "את שומעת מה שאני שומע?" שאלתי את בת שבע... מה להגיד - פומפיאה בנפילתה. שלא תחשבו שהפכתי למגלגל עיניים, מתחסד או יפה נפש, אבל יש משהו מאוד עצוב כשאנשים מגיעים לדרגה כזו של התבהמות. לעיתים, המרחק מתופעה שאנו מכירים, מאפשר אולי לשמרנו מלגלוש לתוכה.

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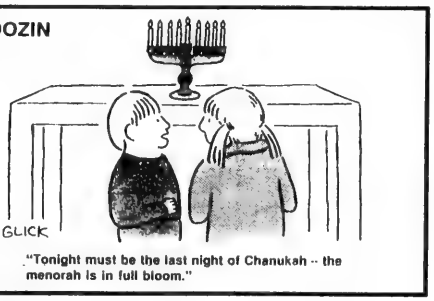

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Greater Toronto Area

Recht takes over as president of CTS

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Litigation lawyer Arnold Recht hasn't hung his law degree on the wall of his downtown office, but he does have the honorary fellowship he received two years ago for his contributions to Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

Recht, 48, who succeeded Jack Chisvin as national president of the Canadian Technion Society (CTS) this fall, is an enthusiastic spokesperson for the Haifa institution. The 16-inch-high stack of legal files awaiting his signature can hold; there are things he wants to say about Technion.

The school, which has been likened to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), has 11,000 students and will have to accommodate an additional 5,000 within the next five years, Recht said. The Technion conducts research for foreign governments and international corporations, produces 75 percent of Israeli engineers and is "one of the few institutions that functions on a balanced budget" ($81 million US) with no accumulated deficit.

Arnie Recht

One of the first institutions to research the use of CAT scans, the Technion counts among its recent achievements the development of a metal stent to open clogged cardiac arteries with minimal invasiveness. It is now being used in the United States, Recht said.

Although he has no background in science or technology, Recht has been excited about the Technion since his first visit there in 1971. An only child of Holocaust survivors, he vowed then that one day he would become involved with the institution.

His involvement began 14 years ago, following the cancer-related death of his colleague Ian Samis. Because the young lawyer who worked for his firm had shared Recht's enthusiasm about Israel's high technology advances, Recht and his law partner Allan Freedman established a memorial scholarship in Samis' name at the Technion.

An invitation from CTS followed soon after and Recht was happy to become involved. He was 34 at the time, but the average age of CTS leaders was about three decades older.

Since then, there has been a dramatic increase in CTS involvement among Recht's contemporaries. Richard Cooper, the Toronto chapter president, is 44, Recht noted.

The leadership of the organization has deliberately eschewed a separate program for young leaders, Recht explained. "We decided it was important [to work together]."

His priorities as president include fostering organizational cohesiveness on a national basis (the CTS has offices in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal and a presence in other cities including Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Halifax) and increasing awareness of the Technion among both Jews and non-Jews.

The organization's number 1 project now is to complete the Technion's molecular medicine research centre headed by former Torontonian Dr. Karl Skorecki.

The Canadian Centre for Health, Technology and Economics, which opened last year to focus on kidney research, will be renamed in 1997 in honor of Art Eggleton, Canada's minister of international trade, who will be honored by the CTS at a fundraising dinner in May.

"I want to get the Skorecki project completed," said Recht. "We have no doubt it will be expanded."

Recht believes that the Technion, because of its cutting-edge projects, is an important component in a strong Israel.

"When the Technion opened its doors in 1924, it started producing the people necessary to turn the barren land into an agricultural landscape and [has produced more recently] some of the most unbelievable hi-tech products."

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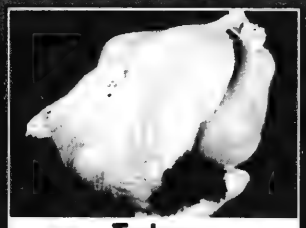

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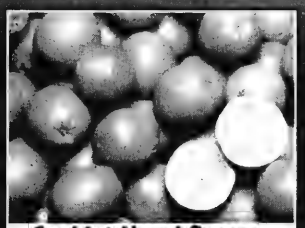

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Goldberg dedicated her life to helping others

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Tillie Goldberg, a woman who dedicated her life to volunteerism, died recently at the Baycrest Hospital at age 86.

She served with distinction as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, founder-president of the Toronto Leukemia Research Fund, president of the Weizmann chapter of Hadassah-WIZO and bazaar chair of the Hadassah Bazaar.

She was also active in the State of Israel Bond campaigns, Youth Aliyah, United Jewish Appeal, Mount Sinai Hospital and the United Way. In 1980, she received the State of Israel Peace Award.

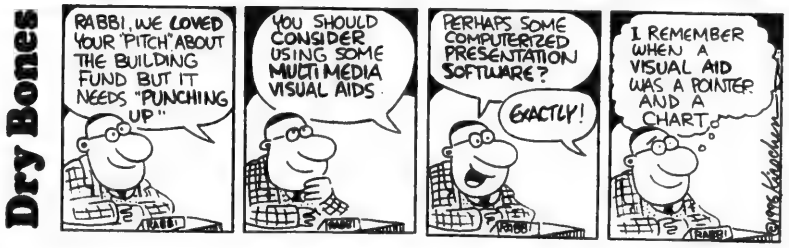
Born and raised in Toronto, she was the oldest of 10 children. Since she had to help the family financially, she did not attend high school, but continued to learn and study on her own.

In 1941, she married Wolfe Goldberg, a successful textile merchant who predeceased her.

Friends speak of her kindness and generosity and describe her as a proud Jew and Zionist, who had a strong sense of right and wrong and spoke out against injustice.

In her eulogy, her granddaughter Shalyn spoke of her grandmother as a woman who "answered the call of the family and of others. Her love, compassion and caring embraced all — young and old, friend and stranger."

Goldberg is survived by her sons, Melvin and his wife Marilyn, and Gerald and his wife Marion, and four grandchildren.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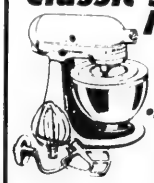
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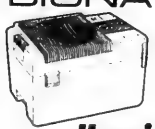
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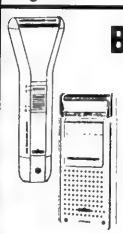
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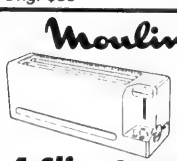
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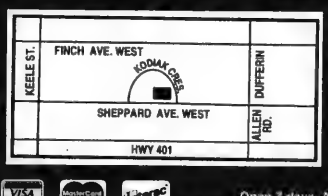

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Novak prepares to take over Jewish studies program

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — David Novak is always amazed at the number of Jews who are shocked to learn about non-Jewish students enrolled in Jewish studies classes.

"Obviously if it doesn't have Jewish students, something is wrong, but this is a university, not a yeshivah," says the recently appointed chair of the University of Toronto's Jewish studies program.

"A Jewish studies program would be a failure if only Jews studied," said Novak, an ordained rabbi, in an interview. It's not just a service for some Jewish students. It really has intellectual and cultural significance."

The creation of the endowed chair – due in large part to a leadership gift from Dick and Dorothy Shiff – is "one of the early steps in a significant surge that will make us one of the leading centres for Jewish studies on the continent," said Donald Dewees, vice-dean of Arts and Science.

Other initiatives in the program, now in its 26th year, include the establishment of the Zacks Chair in Jewish History, the Shoshana Shier Distinguished Visiting Professorship and current fundraising initiatives for a chair in medieval Jewish studies.

Novak, 55, has been the Edgar M. Bronfman professor of Modern Judaic Studies at the University of Virginia since 1989. He will officially assume the chair at U of T on Jan. 1 and will be a professor of both religion and philosophy.

His goals include "moving the Jewish studies program in a direction where it is much more philosophically oriented and more

David Novak

oriented towards questions of normative ethics, in connection with biomedical ethics, law and theological [issues]. These are areas where the Jewish studies program has very important contributions to make."

Before making the switch to full-time academia, Novak, a fifth-generation American and founder of the Union for Traditional Judaism, served as a pulpit rabbi in Oklahoma City (Emanuel Synagogue, 1969-72), Baltimore (Beth Tfiloh Congregation, 1972-77), Norfolk, Virginia (Congregation Beth El, 1977-81) and Far Rockaway, New York (Congregation Darchay Noam, 1981-89).

The author of nine books, Novak has expertise in Jewish ethics and modern Jewish thought. He has taught at Oklahoma City University, Baltimore Hebrew College, Old Dominion University in Norfolk, the Jewish Theological Seminary and Baruch College of the City University of New York.

Although he chose to focus on an academic career, he enjoyed the pulpit, he said, and still officiates on occasion. As an academic, he feels his pulpit experience gave him "something many academics don't have — contact with the real world. I've dealt with people in real-life crisis situations, not just reading about it."

He likes to make himself available to students, he noted. "That's part of my rabbinic background. I like personal contact. I enjoy students."

Next month, Novak will begin teaching an undergraduate course in Jewish ethics. He will also teach a graduate seminar in Judaism and Kantian philosophy.

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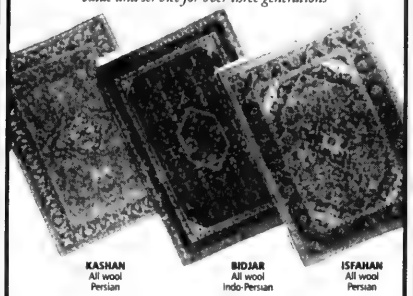

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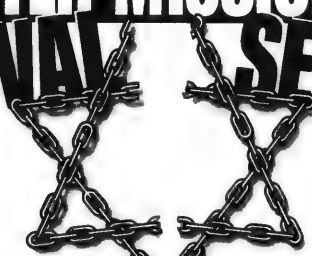

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Schwartz gets back to her roots

Spotlight

Hannah Schwartz

An occasional series

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Hannah Schwartz, secretary at the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre returned to her roots when she took the job in 1989.

Born to Holocaust survivors in Romania after the war, Schwartz grew up in Montreal with a lot of unanswered questions.

"My father was in a forced labor camp and my mother was in hiding during the war. They talked a little, but for the most part they tried to get on with their lives and forget. Working here, I have become a lot more aware," she says.

As the secretary to the centre's director, Pnina Zilberman, a major part of Schwartz's job is coordinating school bookings and arranging for the students to speak to survivors.

"We have a roster of survivors who are willing to come to the centre and speak about their experiences. They know the importance of keeping everything on the surface. Their testimonies leave a big impact on the students and a majority come out with a greater empathy. Some have even written them notes of admiration."

In an attempt to make the Holocaust "mainstream," Schwartz has tried to target non-Jewish schools outside the local area, "because they are not as aware as the students in Toronto. Students come through, see the artifacts and memorabilia and talk to survivors. They need to be educated about the atrocities. Since *Schindler's List* was released, people have become more aware of the Holocaust. They want to visit us and see actual footage. Many people need to know that it actually happened."

Schwartz says her job is more than a job, but rather a way of life.

"I like to see the children learn and I enjoy speaking to the survivors who feel very comfortable here. I have actually become very close to many of them. I am trying the reinforce the meaning of the Holocaust to my own two sons who are 18 and 14 years old. I want a link forged between them and their grandparents. They carry a very special legacy and I want them to be aware of their roots.

"I interact with lay people on the centre's various committees including generation to generation, youth for youth, education and Yom Hashoah, and they know that the public needs to be aware. These people do a lot of education and outreach and want people to understand that we are not just a museum, but a learning centre as well, where people of all ages can come and do research."

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From coast to coast

Bernard brings unity message to AJC conference

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Max Bernard has been on a mission for the past five years. His work will continue until Canadians convince the people of Quebec that remaining in a united Canada is the only way to go.

Bernard, a Montreal lawyer who chairs the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national unity committee, appeared here recently on a Canadian unity panel at the 10th biennial conference of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

"The more work we do now, the greater the chance another referendum will never happen," he said in an interview. "By making this a priority item, we'll dispel the threat hanging over our collective heads in Canada."

Bernard told 100 delegates that Atlantic Canadians have always been welcoming and have responded positively to the notion that Canada is worth saving, particularly a Canada with Quebec.

"But we must get the message out to dispel the myths. There is misinformation and we have to get the true story to Quebecers. The people of Canada must motivate the politicians and give momentum to the process that will create conditions in Canada to resolve the problem once and for all."

He said about one-third of Quebecers are committed separatists, about one-third want to stay and the others have to be convinced.

"The latter group wants recognition of their place in Canada. If we give them the opportunity to express themselves, they will, and they'll sort out for themselves what they require. We in Canada are certainly understanding of their specificity as a culture and minority language," he said.

For the past six years, CJC has been part of a coalition with the Hellenic Canadian Congress and National Congress of Italian Canadians, which started as a Quebec initiative, but became national. Five years ago, the coalition, with Bernard spearheading CJC's participation, began visiting every province to spread the word.

Bernard said the coalition has become more active again as antagonism has risen because of the 1995 vote, which satisfied no one; because of an increased focus on ethnic groups; because the rest of Canada hoped the problem would be solved by federalists but wasn't; and because, despite the best of goodwill, politicians can't deal with the issue without a sense of where the public lies.

A new document published by the coalition cites the three Rs to national unity — reconciliation, recognition and renewal. Reconciliation means Canadians recognize the unique place the French language and culture has within Canada. Recognition calls for Canadians to recognize that Quebec, while equal to all provinces, is different, mainly because of its language and culture. And renewal suggests renewing the federated partnership based on modern imperatives of sound government management.

* * *

Neo-Nazis in Canada

While neo-Nazism in Canada has "valleyed out since reaching a peak in 1993, racist extremism isn't gone. It's dangerous to be lulled into this fairy tale," said Bernie Farber in another session at the conference.

Farber, national director of community relations for CJC, told an audience of 75 regional leaders that hate still exists on the east coast, citing recent neo-Nazi activity in Moncton.

"Eight weeks ago, police raided a so-called house of hate, found neo-Nazi skinheads with a mountain of vile anti-Semitic literature and ran them out of town. Moncton police sent the message — hate groups are not welcome."

Farber reviewed the history of hate groups in Canada, briefly discussing cases involving convicted hatemongers Malcolm Ross, George Burdie and Wolfgang Droege. He cautioned that "new" hate outlets are being formed through hate music on compact discs, telephone hate lines and the Internet.

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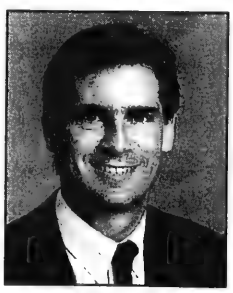

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From coast to coast

Six Atlantic Jews get honors at AJC conference

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Six Atlantic Canadians were honored for community service at the 10th biennial Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) conference in Halifax.

More than 150 of their peers offered standing ovations to Dr. Joseph Arditti, Saint John; Naomi Honey, Kentville, N.S.; Harry Levine, Fredericton; Max Lubetzki, Sydney; Dr. Irving Perlin, Halifax; and Philip Riteman, Bedford, N.S.

Honey has planned and hosted meetings in the small, wide-spread Jewish community in the Annappolis Valley of Nova Scotia. Commited to Israel, she has volunteered for Sar-El and offered her gemmological expertise to buyers at the Bourse in Ramat Gan. She has been at-large representative on AJC for her area for four years.

"I want to thank AJC but feel I've gained more from the council than I've given," she told the audience, which included Nova Scotia's governor, James Kinley, Premier John Savage, Halifax MP Mary Clancy and Halifax regional municipality mayor Walter Fitzgerald.

Lubetzki has been involved in the Sydney Jewish community for decades, serving as president of Temple Sons of Israel on several occasions and being active in *chevra kadisha*. Since he is in a community without a rabbi, he is responsible for all services held at his shul and presides at funerals and unveilings.

Outgoing Atlantic Jewish Council president Larry Freidman, CJC president Goldie Hershon, Nova Scotia Premier John Savage and CJC Quebec Region chairperson Reisa Teitelbaum.

In the greater community, he has been involved in the Nova Scotia Society for Crippled Children and the Glace Bay Rotary Club, has chaired its crippled children fund for 25 years, was named a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and was on the board of governors of University College of Cape Breton.

"I turned 80 in September, celebrated my 52nd wedding anniversary [with wife Anita] in October, and now this award caps a very special year. I share this honor with my congregation and the many devoted people who come to our shul," he said.

Arditti, born and educated in Turkey, collaborated with Keren Hayesod between 1948 and 1954 to help with the migration of 50,000 Jews from Turkey to Israel. In Saint John, he has been president of Shaarei Zedek Synagogue twice and actively attends and participaticipates in Shabbat and holiday services.

A neurosurgeon at Saint John General Hospital, Arditti has been active in B'nai Brith, Jewish United Synagogues, UIA, Canadian Jewish Veterans, and was Saint John chair, United Jewish Appeal.

Levine served two terms as president of Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, one term as president of Fredericton B'nai Brith and has co-chaired UIA campaigns on several occasions. He has been top fundraiser in each of the eight years of the Fredericton Labatt Lite 24-hour relay and is an honorary life president of the YM-YWCA.

Perlin retired in 1984 after 45 years as a gynecologist and obstetrician in Halifax. He has been part-time cantor at Shaar Shalom Congregation since it was formed in 1954, chair of UIA in Halifax and was post-commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada in Halifax.

Riteman, a Holocaust survivor, settled in Newfoundland in 1946, selling goods from a pack on his back even though he spoke no English. He now operates a trading company in Halifax.

Since 1988, he has been in constant demand from school and church groups to speak on the Holocaust. Almost singlehandedly carrying the region's load as a survivor, he talks to thousands of Maritimers each year, to preserving the memory of those events.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Please note these holiday deadlines for What's New and About People: Wednesday, Dec. 18, is deadline for Jan. 2 issue. Monday, Dec. 23, is deadline for Jan. 9. Thursday. Jan. 2, is deadline for Jan. 16. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Dec. 12

A QUESTION OF RIGHTS

Shaarei Tefillah Brotherhood presents **Howard Galganov** of Montreal, controversial spokesman for English rights in Quebec, speaking on A Question of Rights, 7:30 p.m. $5. Tickets available as well as at the door. 787-1631.

Saturday, Dec. 14

JEWISH SINGLES

Games Jewish Singles Play, a fun social evening for Jewish men and women, (Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble and more), Group A ages 26-40, and Group B ages 41-69, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. Early Bird bingo 7:30-8 p.m. Mollie 733-3634.

Sunday, Dec. 15

MUSIC AT THE KOFFLER

As part of the series Music for a Sunday Afternoon at the Koffler Centre, planned in cooperation with Jewish Music Toronto, Du Maurier Arts Ltd. presents a piano concert featuring **Francine Kay**, 3 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Tickets $5 available at the door. 636-1880, ext. 299.

JEWISH SELF DISCOVERY

The Entertainment and Cultural Connection in conjunction with Shaarei Shomaym Brotherhood features **Renee Wortzman** discussing A Journey of Jewish Self Discovery, a smorgasbord of experiences, 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Guests $2. Coordinators are **Jerry and Sandra Genesove.**

CHANUKAH PARTY

The West End Jewish Community Association and Hebrew Heritage at Swansea host the annual Chanukah party featuring storyteller/singer **Rich Glauber,** and other entertainment, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Swansea Public School auditorium, 207 Windermere Ave. 236-2054.

STUDIO ART SALE

Toronto artist **Tutzi Seguin** is holding an open studio art sale 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 43 Camberwell Rd. (Eglinton/Bathurst) Profits will be shared with ORT and Older Women's Network.

Monday, Dec. 16

YAD BEYAD

Yad Beyad is an adult volunteer program in Israel to teach conversational English to new immigrants during July 1997. Orientation evening 8 p.m., 3 Pearwood Cres. RSVP **Sheila** 445-4554 or **Katy** 231-7384.

FOOD AND HEALTH

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood presents How to Utilize Familiar Foods in a New and Healthy Way with **Greta Rosen** from Chillis n Meringue Creative Foods, 8 p.m., synagogue. Hostess **Fran Wolfe** Members $2, non-members $3.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Dec. 17

NFJA MEETING

New Fraternal Jewish Association social afternoon featuring folksinger **Lenka Lichtenberg** 2 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

KASHRUT UPDATE

Rabbi Mordechai Levin of the COR gives a kashrut update, followed by a presentation by **Bassie Spalter** on honing your hostessing skills, 8 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, Thornhill.

ADVERTISEMENT& TRUTH

Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on Advertisement and Truth — A Halachic Perspective, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription.
We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

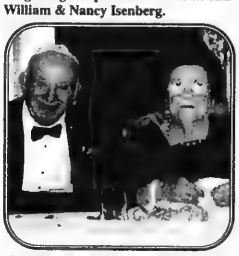
Mazel tov to Debbie & David on your engagement. Love from parents Gerald & Doreen Isenberg, Gordon & Sheila Berg and grandparents Gert Noble and William & Nancy Isenberg.

Gloria Shapero and Barry Shapero and Faye & Ian Black announce the engagement of Riva to Shane. Grandparents are Bella Radzeli, Dorothy & Joe Shapero, Pearl Schwartz and Anne Black.

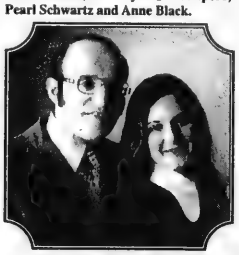
Mazel tov to Amanda, daughter of Andrew & Sandi Vadja, and Adam, son of Claire & Barry Horowitz. Grandparents are Maurice & Katie Freilich, Eva Vajda, Arnold & Goldie Sprecher and Sylvia Horowitz.

Mazel tov to Max & Rose Berliner who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 7. Love from their children and grandchildren, Helen & Larry Bossin and family and Evelyne & David Suchter and family.

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Josef & Pauline Krystal, who were married Dec. 24, 1946. Happy 70th birthday to our mother, Pauline, on Dec. 25. Love from your children and grandchildren.



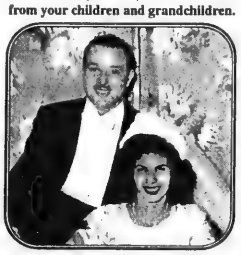
Happy 65th wedding anniversary to Saul & Fanny Kreidstein. Love from children Rona & Allan, Irving & Carole and grandchildren Brian, Susan and Sandy, Michael & Shawna, Sharon & Harold, Nancy & Danny.



Leora & Bernie Taub celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Nov. 29. Mazel tov from Nira, Shelly Lerman and children, Jack & Elayna Bengall and family, Jerry & Sally Bengall, daughters Elana and Dina and Bubby Rose Taub.

Mazel tov to Eddie & Sonja Rosenberg who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 24. Love and best wishes for many more healthy, happy years from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Ilona & Tibor Stern on their 55th wedding anniversary. With love from George & Hana Stern and grandchildren Karen, Benji and Michelle.



Congratulations to Herman & Trudi Vosberg on their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 29. Love from your children and grandchildren.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Wednesday, Dec. 18

JEWISH GENEALOGY

At the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada meeting, Montreal author **Elaine Kalman Naves** speaks on her new book *Reconstructing the World of a Hungarian Family*, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $1.

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE

Rabbi Barry Schneider continues his series on The Introduction to the Bible, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Thursday, Dec. 19

DIVORCE, WHO PAYS?

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation Jewish Single Parents Group monthly lecture series focuses on Divorce, Who Pays? with divorce lawyer **Paul Slan**, 8 p.m., synagogue. Open to all single Jewish parents ages 30-50. $5 at door. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New

LINES OF CONNECTION

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning mini-course, Invisible Lines of Connection — Finding the Sacred in Everyday Life, Jan. 11 and 12. Saturday evening lecture, Sacred Stories of the Ordinary by **Rabbi Lawrence Kushner,** 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Three workshops Sunday at Bathurst Jewish Centre, The "Big" Connection. The Joys and Perils of Jewish Connection, Spirituality Meets Communal Responsibility. Tickets now on sale at BJC or call Kolel 905-764-1329.

AISH HATORAH

Aish Hatorah, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., Light Our Fire community Chanukah menorah lighting dedication and celebration, video presentation on Chanukah lights for the children, holiday treats.

Sunday, Dec. 15, 8:15 p.m. Did You Hear the Latest Gossip? The Power of Words with **Phyllis Weinberg,** founder of Guard Your Tongue, recipient of Commemorative Medal for Outstanding Citizen. Women only lecture.

WINTER HULIANKE!

Friends of Yiddish Winterfest, music by **Jommo Lightstone** and Hu Tsa Tsa Klezmer Band, songs by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, dancing led by **Sandy Starkman**. MC is actor **Jack Newman**, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Friends of Yiddish members $5, non-members $8. RSVP **Sandy Bokser**, 736-8073.

HEBREW ULPAN

A second term of intermediate and advanced conversational Hebrew classes with **Yael Lev** starts the week of Jan. 6 at Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Register. 225-6151.

ZAREINU CENTRE

Zareinu Education Centre for mentally and physically disabled Jewish Children, located at National Council of Jewish Women building, sells Zareinu dollars at par, for use in over 90 stores including a number of major supermarkets. The school gets a percentage of sales from the merchants, 787-8278.

CHARITY BAZAAR

Charity bazaar sponsored by Yeshiva Bnei Tzion of Bobov features all new items at give-away prices — toys, gifts, electronics, clothing, baby items, food, housewares and much more, Dec. 15 and 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 3101 Bathurst St.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

The Power of Kabbalah — life, death, good, evil, success, failure, Sunday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Kabbalah Sunday School ages 3-12, Hebrew language, Jewish holidays, drama, arts and crafts, singing, dance. Register now.

Shabbat Saturday service — morning prayers 8:30 a.m. Children's service 9:30 a.m.

HEBREW CLASSES

Conversation and heritage Hebrew classes for parents with children in Jewish schools, daytime or evening, three levels, at Associated Hebrew Schools (Atkinson), Beth Tikvah Synagogue and other locations, start the week of Jan. 6, Register. **Yael** 225-6151.

BAYCREST VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed for Baycrest Centre to play the piano on the nursing floors; help distribute books on the library cart; assist in a recreational swim program (male); experienced gardeners to assist clients in indoor gardening; and well-behaved not-too-large dogs to do some informal visiting. Call Volunteer Services Department, 785-2500, ext. 2572 to make an appointment.

TZDAKEH '96

Help others this holiday season through the Koffler Centre of the Arts Tzdakeh '96 drive which collects cosmetics and toiletries to be donated to women's shelters. Donations may be dropped off at the Koffler Gallery office from Sunday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 270.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood duplicate bridge Tuesdays 7:45 p.m. at the Temple. **Jean Sengaus** 781-9695.

ACCOMMODATION

Jewish Information Service invites homeowners or apartment dwellers with vacant furnished rooms, basement apartments, room and board arrangements or apartments to share to register with the Accommodation Registry. Singles and couples needing housing are also invited to contact JIS. Register for this free service, 635-5600 starting at 9:15 a.m. Monday through Friday.

ONEG SHABBAT

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service, Friday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m., Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. 236-2054.

HEBREW ACADEMY

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy is accepting registration for Hebrew studies for children ages 5-7. Classes held in Thornhill on Tuesdays and Richmond Hill on Sundays. **Lilian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Festival of Lights, Niagara Falls, Dec. 15-16, $39 per person; New Year's dinner, dance, noise makers, door prize, novelties Dec. 31, 7 p.m., members $30, non-members $35; *Ragtime* Feb. 12. Membership open. $12, 395-7881.

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order lecture and luncheon features Reforming Ontario's Health Care System with **Mark Adler**, executive director of St. Clair West Services for Seniors, president of Ontario Community Support Association, noon, Monday, Dec. 16, Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 789-5502.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 19 program is the movie *Moulin Rouge* **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club meeting Monday, Dec. 23, 1 p.m., **Dr. Rohn**, naturopath, discusses The Process of Healing. Reservations being taken for Israel vacation trip, March 5-26. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Club Hadar meets Mondays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m., at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, Meeting Room 2, for Tai Chi, painting, discussions, bingo. **Viola Landman** 905-886-2625.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Florida, Sherry Frontenac Hotel on the ocean, kosher kitchen, efficiency, pick up at Miami airport and return, one or two months, **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

How to Prevent Heart Disease video with host **Martin Sheen**, Thursday, Dec. 19, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. A lecture is scheduled for Dec. 18. **Anna**.

Movie, *Some Like It Hot*, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, Sunday, Dec. 15, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Afternoon of songs, **Rick Lavin,** Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

BJC and Koffler Centre of the Arts present A Picture of Ourselves:Faces and Happenings at Our Centre, a series of photographs by **Morris Miller**. Display is in BJC cafeteria.

BJC Children's Fun Centre is open Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m. to noon for ages 4-12. Program offers Fun Centre activity, swimming and sports. 636-1880, ext. 284.

Young Einsteins offers computer classes for children and adults at BJC. **Jamie** 636-1880, ext. 284.

Early Bird catches 10 percent off at BJC Centre Camp with registration and payment received in full by Jan. 31. 636-1880, ext. 378.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club — Chanukah party with entertainment by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Thursday, Dec. 12, 1:30 p.m. members $3, non-members $6. On Thursday, Dec. 19, 1:30 p.m., classic Yiddish film *Tevye Der Milhikker* (Tevye the Milkman) with subtitles. **Judy** 924-6211.

BOOK LAUNCHING

Pictured at the Canadian launching of Prof. Martin Gilbert's new book, *The Boys*, (from left) Prof. Gilbert, Marilyn and Izzie Light. The book tells the story of the youngest concentration camp survivors, ages 14-16, who were brought from Prague to Canada in 1945. Izzie Light is one of the boys who are the subject of the book.

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Singles Events

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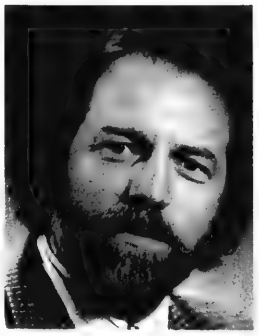
Professor creates data base on the Holocaust

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter


Alain Goldschläger

LONDON, ONTARIO — While filmmaker Steven Spielberg has been collecting video testimony from Holocaust survivors around the world, a professor at the University of Western Ontario has been amassing his own collection of written Holocaust memoirs.

Alain Goldschläger has formed the Holocaust Literature Research Institute, of which he is director, at the university. The institute, which opened officially on Nov. 20, houses over 650 publications – among them fiction, diaries, biographies and autobiographies – and an exhaustive annotated bibliography of close to 2,000 texts.

A comprehensive data base breaks down the collection by country, name of concentration camp, whether the writer is a man or woman, Jewish or non-Jewish, a survivor or not and whether or not the testimony is an eye-witness account.

As a League for Human Rights (B'nai Brith Canada) resource person for the prosecution of Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel during the mid-1980s, Goldschläger, a professor of French, came to realize the importance of survivor testimony. He discovered that many of the accounts had "fallen through the cracks."

"I thought I would find everything in the library and just make a bibliography," Goldschläger said in a recent phone interview. Even at Yad Vashem, published survivor testimonies have not been collected in a systematic way, he said.

For Goldschläger, his quest has been something of a detective story. He looks for testimonies in second-hand and Jewish bookstores, and has contacts in countries like Israel and Belgium to help him search.

Survivor testimony

A native of Belgium whose grandfather died in Theresienstadt, Goldschläger was born in 1946. His parents had survived the war by moving from one address to another in Belgium; his older brother was hidden with a Christian family in the Belgian countryside.

After moving to Canada in 1969, Goldschläger completed his PhD in French at the University of Toronto. At the Free University of Brussels – ("free" as in "free thinker," he points out) – he took about a dozen courses in history while working on his first two degrees.

Most of the books Goldschläger has collected are in English or French, but he also has some in Hungarian, Polish, German, Hebrew, Yiddish and Spanish.

For the past four years he has been trying to locate three books published in Yiddish in 1946 by a small publishing house in Buenos Aires.

Many of the books at the institute were published in small runs intended for family and friends. Some of them were never even typeset, but are copies of typewritten text.

One item to which Goldschläger has a special attachment was published by the Auschwitz Foundation of Belgium. Included in its list of the 60,000 people taken from Belgium to the concentration camps are the names of friends of his parents. Goldschläger's middle name, Joseph, is in memory of one of them. "That's the most emotional for me."

The collection also includes a book published by the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care last year. "Another special one," said Goldschläger.

Some of the graduate students and faculty at Western have already used Goldschläger's collection for academic research. Next year Goldschläger will give a graduate level course in Testimonial Literature (in English) through the university's program in Comparative Literature.

"In 20 years no first-hand accounts will be published any more. This is a finite collection, and that's frightening," he said.

Goldschläger, who is also national director of the Canada Israel Foundation for Academic Exchanges, estimates there may be another 2,000 to 3,000 books he hasn't yet found. He hopes that as the institute becomes known, people will come forward with appropriate material.

To contact him, call or fax 519-661-3820, write to him at the Holocaust Literature Research Institute, Department of French, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario N6A 2K7 or e-mail [agold@bosshog.arts.uwo.ca].

From coast to coast

Tzedakah project lets youth help Kosher Food Bank

BY WENDY SCHNEIDER
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — How do you sensitize people to the needs of the less fortunate? How do you involve young people in community work? How can tzedakah become as natural as picking up a phone?

A group of Hamilton teenagers has found the answer to all these questions through a "tzedakah centerpiece project," which is enriching the lives of organizers, donors and recipients.

The centrepieces are attractive baskets filled with items for the community Kosher Food Bank, and are created, marketed and promoted by the teens. The partially tax receiptable baskets can be decorated according to any theme, and each includes a card bearing the name of the person in whose honor it has been donated.

To date, the centerpieces have appeared at two community events, including a Federation/State of Israel Bonds dinner which raised funds for local Jewish education and a State of Israel Bonds/B'nai Brith breakfast.

The JCC-sponsored project is proving to be a win/win situation for all parties. The Kosher Food Bank, which feeds a number of local families, may be the most obvious beneficiary. But the teens have also provided an opportunity for anyone planning a simchah to make their event more meaningful by giving to the less fortunate.

Most significantly, the teens themselves are reaping the benefits of their own enthusiasm and creativity.

"It's a great chance to get involved in something worthwhile," said group spokesperson Naomi Loewith, 17, "and it's a good way for teens from different youth groups and synagogues to get to know each other."

The JCC has made the core group of six teens responsible for the money raised, most of which is used to buy food for the baskets, with a small portion set aside for a special fund that will enable planning of future events.

In addition to learning basic money management skills, the group is responsible for marketing the idea among their peers and the community at large. To date, up to 20 young people have come out, not only to shop for the food and prepare the baskets, but to help serve the meals at community functions.

Correction

The University of Waterloo has raised $1,022,000 towards establishing a chair in Jewish Studies, not $522,000, as reported in the Nov. 28 edition.

The CJN regrets the error.

Campus news & views will return next year

"My grandfather was a Lutheran minister.
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CLUB MONACO

From coast to coast

Reunion set for Talmud Torah kindergarten class

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — In recent times, class reunions seem to have taken on a new cachet.

But a reunion planned for the summer or fall of next year is surely a first:

There's a national — make that continent-wide — search on to round up alumni for what will be Canada's first reunion of students from Montreal United Talmud Torahs' (UTT) kindergarten class of '42.

Spearheading the initiative are three Montreal 60-year-old kindergarten *bochers* who apparently remember what it was like to be 5-year-old tots.

"Things have started to mushroom," said Syd Stein, a textile consultant and one of the trio.

The other two are accountant Barry Silverman and Leonard Sculnick, the former head of Sculnick Transport who now works in the paper recycling business.

Although the idea to stage a kindergarten reunion had been bandied about for several years, said Silverman and Sculnick, who have remained lifelong close pals, plans to go ahead with it took off only about two months ago. A committee of former kindergarteners has been formed to track down the 59 people whose innocent and angelic faces are in the accompanying photo and to put the whole thing together.

It will be a task, they recognize, that will pose a unique set of challenges compared to conventional class reunions.

Most of the girls, naturally, will have married names, not the same surnames as at age 5. Most have not been in any real contact in a half-century. A few may have died. Memories of whom you went to school with in kindergarten are not necessarily as vivid as at older ages.

As well, school was different in those years, said Silverman, who lived only a half-block away from where UTT was located at that time, at 269 St. Joseph Blvd. W., near Jeanne-Mance. Kids in kindergarten together often moved away the next year. Those who remained classmates would not necessarily be together until graduation.

Still, Sculnick said he, Silverman, Stein and a few other kindergarten classmates have been able to successfully identify a little over half of the faces in the photo. Some have been tracked down to places including Toronto, Atlanta and Israel. At writing, 10 or so from the class actually knew about the reunion.

Another encouraging sign is that many from the original kindergarten class of '42 may still be in Montreal, Silverman suggested, because they're from an age group that has not sped down the 401 like many of the younger generation of Quebec Jews.

By sheer coincidence, the reunion will take place during UTT's 100th anniversary year.

Anyone who recognizes him or herself in this photo can reach Silverman at 514-485-3241 or 731-7987; Sculnick at 514-481-7225; and Stein at 514-342-0217.

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UVic students complete course on the Holocaust

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — More than 30 second- and third-year students have just completed an interdisciplinary 12-week credit course on the Holocaust at the University of Victoria (UVic) believed to be the only one of its type in an North American educational institution of higher learning.

The project, called Literature and Lessons of the Holocaust, was created by Prof. Doug Beardsley, and offered through the Department of English. Beardsley was one of the instructors, along with Prof. Phyllis Senese of the Department of History and Peter Gary, a Buchenwald survivor who heads the Vancouver Island Holocaust and Remembrance Society. Neither Beardsley nor Senese is Jewish.

Each professor taught one-third of the course, for which 60 students had applied. Beardsley, who included a number of Holocaust poems in his recent anthology, *Wrestling with Angels*, opened with a study of Holocaust literature. Senese, who has specialized in researching the early immigration of Jews to Canada, provided a historical perspective arising from the literature and Gary gave his personal account as a witness to the Holocaust.

Consultants for the course included Dr. William Nicholls, professor emeritus of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of British Columbia; Syrt Walters, a righteous gentile who hid a Jewish family in his home in Holland; and Ken McVay, who combats hate literature on the Internet.

Gary told *The CJN* it is expected the course will be repeated next year.

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From coast to coast

Shalom Village to expand

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Shalom Village will go it alone on a $1.2-million addition to its seniors' residence.

Construction has, in fact, already started on the 11-apartment unit, although the fundraising campaign is not scheduled to begin until spring.

Shalom Village applied to the Ontario Ministry of Housing five years ago, but virtually all funding for non-profit housing had been stopped, former Shalom Village executive director Sheila Burman said.

Burman, who retired last June after being associated with Shalom Village since it was in the planning stages over 20 years ago, will head the campaign. She was succeeded by former Shalom Village nursing home director of nursing Pat Morden.

After the application was turned down, "we realized we could not wait," Burman said recently in her office at Shalom Village, where she is preparing the campaign.

Shalom Village has 40 apartments while the waiting list has 60 names and is "growing by leaps and bounds," she explained, "So we took the bull by the horns and decided to build on our own."

Instead of the originally planned 12 apartments, however, only 11 can be built due to lack of space.

"But that's not so bad," Burman said. "We don't want to make Shalom Village too big, anyway. We want it to be comfortable.

Shalom Village also finally got its "supportive housing designation, which means," she explained, "we can employ our own staff and also hire our own care workers." That, in turn, means "we can be more flexible, which makes more sense."

Shalom Village, she added, is the only seniors' residence in Hamilton with a "supportive housing" designation.

Burman is optimistic about reaching the campaign goal, the amount needed to enable Shalom Village to subsidize residents who are unable to pay.

She will be working with co-chairs Arthur Weisz and Irving Zucker, who headed the campaign for the adjacent nursing home.

CJC GIFT TO JORDAN

At a reception at Queen's Park marking the 61st birthday of King Hussein of Jordan, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, presents as a gift for the Monarch the book A Coat of Many Colours: Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Canada. Making the presentation to Ihsan Naghaway (second from left), Royal Jordanian Airlines regional director, Canada, are Irving Abella, (second from right), author of the book, and CJC Ontario region executive director Manuel Prutschi. Looking on is Ziad Malawi, president, Canadian Arab Network. [Daniel Fine photo]

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Anti-black racism rooted in slavery

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The black experience with racism is rooted in slavery and in the European concept of the slave as biologically and intellectually inferior, Jamaican-born Dr. Anthony MacFarlane said in a recent talk here on Racism, the Black Point of View.

The conference on Multiculturalism: the Canadian Dilemma was held at Temple Anshe Sholom, where MacFarlane, who is part African, part white and part Spanish-Portuguese-Jewish, is first vice-president.

A family physician and certified *mohel*, MacFarlane left Jamaica at the age of 21, and studied medicine at the University of Toronto and later at McMaster, where he first encountered racism.

Until the abolition of slavery, it was illegal for slaves to learn to read and write, "and it is only through education and educating our children that we can overcome the perception of being biologically inferior. I myself," he said, "give the lie to that perception."

Similarly, he said later, lack of education is at the root of black anti-Semitism.

"The difficulty with people who are undereducated and underfed," he said, "is that when someone... comes along, gives them food and reads a little from the Koran, they will jump on the bandwagon because they think he will improve their lot."

To combat this, he suggested Jews "should think what they can do to help North American blacks.

Through his association with the Jewish community and Anshe Sholom congregation, MacFarlane said he has, "in a sense, grown up" and met people who not only "have a very sophisticated conception of racism" but also "the savvy to know how to behave towards people who don't like you."

MacFarlane was introduced by Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz of Temple Anshe Sholom, Other speakers were Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police official Jane Mulkewich; Prof. Jim Walker of Waterloo University: and Hamilton *Spectator* reporters Casey Kornstanje and Andrew Dreschel, who were honored for their investigative reporting on the presence in Canada of a Romanian fascist network.

Participants included Anshe Sholom president Jay State; former JCC president Larry Szpirglas; and Rabbi Bernard Baskin, rabbi emeritus of Anshe Sholom.

The conference was sponsored by the Jewish Community Centre, the Herb and CeCe Schreiber Foundation and Frank Junger. Chair was Dr. Ronnie Miller, Anshe Sholom's director of education.

BEIT RAYIM AWARDS

Beit Rayim Congregation won three Small Synagogue Awards at the First Annual Synagogue Awards Competition, sponsored by the Ontario region of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Seen here (from left) is Helen Smolkin, holding award for bulletins and periodicals; Chuck Ticker, president; holding award for youth activities, and Debby Goldstein, holding award for adult education.

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ELEGANCE TAPS NICHE OF HISTORY

Luxury Homes Rise On The Site Of The Primrose Club In Forest Hill

The Russell Hill Townhomes In Forest Hill

December 1996 - When the Barclay-Grayson Development Corporation launched their Rosedale townhome development just a year ago, most people in the industry told them there was no market for luxury townhomes in the $500,000 to $750,000 range. Eighteen townhome sales and several prestigious awards later, One Avoca is considered one of the industry's biggest success stories in recent years. It was so successful that Barclay-Grayson is in the process of launching another upscale neo-classical style townhome development, this time in the heart of Forest Hill.

The Russell Hill will be located on the site of the old Primrose Club at the corner of Russell Hill Road and St. Clair Avenue West, and bordering Winston Churchill Park. Part of Toronto's famed Forest Hill community, the 25 townhomes at Russell Hill have been carefully designed to reflect the well established elegance of the stately neighbourhood.

"There is really nothing else like this on the market," explains Graham Baker, president of The Barclay-Grayson Development Corporation. "Building on what we learned at One Avoca, The Russell Hill will set the new standard for unparalleled elegance and luxury in townhouse living."

The Russell Hill is designed by Burka Architects, who are well known for their work on some of Toronto's finest condominium and townhome residences including 7 Rosehill, Governors Hill and One Avoca. The interiors have been designed by Brian Gluckstein one of Metro's most sought-after interior designers and decorators. Gluckstein's past projects include such prestigious projects as The Cheddington, The Windsor Arms and Palace Place.

The exterior of these homes are neo-classical: inspired, with soaring windows, and limestone front elevations, they would fit in well in London, Rome or Paris. All the parking is underground, which allows for an elegant and unobstructed streetscape. Residents will have two underground parking spaces and their own private entrance from the garage to their home.

These three-storey (plus lower level) townhomes all offer about 3,300 square feet of living area and include private elevators sweeping circular staircases and soaring ten-foot ceilings on the main floor. There is a wide range of unique floorplans available, and each includes at least three bedrooms.

Typical designs include gracious living rooms, formal dining rooms and dens or breakfast areas annexed to elegant kitchens. Features such as granite countertops, custom cabinetry and slate, granite or ceramic tile flooring and appliances such as SubZero give these kitchens an air of relaxed sophistication.

Upstairs, there are sumptuous master bedrooms suites with spacious walk-in closets and marble washrooms and double sinks. A curved stairway beneath a skylight leads to the bedrooms and bathrooms on the third floor. On the lower level each townhome has an entertainment room, laundry facilities, storage area and exit leading to the two underground parking spaces. The townhomes have their own private landscaped garden and gas hook -up for a barbecue.

One of the features that makes the Russell Hill unique is the unparalleled level of standard features found in all townhomes. These include granite or slate flooring in the vestibule and powder room, marble in the lavish ensuites, oak hardwood flooring in the living and dining rooms; fireplaces skylights, cornices and French doors abound, and all of these homes have ten foot ceilings on the main floor.

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Sharansky opposes bar on Reform, Conservative conversions abroad

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said last Sunday he opposes any change that would disqualify Reform and Conservative conversions to Judaism abroad, but he also opposes legitimizing such conversions in Israel.

Sharansky, who has been chosen by the government to explain its position on the proposed conversion law, said that in fact the government as yet has no position. He added that the government could take a stand which he personally would oppose.

Sharansky said the founders of the state had purposely left unclear a number of issues that could be divisive. This was true, he said, of the Law of Return, which constituted a compromise that recognized Reform and Conservative conversions performed abroad, but did not recognize such conversions in Israel.

By petitioning the High Court, which had given a degree of recognition to non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel, he said, the Reform and Conservative movements had endangered the status quo. By giving the Chief Rabbinate authority to authorize conversions in Israel, the legislators were adding an official stamp to an existing condition; a step which Sharansky said he regrets, but considers necessary after the High Court ruling.

Sharansky said the proposed legislation — which would also affect conversions performed abroad —had been submitted privately by Agudat Yisrael and Shas and has no chance of passing in the Knesset.

"I am against it and Yisraeli b'Aliyah is against it," he said.

Proposed legislation

However, he added, the government had failed in making this clear to Diaspora Jewry. Of the hundreds of letters he had received, hardly any showed understanding of the situation, he said. It was a mistake, he said, that the ministers had not met with Reform and Conservative rabbis, and this would be corrected. In fact, he added, the first such meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to take place in February.

As for the present situation regarding conversion to Judaism in Israel, Sharansky said he favors a more liberal and less bureaucratic approach, but that such conversions must be accepted by all sections of Israeli society. The attitude of the rabbis should be more positive and more friendly, he said, and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, who is in charge of the rabbinical courts, had been receptive to this attitude.

In reaction, Rabbi Einat Ramon, spokesperson for the Conservative Movement in Israel, said that by suggesting there would be no change in the status quo, Sharansky was trying to put one over on Diaspora Jewry.

It is clear, she said, that the religious parties are attempting to end the present situation whereby Israeli citizens can go abroad and convert to Judaism with non-Orthodox rabbis, and Sharansky had not even addressed that issue.

Rabbi Ramon also accused Sharansky of failing to solve the problem of an estimated 150,000 Russian immigrants, who are not Jews according to Halachah.

"He thinks the Orthodox can solve the problem, but they won't," she said, adding that the Orthodox rabbinical courts in effect force people to lie to them.

Rabbi Ramon added that Sharansky has an obligation to all immigrants, not just those from the former Soviet Union, including those from Conservative and Reform communities in the West.

U.S. pushes for Hebron agreement

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. and Palestinian officials met in Gaza last Sunday to decide if a three-page document drafted in Washington could be used to promote a summit between Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat.

U.S. consul general Edward Abington held several meetings with Arafat to obtain approval for the document, which is a distillation of Palestinian ideas on Hebron based on private conversations.

The document was drafted by U.S. special Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross and Egyptian national security adviser Osama el-Baz in Washington during the last few days, U.S. officials say.

Egypt has been counselling the Palestinian delegation throughout the Hebron talks, and both Arafat and top Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat were in Cairo this weekend.

"This is not a document of American ideas, but is based on Palestinian ideas. Once the Palestinians sign off on this, it can then be brought to Prime Minister Netanyahu and there could then be a basis for a summit," a U.S. official said.

U.S. officials believe direct talks between Erekat and Netanyahu advisor Yitzhak Molcho have run their course, and now the top leaders must make decisions.

There were reports that the Palestinians no longer are insisting upon unrestricted use of rifles by Palestinian Authority (PA) security forces in the parts of Hebron that they control. Israel fears that rifles will be used for sniping at Jewish settlers and prefers the security forces be armed only with guns that have short ranges.

The three-page document also is believed to include Palestinian insistence that Israel free prisoners and set dates for three future pullbacks stipulated in the Oslo 2 accord. Finally, the document calls for a date for the talks on the final disposition of the territories.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Plight of children moves cross-world trekker

[Cont'd from page 1]

"People thought I was crazy. Many friends and family members simply cut off relations with me," recalls 41-year-old Boudreau, who abandoned a successful real estate business in Calgary to pedal 160 kilometres a day on behalf of AIDS victims.

Born in Drummondville, Que., Boudreau moved to Calgary over 20 years ago. It was his daughter Krystal —then aged 10 — who told him that he looked unhappy and tired. That was in 1993. Boudreau took time off from his business, moved to Victoria and became involved in helping people with AIDS.

Since he embarked on his journey, he has been robbed four times at gunpoint, was driven off the road by anti-gay extremists and nearly fainted in the Swiss Alps.

But he has also been made an honorary citizen of Dallas, photographed with Hollywood stars like Patrick Duffy and Suzanne Sommers, and believes he was the first cyclist to ride through Croatia following the war in the Balkans.

He opens his photo album and points to a group shot of beautiful African children in Senegal, dressed in traditional garb. "Can you tell which ones have AIDS?" he asks. The children are smiling, their eyes beaming. "Half of them are HIV-positive."

Next to the photograph is a French-language greeting card with a sketch of a child: "I have AIDS," it says. "Please hold me in your arms. I won't make you ill."

It was the plight of children with AIDS that particularly moved Boudreau and became the theme of his world trek. He recalls going to a restaurant in Victoria with a group of children with AIDS who spoke openly about their condition.

"The waitress wouldn't go near them. I thought to myself: 'Why is it okay to die of cancer, but not of AIDS?' I felt I had to do something about this," says Boudreau, whose own daughter is one of his most ardent supporters.

Boudreau's definition of children has no age limit. "Men of 40 and 50 years old are also someone's children. When they reveal they have AIDS, many of them are abandoned by their parents. They tell me they will never see their families again. They know they are going to die alone."

Boudreau believes that compassion and forgiveness are the key to controlling the spread of the disease.

"As long as the disease is cloaked in shame, we can't speak openly open about it. This stymies educational efforts and discourages testing, ultimately promoting the spread of the virus."

The Canadian — who spoke to university students in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and appeared on local radio shows during his visit — was struck by the indifference towards AIDS in Israel.

"People live under the illusion that it's not a problem here. But the statistics reveal only a small part of the picture. Because there is no anonymous testing, many HIV-positive people don't bother to test themselves. They may be spreading the virus without realizing it."

Israel is one of the only Western countries that does not have anonymous testing (with the exception of a small clinic run by the Tel Aviv-based Israel AIDS Task Force.)

According to World Health Organization guidelines, the number of known HIV carriers should be quadrupled in order to get a more realistic estimate of infected people in countries that don't have anonymous testing. This would raise Israel's total from 1,500 to approximately 6,000.

The cyclist said that in Israel he has had "the toughest time anywhere." Boudreau, who came with a warm letter of introduction and support from Canadian Ambassador David Berger, received generous backing from only one corporate sponsor: SuperPharm, headed by Canadian-born Leon Koffler.

Several international chains, including McDonald's, Budget Rent-a-Car and Pizza Hut, supported his cause all over the world. But the Israeli subsidiaries refused to be associated with him, he says.

"There is obviously fear of being linked to the AIDS struggle. But this is a pity."

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SOLDIER KILLED IN SOUTH LEBANON

JERUSALEM — One Israeli soldier was killed and another wounded when a roadside bomb exploded last Saturday in south Lebanon.

Mohammed Hujirat, 27, a Bedouin tracker from the Galilee, was killed while leading a patrol in the eastern sector of the southern Lebanon security zone. Another tracker who was with him suffered light to moderate shrapnel injuries.

An initial inquiry by the Israel Defence Force found that the bombs had been set a day or two before by members of Hezbollah and that the charges were detonated by remote control. Several other explosives found in the area did not go off. The Hezbollah members were suspected to have come from the nearby village of Tivnit.

In retaliation, Israeli forces shelled the area. Lebanese authorities claimed that seven civilians were injured by the shelling.

Lebanon filed a complaint against Israel with the United Nations. In response to the complaint, a senior Israeli source said that Hezbollah, not Israel, was responsible for the injuries. *(JPFS)*

The Week in Israel

Dec. 2

• The Israel Bar Association appointed Shoshana Glass, an Orthodox lawyer who specializes in the field of individual rights, to sit on the committee that selects rabbis to sit on religious tribunals.

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai criticized unnamed army officers who were quoted in *Time* magazine that the IDF is unready for war.

Dec. 3

• Israel's Supreme Court building was struck by lightning, causing some light damage to the facility.

• A committee appointed by the Education Ministry to investigate attitudes, reported that a significant segment of Israeli youth is indifferent to the murder of Yitzhak Rabin and even feel solidarity with the assassin. The phenomenon was observed primarily, though not exclusively, among youths who attend state religious schools.

Dec. 4

• The Knesset passed a preliminary reading of a bill calling for all foreign embassies to be moved to Jerusalem. The bill passed despite opposition from Foreign Minister David Levy.

• Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem Shmuel Meir, a member of the National Religious Party, was killed in a car accident.

Dec. 5

• The Knesset voted to create an annual memorial day to honor Yitzhak Rabin. The bill passed 61 - 0 after the government withdrew its opposition.

Dec. 6

• Israeli media hailed the appointment by President Clinton of Madeleine Albright as the new Secretary of State and Sen. William as the Secretary of Defence.

Jerusalem 3000 Events

The *International Symphony Orchestra*, a month-long series of masterclasses, open rehearsals and concerts by an orchestra comprised of more than 100 gifted young musicians from around the world begins on Dec. 12.

Israelis and Syrians engage in sabre-rattling

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

For the past few months, Israel and Syria have been accusing each other of preparing for war.

Mideast Analysis

The sabre-rattling has unfolded against the backdrop of Syrian troop movements in Lebanon, mixed signals from Syria regarding its intentions and somewhat conflicting Israeli statements about what it all means.

The shrill war of words has brought Israel's invariably prickly relations with Syria to a nadir.

Not since the early 1980s, when the two sides faced off in a missile crisis and a war in Lebanon, has there been as much tension between the two sides.

Of late, the spectre of an armed confrontation has eased. "There are clear signs of calm on the Syrian front," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said last week. But Israel's impasse with Syria over the Golan Heights may produce yet another flashpoint in the future.

This extraordinarily sensitive period in Israel's relationship with Syria was ushered in by Shimon Peres and exacerbated by Netanyahu.

In the aftermath of the four suicide bombings perpetrated by Palestinian terrorists in Israel last February and March, Peres – the then prime minister – suspended peace talks with Syria.

Peres was angry that President Hafez al-Assad of Syria had neither condemned the bloody spate of terrorism, nor bothered to send condolences to the Israeli government.

And Peres knew that the business-as-usual attitude toward Syria could not be sustained, given the presence of Hamas and Islamic Jihad offices in Damascus and Syria's support of Hezbollah operations in southern Lebanon against Israel.

These were sufficiently compelling reasons for Israel to reassess its strategy toward Syria, whose leaders have always considered Israel's existence as a historical injustice.

But the turning point in Israel's deteriorating ties with Syria came during last spring's general election campaign in Israel,when Netanyahu likened Syria to a terrorist state and urged the United States to impose sanctions on Assad's Ba'athist regime.

Netanyahu later distanced himself from this view, but the damage was done. Netanyahu further alienated the Syrians by suggesting that, if necessary, he would order air raids against Hezbollah bases in Syrian-controlled territory in Lebanon. He also incensed Syria by ruling out the possibility of an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan in exchange for a peace treaty. And Netanyahu's Lebanon First proposal, his first diplomatic initiative as premier, was contemptuously dismissed by Damascus as a thinly-veiled ploy to bypass the Golan issue.

In response to an upsurge of violence in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon, Netanyahu warned of a possible escalation of hostilities on the Israeli-Lebanese border. The Syrian press, in turn, accused Israel of "beating the drums of war."

Syria's decision to deploy two commando regiments and an armored division to the northern slopes of Mt. Hermon triggered an Israeli alert and anxieties that Syria might launch a limited strike on the Golan.

Netanyahu described the deployments as a blatant attempt by Syria to pressure Israel into committing itself to returning the Golan. But Gen. Amos Gilad, head of the research department at military intelligence, put a different spin on it. He warned that Syria might start a war if it concluded that it could not regain the Golan through diplomatic means.

Since then, Syria has minimized the significance of the troop movements and let it be known that it is not planning a war. Senior officials in Damascus, however, have been quoted as saying that if the peace process collapses, Syria will be forced to consider the military option.

In response to this rhetoric, Netanyahu has said that Israel is watching the situation carefully, and may even increase defence spending. Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has declared that Israel can deter any attack and inflict "serious damage" on Syria.

The foreign minister, David Levy, has not only played down rumors of war, but declared that tranquility in the region is contingent on an Israeli peace agreement with Syria.

Netanyahu has called on Syria to resume negotiations " without preconditions," but Assad insists that any such talks must begin from the point at which they broke off and on the basis of the land-for-peace formula, as enshrined in United Nations Resolution 242.

Furthermore, the Syrians want Israel to respect an apparent oral undertaking by the late Yitzhak Rabin to pull back to the June 4, 1967 lines.

It is doubtful whether Israel and Syria can reconcile their differences. Nevertheless, the Syrian foreign minister has hinted that negotiations may resume in the new year. Meanwhile, Syria's ambassador in Washington has rejected an overture from his Israeli counterpart for a meeting. Peace remains a distant hope.

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Israel & the Jewish World

IDF reveals undercover Egoz unit in Lebanon

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The IDF has revealed the existence of a special forces unit, code-named Egoz, which has been operating against Hezbollah guerrillas in south Lebanon for over a year. The unit sees more combat than any other IDF unit, and has chalked up 16 kills since its first mission 17 months ago.

Foreign reports, mainly from the London-based *Observer* newspaper, have called Egoz a liquidation unit dedicated to tracking down Hezbollah fighters and officials, a charge soldiers and commanders vehemently denied. "The term liquidation unit is a mistake. This is a regular IDF force, a good unit, and operates only in uniform. It doesn't act against civilians, or with the aim of capturing criminals. It is a military unit which fights terrorists and the Hezbollah organization which operates a guerrilla force," said OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine.

Levine said Egoz, Hebrew for walnut, was formed in February 1995 and was operational by July 1995. He said the IDF decided to acknowledge the existence of Egoz since it was already an "open secret" and added that it was important to "show off our successes."

IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami added it was felt the soldiers in the unit deserved credit for their actions, and public knowledge of their achievements would boost morale. It is also a clear answer to those who say the IDF had been adopting a predominantly defensive posture in south Lebanon.

The official revelation of the unit comes following a broadcast by Syrian television earlier this month and rerun on Israel's Channel 2 television in which Hezbollah guerrillas said IDF soldiers were weak fighters.

"The Zionist soldier was weaker and more panic-stricken than is portrayed in the Zionist and Western media," a Hezbollah gunman told the interviewer. "We saw one Israeli soldier crying in an ambush. We saw his shrieking, his panic and confusion."

Egoz fighters and commanders brushed off the report as propaganda. "I wouldn't call it a liquidation unit, but when you encounter two or three terrorists from a range of five metres and kill him, then you have killed him," said the unit commander, identified only as Lt.-Col. E.

Levine said the idea to set up Egoz broke a generation-long IDF tradition not to cultivate units which specialize on just one front against a single enemy.

"Our weakness was that we didn't get specific training and expertise on fighting Hezbollah terrorists. The situation in Lebanon demands this so it was important that this specialized unit be set up to deal with this unique front," Levine said.

He said the unit, led by a lieutenant-colonel, was set up in record time of just five months. Its first fighters were taken from other elite units, but now they are directly chosen from Golani recruits.

We have had very nice achievements," Levine said at a briefing for military reporters at a training base in northern Israel. On their very first mission, the unit wiped out a Hezbollah squad, killing two gunmen. It has 16 verified kills, but has lost two of its own members, while others have been wounded.

Lt.-Col. E, said his unit was able to deploy quicker than other combat units because they knew the terrain and were fine-tuned to Hezbollah tactics and moving patterns. Equipped with the latest combat gear, he said, his troops have fought guerrillas, gone deep into Hezbollah territory to lay ambushes, and carried out complicated raids.

The IDF has spared no costs equipping Egoz soldiers with the best equipment available, including laser sights, light weapons and sophisticated radios. It also employs a variety of night vision gear, including thermal cameras that have been used to record firefights.

MKs ink Shabbat compromise

BY LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As the religious-secular gap seemed to widen even more this week, four MKs from different parties joined together to prepare an agreement on Shabbat closings.

The MKs, led by Alex Lubotsky (Third Way), called for the closure of stores, businesses and shopping malls, but would allow entertainment and recreation centres and cafes to remain open.

Along with Lubotsky, MKs Yuri Stern (Yisrael b'Aliyah), Yona Yahav (Labor) and Ze'ev Boim (Likud) have signed the proposed agreement and more parliamentarians apparently are considering it. Other religious MKs have shown interest, but are reluctant to sign.

"The aim is to create a broad public consensus on the character of Shabbat in the State of Israel," Lubotsky said.

Turkey approves F-4 upgrade accord with Israel

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Turkey's Islamist Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan has signed a $650 million (US) agreement for the modernization of 54 F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers by Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), the Anatolian news agency reported last week.

Turkish President Suleyman Demirel approved the deal, the president's office said in a statement.

The signature came after what Turkish sources say was extreme pressure from the Turkish military, which was said to have been fed up with Erbakan's delay.

The prime minister said he objected to the high interest Turkey would pay in the financing of the deal, as well as what he claimed was the insufficient amount of work that would be performed by Turkish contractors.

Israeli defence officials expressed satisfaction with the approval and said this would quickly set into motion a long-term contract that would benefit both countries.

IAI executives said they expect the first upgraded Phantom to fly to Turkey as early as mid-January. They said that both sides have agreed on the exact specification of the upgrade and are ready to implement the work.

In the next step in the contract, they said, Israeli banks will submit a downpayment for the work to begin. The company said it does not have any money to carry out the work without outside financing.

Turkish officials were not available to comment on the signing of the latest accord, which was welcomed by the Israeli Embassy in Ankara.

The five-year deal will involve the installation of advanced avionic systems including radar and electronic warfare and navigation systems.

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Remote cardiac system made in Israel

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — An Israeli-made computer monitoring system for cardiac patients promises to enable people to take their own cardiograms at home as easily as taking blood pressure or measuring glucose levels.

The Heartline system and its technology was developed and manufactured by Aerotel of Israel and the concept was brought to Manitoba by Arie Lavy, an Israeli-born computer consultant who has lived in Winnipeg for over 15 years.

Lavy learned about the system during a visit to Israel two years ago. His consulting company, Lavy & Associates, has clients in the healthcare field, and he saw the potential for Manitoba.

Introducing a new technology to Canada, however, requires a number of steps, Lavy notes. He had to register the device with the federal government and obtain approval from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. There were also nurses to hire and train.

"We took the most conservative approach to starting a new business," Lavy says. "We did our homework over and over again until we were certain the Heartline system was effective."

Dr. Sheldon Permack, medical director of Lavy's On-Call Remote Monitoring Services, describes the Heartline system as revolutionary.

"This will allow people to take their own cardiograms and transmit them by phone from wherever they are," he says. "They can have instant interpretation and advice regarding their cardiac condition from trained nurses. It is a medical tool that can take a picture of your rhythm and assess the electrical activity of your heart. If you have to go the hospital, then your electrocardiogram (ECG) will be sent to the hospital ahead of you instead of having to wait for the ECG to be done once you get there."

The cardiogram can also be forwarded to a patient's physician for review.

Subscribers to On-Call Remote Monitoring Services are equipped with a portable Heartview personal recorder/transmitter, the size of a telephone pager with easily applied electrodes.

The device transmits the ECG to a central computer system which has a record of each subscriber's medical history. As soon as the client feels any discomfort or chest pain — or at pre-scheduled times — he applies the electrodes to specific areas of the chest and records the ECG signal.

Then he calls On-Call, identifies himself and transmits the data. The new ECG is compared to previous readings.

On-Call nursing staff then advises the patient on how serious the situation looks and what course of action to follow. If needed, On-Call staff will contact an ambulance and inform an emergency department of his impending arrival.

Over the past five months, Lavy and company have been informing cardiologists and other physicians about the concept. Lavy has also assembled a medical advisory board to provide ongoing advice and consultation.

Although the service is only available in Winnipeg for now, Lavy foresees On-Call Remote Monitoring Services gradually extending its reach into rural Manitoba and other parts of the country.

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Proud new mother Talia holds her five-day-old triplets at Shaare Zedek Medical Center.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

JERUSALEM – Six sets of twins and three trios of triplets were born in September at Shaare Zedek Medical Center.

Many multiple births result from treatments provided to women who have had difficulty getting pregnant or carrying full term. Talia is one of these women. She gave birth in the 37th week of her pregnancy to two girls and one boy – each baby weighing about three pounds.

Talia is more than a Shaare Zedek patient. Her mother, who still works as a nurse in the hospital's department of geriatrics, gave birth to Talia in the old hospital's building, while Talia is a records clerk in the center, and her uncle is the director of the CT division.

Over 500 births a month are recorded at Shaare Zedek.

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Musical Ragtime is a theatrical landmark

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Theatre history was made last Sunday when the musical *Ragtime* had its world premiere at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, igniting the 1,900-person audience into repeated bursts of thunderous applause and cries of Bravo!

Livent's musical treatment of the E.L. Doctorow novel opened with a bang and kept up its enthralling pace for 2½ hours, with one show-stopping number after another.

One came away with the sense that composer Stephen Flaherty and lyricist Lynn Ahrens have crafted a theatrical landmark as durable and uplifting as the Statue of Liberty, and one whose light may shine for generations.

Like the famous statue, *Ragtime* illuminates the American ideals of equality and brotherhood of all. However, it also casts a light on America's dark underside, showing the tragedy that unfolds after the crew of a Manhattan fire station victimize the successful black pianist Coalhouse Walker Jr. (Brian Stokes Mitchell) as he passes in his Model-T Ford. When Coalhouse chooses to fight for his trampled dignity rather than practise the forbearance advocated by black leader Booker T. Washington (Richard Allen), the fire brigade's spark of racial hatred kindles a shockingly violent conflagration.

The story is set in a turn-of-the-century America that was receiving an unprecedented influx of immigrants, even as it was largely denying social justice to the descendants of liberated black slaves.

Highlighting further injustices, *Ragtime* depicts the American melting pot as an industrial crucible in which heartless moguls like J.P. Morgan and Henry Ford oppress the laboring class.

"America is the land of opportunity — but only if your name is Mr. J.P. Morgan!" shouts the radical anarchist Emma Goldman (unforgettably portrayed by Camille Saviola) during the number *The Night That Goldman Spoke At Union Square*, one of my favorite scenes. (I have about eight or nine others.)

Critical to the plot, historical figures like Ford, Goldman, the illusionist Harry Houdini and the sex goddess Evelyn Nesbit sometimes seem to parade across the stage like eerie phantoms, intermingling with Coalhouse and his girlfriend Sarah, and two families caught in the whirlwind of the changing times. The family members are known only by their generic names – Father, Mother, Mother's Younger Brother, Little Boy, and the Jewish immigrant Tateh and his daughter, the Little Girl — as if their personal identities likewise transcend history into myth.

Terence McNally, who wrote the theatrical "book," utilizes an ingenious device in occasionally letting some characters narrate their own stories in the third person. The technique allows for maximum narrative compression while preserving the fabric of the novel to a degree that will satisfy its many readers.

The sets, costumes and lighting seem equally geared to preserving the lyricism and dark gothic romanticism of the novel and, one might almost say, of the period itself. Paradoxically, the stage imagery is sweeping yet economical, and conveys a sense of unceasing movement. We are treated to lush visions of two-dimensional stereoscopic scenes that jump into three-dimensional life, ships passing with lights aglow in New York harbor, the cage-like welcome of immigrants to Ellis Island, the simple grandeur of train stations in New York and New Rochelle, and a pastiche of picture-postcards of Atlantic City, all amidst an almost non-stop cavalcade of shadows, silhouettes and illusions.

Lea Michele as The Little Girl and Peter Friedman as Tateh in the Livent world premiere of Ragtime, now playing in North York.

The exceptional cast is headlined by Brian Stokes Mitchell as Coalhouse Walker Jr. and Audra McDonald as Sarah, who dies in the first act, but returns as a phantasm in Act 2 to sing *Sarah Brown Eyes* with Coalhouse. Peter Friedman is Tateh, Mark Jacoby is Father, and Marin Mazzie is Mother, whose rousing closing number, *Back To Before*, is as strong as the character she has become. Steven Sutcliffe is so perfect as Mother's Younger Brother and such a wondrous counterweight to Saviola's brilliant Goldman, that one wants to congratulate not only these outstanding performers but the casting directors as well.

Thanks to Frank Galati who directed and Graciela Daniele who did the musical staging, there isn't a wasted movement or ambiguous gesture anywhere.

Indeed, so many creative forces have fuelled *Ragtime*'s syncopated turbines that one is tempted to list them all, or failing that, simply to congratulate Livent chief Garth Drabinsky for bringing these remarkable talents together.

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TAB news

Artist's oil portraits reach inside the subject

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Paintings and drawings by four generations of his family cover the walls of portrait artist George Hen's home.

Born in 1946 in Holland to Holocaust survivors Alfred and Reina Hen, he points proudly to an oil from the early '30s by his grandfather Elias Hen, a Dutch lithographer who loved to paint. There are paintings as well by his father and sons Geoffrey and Adam.

Hen's own portraits are acutely perceptive. Any adept professional can reproduce a photo on canvas. It takes insight and an affinity for the subject, to reach inside and disclose what is there.

A recent oil, *Kindergarten Artists*, is charged with such character. On the surface it is a typical classoom scene – a boy and girl in the foreground, each facing a double easel placed between them. In the background a teacher is helping another small child.

But there is total absorption on the boy's face as he works his brush, absolute concentration in the girl's demeanor. Light from a window behind them picks out the teacher bending over the third youngster and her caring is palpable.

Warmth in George Hen's drawings

This is more than just another activity. It is what school, even as early as kindergarten, is all about.

Hen's formal portrait of corporate executive Peter Munk, seated, probes the intensity beneath the outwardly controlled pose. There is the feeling that Munk has barely alit and will plunge into action at any moment.

There is warmth in Hen's drawings of his sons, their faces animated, eyes alive.

Though he always wanted to draw, Hen did not start out as an artist. He was sidetracked, "turned off," he remembers, by a cousin, a successful painter who brusquely defaced something he had brought to show him, hoping for encouragement. "This kid should never be an artist!" the man declared.

He tried for some kind of link, going in right from high school to be an office boy with Gordon Adamson Architects. He became a draftsman and worked within the architectural and construction fields for 25 years.

As an on-site construction administrator, he was involved with such projects as the Lipa Green Building, Market Square at Front and Church, Erin Mills Town Centre and the Hamilton Eaton Centre. He also served as construction manager for the Dutch-style, cable-stayed suspension lift bridge at Harbourfront.

However, building cutbacks forced too many layoffs and he finally opted for a career change. "It just wanted to do something else," he says.

In 1991 at the age of 45, he began to study at the Ontario College of Art, first on a part-time basis, then full-time, graduating with honors in drawing and painting in 1996.

He has exhibited at the Ontario College of Art Open House, the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition and a solo exhibition in York City Hall. He has also taught art classes in City of York schools and for the North York Board of Education.

George Hen stands before his oil painting Kindergarten Art.

Israel's credit rating maintained

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Standard & Poor's has announced that it is maintaining Israel's A-credit rating.

Last week's announcement from the international credit rating firm came prior to Israel's planned offering of approximately $200 million (US) on the Eurobonds market, a move expected to take place any time.

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in The Canadian Jewish News, April 1995

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Musical Events

• *King David: The Musical*, a biblical rock opera featuring a group of teenagers from Israel called **The Neighbors** from Tel Aviv, has been touring Canada this month. The opera, which has been received enthusiastically in Israel, recounts through music the life of King David from the battle with Goliath to the end of his monarchy. Having played in Montreal, Vancouver and Calgary, *King David* comes to the New City Playhouse, 100 New Westminster in Vaughan, north of Toronto, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Adults, $14. 905-709-4057.

• Pianist **Francine Kay**, who has performed to public and critical acclaim throughout North America and Europe, plays a concert as part of the series Music for a Sunday Afternoon at the Koffler Centre. Leah Posluns Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York. Tickets are $5, available at the door. Dec. 15, 3 p.m.

• The Mariposa Folk Foundation and the Flying Cloud Folk Club present A (Belated) Chanukah Concert, featuring **Brian Katz**, **Allan Merovitz** & **Martin Van de Ven** performing klezmer and Chanukah music, **Judith Cohen** performing seasonal Sephardi music, **Tex Konig** with his special retelling of the Chanukah story and other special guests. Dec. 15, 8 p.m. (door open 7:30) at 292 Brunswick Ave. (the Tranzac Club), Toronto. 416-410-FOLK.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• *Vinter Hulianke!*, a winterfest, is being staged by Friends of Yiddish (FOY) at Holy Blossom Temple, Philip Smith Congregation Hall, 1950 Bathurst St., Toronto. Featuring music by **Jonno Lightstone** and the **Hu Tsa Tsa Klezmer Band**, yiddish songs by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, dancing led by **Sandy Starkman** and emcee **Jack Newman** *Esn, Tantsn, Freylekhs*, the promotional poster promises. FOY members $5, non-members $8. Dec. 14, 8 p.m. RSVP Sandy Bokser, 416-736-8073.

Mini-Review: Yids In The Hall

• Sitting in Yuk Yuk's comedy club recently, audience members could have been forgiven for asking: Why is this night different from all other nights?

The answer: Instead of bitter herbs, salt water and unleavened bread to remind us of Jewish suffering, we had a succession of stand-up comics delivering monologues on Jewish themes as part of the monthly comedy night, Yids In The Hall.

Oh, there were genuine laughs all right, such as when emcee **Lou Eisen** finally appeared, brandishing a half-smoked cigar in the finest comedic tradition and apologized for the delay: "We figured, since you waited 40 years in the desert, you could wait another 20 minutes."

The evening featured a handful of comics who were very "1990s" in their sensibility: most of their jokes were far too racy to repeat here. Some were also racist, derisive and in such poor taste as to be offensive. Despite all this, some were also funny.

The evening's headliner, **Andy Kindler** of Los Angeles, initially seemed like he might actually project a touch of class along with his humor. However, he stayed on stage too long; the laughs stopped but he continued.

"Dayenu!" someone shouted, but to no avail. Soon a pronounced exodus was making for the door.

If you like cutting-edge improv-style humor, and don't mind hearing Jewish-themed jokes that some might deem offensive, check out the next Yids In The Hall, Dec. 25, 8:30 p.m. at Yuk Yuk's, 2335 Yonge St. at Eglinton. Admission $10. Dinner also available. 416-967-6425.

Israeli singer Matti Caspi to perform at Toronto's Music Hall

Corey Ross Productions has announced that renowned Israeli musician Matti Caspi will appear Dec. 14, at Toronto's Music Hall (147 Danforth Ave.) at 8 p.m. Accompanied by a band of Brazilian musicians, Matti Caspi will perform in Hebrew and Portuguese from his classic songs and his upcoming album.

Caspi is a singer, composer, producer and arranger. His influence spans the conventional gaps between rock, pop, romantic, classical and world music. In Israel, Caspi has received the Kinor David award (Israel's Grammy) and the ACUM prize (Association of Composers and Lyricists of Israel).

Caspi said his music is very personal. "If I want to make the audience believe in what I do, I have to be myself," he says. Born in Kibbutz Chanita in Northern Israel, Caspi devoloped into a popular artist in the '70s and '80s.

Caspi will be backed by a Brazilian band which has performed with Paul Simon, Cher and Paula Abdul. Tickets are $25 to 38.75 or $87.50 for a VIP ticket which includes a private party with Caspi. TicketMaster, 416-870-8000.

Matti Caspi

Itzhak Perlman releases new live album

Itzhak Perlman, the internationally acclaimed master of the violin, has caught the Klezmer bug, as he puts it, and through his latest EMI release, is providing a soulful rendition of the music of his roots. *Live in the Fiddler's House* is a live performance of the music he has now called his own.

Live in the Fiddler's House follows the overwhelming success of Perlman's first klezmer recording, the Emmy Award-winning 1995 album *In the Fiddler's House*, which has sold over 150,000 in the United States in less than six months.

This new album was recorded live on July 2, at New York's Radio City Music Hall in front of 5,000 people. Perlman appears with four klezmer bands: Brave Old World, The Klezmatics, Klezmer Conservatory Band and the Andy Statman Klezmer Orchestra.

"When you're dealing with music," Perlman said, "you're dealing with the soul of a society; and if there's anything that can be identified as the soul of Jewish society, it's klezmer music."

Both Perlman albums are available at major record stores across the country.

TAB news

NEW CONDO OPENED

Pictured at the opening of Menkes Development's Crystal Towers condominium at Bathurst and Lawrence streets in North York are (from left) North York Mayor Mel Lastman, Menkes Development president Alan Menkes, North York councillor Frank Di Giorgio and Mark Cohen, vice-president of marketing at Menkes Development. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Fly on Shabbat, says ex-El Al head

By STEVE RODAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — El Al will disappear in several years, and be replaced by a private carrier, unless the government allows the national airline to fly on Shabbat, the company's former director-general said recently.

Rafi Har-Lev, who left El Al earlier this year after 14 years as director-general, said the company can no longer survive the brutal airline competition while operating only six days a week.

"If El Al doesn't solve this problem, it will disappear from the aviation map," Har-Lev told the Economy '97 conference in Tel Aviv. "This won't happen in a year, but in several years."

Har-Lev said El Al's profits in the late 1980s and early 1990s would have been double or triple what was actually recorded had the carrier been allowed to fly on Shabbat. He said only the sale of the national airline to a private operator would enable the change.

But Har-Lev added the religious parties have conditioned the sale of El Al to a pledge that the buyer would not operate on Shabbat, something that has made privatization virtually impossible.

Har-Lev said he doesn't believe El Al will ever be sold. Instead, he said, it will continue to register losses, and a private Israeli carrier that will operate on Shabbat will soon eclipse the national airline.

This, he said, could take place in as little as two years.

The former director, who said he quit his job when he saw the government back off from its commitment to sell El Al, attributed the company's current woes to the sharp drop in tourism.

Jake's Women:

Tribal Productions does effective job with outdated Simon play

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Jake has a problem. His wife is about to leave him and five other women are pleading to give him advice: his daughter, his sister, his analyst, his first deceased wife and his latest girl friend. What should Jake do?

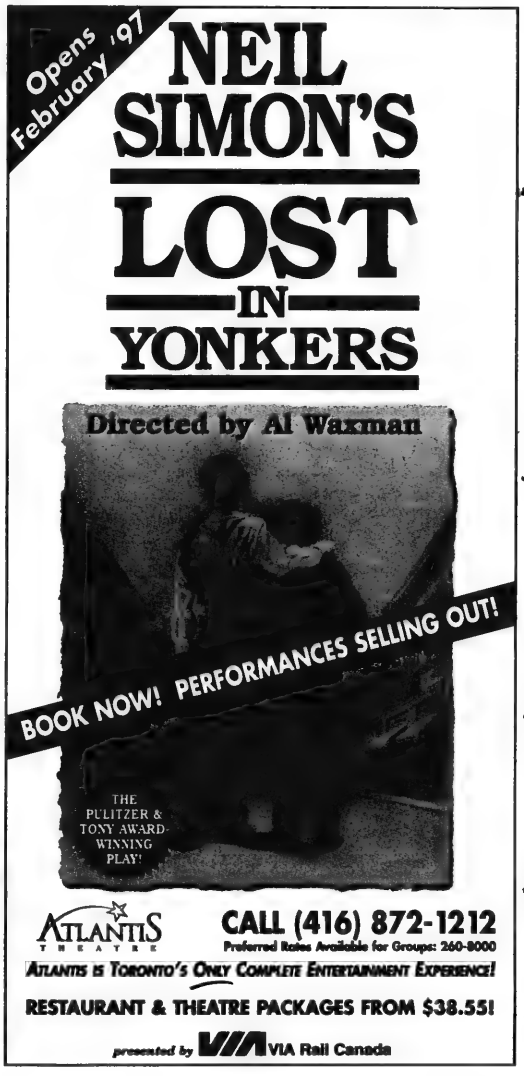
The answer was spelled out, sometimes hilariously, in Neil Simon's *Jake's Women*, staged by Tribal Productions, a new company headed by graduates of York University's drama program.

"I am studiously nonchalant," said Jake, as his response to all the advice. He is a writer who can't let go of his first wife, who died in a car crash eight years ago.

Samuel Owen

Samuel Owen is effective as Jake, the bewildered writer whose situation the author admits is a mirror of his own life. As Jake's current wife, Kirstin Hinton delivers Simon's one-liners with panache, but lacks confidence at times. However, her understatement could benefit the other women in the cast who tend to go over the top. Lea Garbe, 22, does a better job as the 18-year-old daughter than as her 12-year-old counterpart earlier.

Jake's Women, which refers to family relationships of the '70s, is outdated now. A new company like Tribal should spread its wings more adventurously.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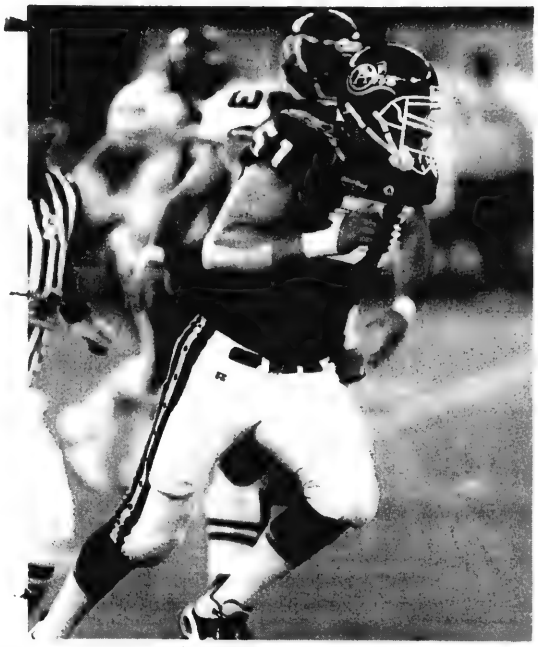
Argos' Cantor on Cloud 9 after Grey Cup win



Defensive lineman Noah Cantor

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — My how things can change in a short period of time.

A little over a year ago, Noah Cantor was a rookie defensive lineman, fresh out of St. Mary's University, happy just to make the lineup of a Toronto Argonauts squad that went on to miss the playoffs.

This year, he and the rest of the Argos have been extolled, paraded, toasted and cheered as league champions, winners of the Grey Cup.

One of a few Argo holdovers who survived an airlift of big-name players, Cantor felt a special elation being on the championship team. A week after the win, he was still on Cloud 9.

"Just to be there and to win — you have to reflect back that I was there and I did it. It was exciting. It's still exciting," he said.

Winning the Grey Cup was a childhood dream come true, Cantor readily conceded. Back when he was a boy, the family would get together to watch the Cup on television and as a teen playing organized football, the Grey Cup was his ultimate goal.

Though not a big name player like defensive linemates Mike O'Shea, Demetrius Maxie or Don Wilson, Cantor was one of the many footsoldiers who made the Argos click throughout a 14-4 season. He played on special teams, in short yardage situations and occasionally he got to spell-off the starters. TV commentators noted that Cantor always played full-tilt and brought loads of enthusiasm to the team.

Full-tilt

That again was his role in the big game in snowy Hamilton. In the Grey Cup, he played in only one short yardage situation, but he also covered punt returns and lined up on field goal attempts.

Despite Edmonton's reputation for stellar defense, Cantor, six foot four, 265 lbs., was confident going into the game. He believed the team's talent level was head and shoulders above the rest of the league and should be able to handle the Eskies.

Even when Edmonton went ahead early with a safety and a TD — and despite the rap against quarterback Doug Flutie that he didn't play well in bad weather — Cantor knew the Argos would bounce back.

"I knew we're a good second half team and we kept it close, we'd be alright," he said.

When the Argos got their first major score, Cantor knew the tide had turned and they'd be tough to beat. In fact, says Cantor, the wind and snow helped keep the score closer than it would have been had the game been played in ideal weather.

Earlier in the season, back when conditions were ideal, Cantor wasn't sure he'd even be on the team at playoff time. With a new head coach, Don Matthews, a new coaching staff and a load of talented, big-name players sucked into Toronto from around the league, his position on the team was precarious.

"Personally, that was scary because you and your friends didn't know if you have a spot on the team," he said.

At training camp, Cantor had to contend with four or five other guys vying for the two or three defensive line spots available and "it was mentally tough."

Fortunately, the 25-year-old lineman impressed the coaches and was kept on, but his best buddy, Jeff Cummins, was traded to Ottawa. The rest of last year's defensive line was released.

One of the regular season's highlights for Cantor was sacking Rough Rider QB Steve Taylor at an away game in his hometown of Ottawa in front of a crowd that included his parents, Bev and Dan Cantor.

Both were with him in Hamilton for the Grey Cup, sitting behind the Toronto bench along with his brother Mark and girlfriend Donna Caplan. An especially sweet moment came when they all joined him in the locker room after the Grey Cup victory, he said.

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NORTH PROPERTIES

"MASTERPIECE" BATHURST/ELGIN MILLS
Gorgeous 3530 sq. ft. home, 2 yrs. new. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/STEELES 3 BDRM. LARGE SEMI
Double car garage, all amenities. B. Westbrook* 226-1987

ANTIBES TOWNHOUSE – 3 BDRM. FIN. BSMT.
TTC & park across street. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK "ZENITH" 1711 SQ. FT. APPROX.
Great 2-3 bdrm., 2 baths, 2 car pkg. S. Train* 226-1987

2 AND 3 BDRM. LUXURY TOWNHOMES
Yonge/Eglinton. Brand ne... SOLD ...pl., 2 pkg. B. Westbrook* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

Paul Slavens

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

PRIME RUSSELL HILL – 1ST AD
$669,000. Spacious principal rms. 3 BRs. Master w/ens. Den. Main fl. powder rm. Loads of natural light + skylights. Magnificent view high on the "Hill". *Faith Goldman

GLENGROVE WEST – 1ST AD
$549,000. Custom built. 5 BRs. Main fl. library + family rm. Eat-in kitchen. Marble foyer. Skylight. Central air. Double garage. Fully fin. l/vl. *Betty Cohen

YONGE/CLARKE CONDO – JUST LISTED
$175,000. Beautiful 2 BR., 2 bath, sunlit south/west corner unit. Insuite laundry. 2 car pkg. Security. Wonderful facilities. *Donna Taylor

GLEN RUSH – $469,000.
Exceptional family home on large lot. Generous principal rms. Breakfast/sun room off kitchen. Great location. Walk to synagogues. *Edith Weiss

BATHURST/EGLINTON – $489,000.
Wonderful 4 BR. on quiet Upper Village street. Reno'd kitchen. Den on 2nd. Private drive & garage. Good location. *Kathie Wood

CASTLEFIELD/CALDOW – $277,000.
Charming 2 BR. bungalow on excellent lot. Build a new home or renovate. Great opportunity to suit your needs. **Don Wagman

LOWER VILLAGE CONDO
Spacious & elegant 2 B... SOLD ...ite boasts crown mouldings, french drs, gourmet k...chen & w/out to balcony. 2 pkg. spots. *Carol Cotton

LYTTON PARK – $710,000.
Majestic 5+ BR. Lar... SOLD ...al rms. Main floor den. 2nd flr. family rm. Fan. l/vl. CAC. Betz pool. *Edith Weiss/*Barbara Kaplan

BEDFORD PARK – MAY '97 CLOSING
House & Gardens home. Main floor family room. 4 baths. Private l/vl nanny's suite, 2 fireplaces, 3 skylights, w/o to deck & garden. Parking. *Barbara Kaplan

ARMOUR HEIGHTS – $425,000.
Outstanding value. Main floor family rm. Huge kitchen. 4 good bedrms. Deep south garden. *Heather Sherman

"THORNHILL GREEN" – $319,000.
Custom 4 BR., 4 bath home w/family room Fin. l/vl. with nanny's quarters. Quality finishings & designer decor. A special property. *Elaine Pike

(416) 483-4337

*Sales Representatives **Associate Broker

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SEIDMAN

REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

WILMINGTON/FINCH
Spac. 5 bdrm. + fam. rm., 4 baths, kit. w/built-in appls., fin. bsmnt., dble drive. gar.

BATHURST MANOR $229,000
Ideal starter, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., liv. & din. comb., fin. bsmnt., steps to all.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Cust. built, 3 + bdrms., den, fam. rm., fireplace, kit. w/walk-out, fin. bsmnt., dble. gar., lge. lot.

ATTENTION PROFESSIONALS!
Sheppard Ave. West, commercially zoned, great buys & location. Don't miss!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

NORTH YORK & THORNHILL

JUST LISTED!

• Primrose 2 b, 2 wr., White Kitchen w/window, Locker $174,900.

GIDEON WAICHENBERG

RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

CEDARVALE. 3 bdrm., 2 storey, fin. rec. rm. G. BARON R.E. 665-3044

LARNELL

REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

Power of Sale - $159,900. Potential for 6 units. Oakwood/Eglinton. Must Sell!

Power of Sale - $208,900. Potential for 4 units. Danforth/Birchmount. Must Sell!

BATHURST/CLARK - RENOVATED

$318,000 - 4 bdrm spacious home, fin. bsmt., pesach kit.,4 baths, dbl. gar., mod., reno., kosher kit. Won't last!

BATHURST/CENTRE - LUXURY

$699,900 - 4500 sq. ft. $200,000 spent in ultra modern renovations, designer home, large lot, 3 car gar., incred. kit., baths, quality $$$ & location.

RANDY COHEN, Associate Broker
Re/Max Realtron REALTY Inc.
(905) 764-6000

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

YONGE & CLARK - 1ST AD! JUST LISTED!
Custom built home about 5,000 sq. ft. on premium lot, 5 bdrms., high ceilings, hdwd., skylight, jacuzzi & more! *Al Sidofsky

BATHURST & HWY 7 - ONE OF A KIND
About 1 acre lot, live as is or build! Absolutely fantastic lot with renovated sidesplit. *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BATHURST & CLARK - 1ST AD!
Fabulous "Spring Farm" 4 bdrm., dble. gar., finished bsmt., large principal rooms, extras galore! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST & STEELES $339,900
North York. Gorgeous 4+1 bdrm., finished bsmt., lovely pie shaped lot on quiet court, loaded! *Allen Sidofsky

BATHURST & STEELES - PRICED TO SELL!
About 3,000 sq. ft. on quiet street, white ceramics, neutral decor, great floor plan! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

"TOWNSGATE" BATHURST & STEELES
Stunning corner unit about 1,460' + 2 parking, balcony, windows all around, like new!! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BAYVIEW & JOHN TOWNHOME
Ideal for 1st time buyer! 3 bdrms., fin. bsmt., appliances, end unit. $140,900! Call *Ted Waxman

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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From condos to castles, Michael gets results

NEW LISTING – 10 SANDALE GARDENS
Mega Backsplit on Prestigious Street. 4 Bedrooms, 4 Washrooms, Finished Basement, Double Garage, X Wide Centre Hall Plan. **Asking Only $339,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

139 CLANTON PARK – "FAMILY ROOM"
A Four Bedroom Bunga... SOLD ...with Centre Hall Plan, Large Basement. Corner Lot in A-T Area. **Asking Only $319,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

88 CLANTON PARK – NEW HOME
Approx. 2,800 Sq. ft., 4 b... SOLD ...ms, Beautiful Corner Location. **Asking $439,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

56 CLANTON PARK – "STARTER HOME"
3 Bedroom Bungalow with... SOLD ...ment Income on A Quiet Cul De Sac. **Asking $229,000.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

BATHURST-RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. Come & View

BATHURST/CLARK
$165,000. Large 2 bedroom condo + enclosed solarium, 5 & 5 piece bath, move-in condition

HILDA /STEELES
Get a winner & buy 4.5% mtge. $229,000 asking. 4 + bdrm, fin. bsmt. 2 storey semi det. Move-in condition.

SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD..

In The Heart of Belle Ewart

Beautiful 4 bdrm cottage.

Steps from the famous lake & Belle Ewart Shul.

Gorgeous private grounds. A real buy at $225,000.

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Forest Hill R.E. Inc.
(416) 226-1987

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

A SATISFIED BUYER WRITES ...

Dear Mr. Eichorn:

This is to thank you for the wonderful service we received from you and your office in finding and purchasing our new home. In particular, we would like to thank the Sales Representative, Richard Cash, for his patience and perseverance."

— Mr. and Mrs. S.W.

We have more anxious buyers who want to locate in your area. If you are thinking of selling your property, please call us!

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – PRESTIGIOUS NEW LISTING

Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST-STEELES CONDO

Bright SOLD 2 bdrm. unit, freshly painted, shows well, asking $16c,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES CONDO – REDUCED

Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $199,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – HOME RENTAL – REDUCED!

4 bdrm. ranch bung., 70x150 ft. lot, large principal rms., fin. bsmt., reduced to $1695/mo. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!

Charming, renovated & decorated, 4 bdrms., family room, hardwood floors, only $289,000. Won't last — a MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!

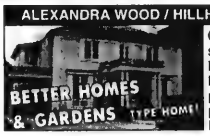
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST/ GLENCAIRN

• 70 foot frontage, approved for 5,330 sq. ft., only $399,000.

ALEXANDRA WOOD / HILLHURST – STATELY BEAUTY



Quality finishes and craftsmanship for the most discriminating buyer! 5 + 1 bdrms., dream kitchen, loaded with upgrades, prestigious location. For an appointment please call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON HOME RENTAL

Spacious 4 bdrm. sidesplit, fam. room, in-law suite, eat-in kit., fab. loc., $2,200/month.. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – NEW LISTING!

Spacious custom exec. home! 4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. rm., library, dream kit., immaculate, 9 ft. ceilings, loaded with upgrades, a MUST SEE at only $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

HARVEY KALLES

(416) 441-2888 (416) 441-2888

-REAL ESTATE LIMITED-

CENTRAL

YONGE S. OF LAWRENCE $529,000.
Built 1982 on 35' x 150' south lot. Bright 3 bdrms., 4 baths, lower walk-out, fam. rm. + 4th bdrm. Dbl. gar. **A. Carmona***.

MELROSE AVE. – NEW 3 BDRM. $449K
Ideal Avenue Rd./Lawrence location! 40' x 107' lot! Stucco ext. Kit/Fam. Rm., 4 baths, fin. bsmt. gar. **A. Carmona***.

"LIVE & WORK" IN STYLE $429,000
Yonge/Summerhill – steps to subway – unique 3 bdrm. + fam. rm. T.H., skylights, 2-car pkg. **Jean Zinman***.

TOTAL RENO $324,900 — 1ST AD
3 bdrms., AC., open concept SOLD street across from park. Call Now. **C. Spiegel***.

NORTH

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS — CHOICE OF TWO!
$1,380,000./$1,618,000. – Stunning 4200' or 6000' on preferred locations. State of the art construction – designer's decor – Must See! **A. Carmona***.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

HARVEY, ELISE & MICHAEL KALLES along with their staff would like to wish all their clients, friends & family a very Happy Chanukah.

20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT

3 bdrm. co-op, new kit. & windows,immac.,avail.Jan./97, close to schools & shul, $1100./rent or will sell. 785-8759.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Condo. at Yonge/Finch (Skyview), 1 bdrm. & solarium, 1 1/2 baths, 1141 sq. ft., new renov., pkg. 416-250-0913.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Finch, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, den, sunroom, 2 pkg., 5 appls., broadloom, 1500 sq. ft., avail. Jan. 1st. 416-661-3065.

Bath./Neptune,vacant,elegant 3 bdrm, 2 bath, reno'd, close to TTC, $1275/mo. 783-6796.

Don Mills/Finch, avail. Jan. 1st -April 30th, lux. condo., fully equip., gar., 5 amen., indoor rec. 416-497-6270.

"PROMENADE"-Bath./Centre, lux. condo, fully upgraded, 1 bdrm. & lrge. solarium, 5 appls., sunny w. view, n/smokers/pets. Feb. 1/97, $1,250./mo. (416) 589-8923.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles area, 2 bdrm., male, kosher, $400./mo.,nr. TTC & shopping. 665-1388.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
Highrise.
Only 6 apts on each floor.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

LARGE LUXURY 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOMES FOR RENT
STEELES & HWY 404/D.V.P.

- CENTRAL GAS HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
- WALKOUT TO PRIVATE PATIOS
- PRIVATE DRIVEWAY & GARAGE
- ENSUITE BATHROOMS
- WALK TO SCHOOLS, SYNAGOGUE, SHOPPING & MAJOR BUS ROUTES

FOR APPOINTMENT TO VIEW CALL 905-881-1493

WYCLIFFE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIMITED

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Aventura, 2 bdrm., 2 bath,CAC, overlooks pool & golf course. Minutes from beach & Aventura Mall. 416-733-9767.

Mar-len Gardens condo. for sale, North Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., nicely furn., reas. 635-7164 (evgs.).

Pompano-Wynmoor Community, in Coconut Creek,spacious condo. for sale, 2 bdrms. + 2 bath + screened balc., facing lake, golf + all amenities. Must sell. Phone Pauline Moss 1-954-974-6660.

WEST PALM BEACH.
A beautiful home, completely furn., 3 bdrms., 2 baths, 2 car gar. on large corner lot. Close to golf course. $195,000.00 Owner: (407) 478-8151. Brokers Invited.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aquarius-Hollywood, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furn. condo. on ocean, exc. views, avail. Jan. 6th, min. 3 mos., $2,000/mo. U.S. 416-223-1606.

Aventura-North Miami Beach, ultra luxury 1 bdrm. conv., 2 bath, to rent on reg. basis. 24 hr. valet, gourmet shop, dining, marina, tennis.$2500./mo. U.S., 497-4316.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on the ocean, convertible, 2 baths, rental, 3 mos. min., from Jan. 8th. Call 416-488-9819.

Hollywood Beach Resort Hotel Luxury 1 bdrm. apt. suite. Sleeps 4, full kit., free in-rm. movies, beach front & pvt. pool, health club, AMC 10 movie theatres, games rm., maid service. Oceanwalk Festival mall. Xmas wk., Dec. 21 - 28th, only $1,200 U.S. Call Sonny Goldstein (416) 221-0060 days.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Sarasota, Fla., 2 bdrm., 2 bath, country club condo with golf membership, fully furn., avail. from Dec. 23 - end of Jan., $100./day U.S., avail. April, $2500./mo. U.S. Mr. Weissfeld 941-365-0714.

Hollywood, oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, avail. Feb., Mar. & April, $2,000/mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358 or 954-920-2816- (Dec. 14 - Jan.7th).

Inverary in Lauderhill, beautifully furnished large 2 bdrm., 2 4 -pce. baths, balc., golf, tennis on premises. Avail. Jan., min. 2 mos. 914-634-9101 (evgs).

North Miami Beach, lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, facing pool, tennis, secur., Plaza of Americas. 163rd & Collins. Dec.1st-Jan.31,$3900.U.S. 252-2521.

Palm Aire, Pompano Beach, 2 bdrm., 2 bath condo., fully furn., avail. Jan., Feb., Mar., April, 1997. Min. 2 mos. rental, Contact Bob (602) 948-3705.

Snowbirds Special! Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. area, spac. 2 bdrm., 2 baths condo., furn., carpeted, amen., 3 mos. min., $600./mo. U.S. 202-364-6669.

South Miami Beach, 1 bdrm., art deco district, 1 min. to beach, $700.U.S. 416-783-3288

Studio apt. for rent, for Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. 18801 Collins Avenue, **Miami Beach**, Sunny Isles, nice, clean, **good price**. 305-552-1514.

West Palm Beach, Lands of the President, 2 bdrms. 2 bath, with or without golf, Jan. 3 - April 22. Call 905-731-5626.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting.
Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Steal This House!!!
550 YORK HILL BLVD.
THORNHILL
5 spacious bedrooms upstairs. Huge master bedroom with 5-piece ensuite. Finished basement with 2 bedrooms,4-piece washroom & kitchen. Family room and laundry room with side door entrance. Newly renovated with upgraded flooring. Minutes to Shul, school and shopping.
A STEAL AT $339,000.00
Call (905) 889-3705

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Thornhill, 3 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, finished bsmnt. with fireplace, lge. deck, blk. & white eat-in kitchen, lots more! Shows immaculately. No Agents Please. Tracy 905-882-9714.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles, 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, bsmnt., gar., 4 appls., quiet St., TTC & shops. 416-699-9034.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Pembroke Pines, C.V. 2 bdr., share with lady,3 wks,441-1278

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
Seasonal rentals. We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos. Nicely furnished in super location. From $650 - $3500 per month.
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(619) 327-8429

202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED

Looking for empty garage space to rent for storage, live in the North York area, 638-7593.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SHOE STORE.
A-1 location.
Steady customers.
G. BARON R.E. 665-3044.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Staff Wanted for 1st Rate Jewish Camp in Pocono Mtns. in U.S. Cabin Counselors, Unit Heads, Lifeguards, Instructors, Office, Kitchen & Admin. Staff. Local interviews Dec. 17 & 18th. 516-355-2267 or fax resume to 516-355-2283.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

European cleaning lady avail., own car,refs. & exper. 239-6586

Exp. cleaning couple indiv. avail. with refs., man has exp. as a superintendent. 782-7592.

Exper. Polish cleaning lady, Sat. or Sun., Joanna 239-6638.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I'm an honest, exper. & reliable caregiver, I'd like to offer my services in your home, especially for newborns, small children or house cleaning. I can be contacted at 416-248-4778.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian speaking cleaning people. Free estimates. Please call 416-446-0059 and leave a message.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Exp.Polish cleaning lady for houses, apts., offices. 249-9794

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

Cleaning lady avail. with refs., 782-7592 (early evg.).

Ec Access Employ. Agency
(Filipino owned & operated)
Looking for?
* live-in nannies/caregivers
* absolutely no fee
* minimum wage apply
All the above **IF employer** will sponsor Filipino domestics from overseas. **Call 905-475-2518**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Woman required to live-in, light housekeeping, cooking, Keele & Shepp. area, refs. req., free room/board. Call 636-3981.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

ITIA GOLAN, M.A. Clinical Psych.
Psychotherapist
Specializing in children and adolescents: attention deficit, learning disabilities and behavior disorders
(905) 886-6770 Thornhill

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

Exper. Nurse seeks job with elderly, in home/facility, prov. loving care, exc. refs. 733-4558.

259 SENIORS

Elderly parents in Israel? Want to be more involved in their care? For more information, call **INTERNATIONAL CARE MANAGEMENT** (416) 236-6857 or 1-888-377-3222. Israel: (06) 786138.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***SOULMATES** Do you sometimes feel Toronto's too small? Do you see the same people everywhere you go? Now you can meet fabulous, interesting Jewish people from all over Canada, the U.S & Europe by joining **SOULMATES!** What's wrong with a Dr. from NY? Evelyn, 905-709-3868.

Jewish Connections. We have the right *connection* for you! Photos. 905-889-3900.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over 1200 registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Pairamount. Pacific. Professional. Perennial. Get **Personal** at **A NEW CHANCE** Jewish Dating Service. (416) 398-3991. Ages 20-40 our priority. Partnership??

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive, tall, athletic, prof. male, 37, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-3863.

A retired, senior male. Young in spirit! Is looking for a sincere, warm hearted female friend. I am not looking for a wife. I just want to date a woman who is fun to be with. We can meet for coffee. Reply to CJN Box 6820.

Astonishingly nice, pretty, petite female, fit, smart, humorous, adventurous, interests in: film, music, art, travel, seeks a sincere, successful & intelligent prof. male for serious relationship, age 49-60. CJN Box 6861.

Attr. male, 49 yrs. young looking, 5'7", average build, London, U.K. Seeks initial correspondence view serious relationship with attr. lady, 44-50 yrs., no ties. Must have natural happy disposition, intelligence, & common sense. Gold diggers/libbers or high flier seekers need not apply. Snaps exchanged, I'll answer all letters. Reply to CJN Box 6860, or fax 01144-181-952-0083.

Jewish female, with European background if its possible, would like to meet a caring, sensitive, honest gentleman with high moral standards, 45-52. CJN Box 6863.

Handsome male, 40, re-established, seeks attr. female, 30-41, for dining, movies, marriage & kids. CJN Box 6852.

Just adorable! Very caring male, 40's, shy at times, enjoys walking, dining & dancing, seeks honest, sincere, good-natured female, for serious relationship. CJN Box 6856.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICIANS. If you are fortyish, play bass, drums or keyboards & are into 60's Beatles, Kinks, Stones, etc., for informal weekly get togethers, you are for us!! Call 499-2144 ext. 28, lve. msg.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Cigar Humidors, Exotic woods, Spanish cedar interiors, high gloss finish, one of a kind, hand made, **wholesale prices**. Call Jordan, 905-881-9848.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Quality Ladies Wear required for consignment store. Garb's 'n Things, 489-8876.

330 OBITUARIES

KATES, Jules - on November 20, 1996, late of 99 Elm Ridge Dr.

GROSS, Mary - on November 21, 1996, late of 484 Avenue Rd.

WEBER, Mantia - on November 21, 1996, late of 24 Leith Hill Rd., #1712.

TUECHLER, Fritzie - on November 19, 1996, late of 816 Palmerston Ave.

FELDMAN, Lily - on November 21, 1996, late of 12 Rockford Rd., #409.

LIPSON, Honey - on November 21, 1996, late of 40 Rosehill Ave. P.H. J.

CUTLER, Belle - on November 22, 1996, late of 126 Gorman Park Rd.

SLACK, NORMAN - on November 24, 1996, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., #208.

GRINBAUM, Aron - on November 24, 1996, late of 601 Clark Ave. W., #406.

WOLMAN, Wilfred - on November 25, 1996, late of 240 Heath St. W., #601.

BINSTOCK, Rae - on November 27, 1996, late of 15 Canyon Ave., #902.

AXMITH, Bob - on November 27, 1996, late of 4005 Bayview Ave. #116.

SIMON, Ben - on November 27, 1996, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

PICOV, Michael - on November 27, 1996, late of 15 Christine Cres.

DRESSLER, Allen - on November 28, 1996, late of 42 Water Wheelway.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

DACKS, Samuel - on November 25, 1996, late of 351 Christie St.

KRIKUNETZ, Jakov - on November 26, 1996, late of 3036 Bathurst St.

LEIBOWITZ, Bernard - on November 26, 1996.

BLOOM, Karl - on November 27, 1996.

KANTER, Rakhmiel - on November 27, 1996.

SILVERBERG, Leon Jack - on November 28, 1996, late of 136 Charlton Blvd.

WYSOKI, Fishel - on November 28, 1996, late of 46 Acton Ave.

KUHNREICH, Moses - on November 28, 1996, late of 124 Barse St.

KOGANOV, Lea - on November 29, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St.

LEIBACH, Jennie - on November 29, 1996, late of 5 Fraserwood Ave.

YANKO, Moshe - on November 30, 1996, late of 10 Tangreen Crt.

EISEN, Pearl - on November 30, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

COHEN, Fannie - on December 1, 1996.

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The Inside Back

Sam Moskowitz (centre) is speaking to a customer in front of his parent's store on Baldwin Street in the early 1970s while his mother looks on and his father arranges the produce.

Lawyer's roots are a real pickle

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Longtime friends of commercial and real estate lawyer Sam Moskowitz refer to him affectionately as "the son of the pickle man."

If you ask him what pickles and law have in common, he will tell you "everything." His fond memories of his parents' store at 186 Baldwin St., filled with barrels of pickles, herring, tomatoes, cabbage and numerous other products, have left him with a love of preparing foods for his family and friends.

And many of his parents' customers have become his clients.

"That store gave me the opportunity to get an education. It was my parents and other immigrant parents who worked tirelessly in order to give my generation a wonderful profession and lifestyle," Moskowitz said in an interview.

His parents, Isaac and Faiga Moskowitz, lived through many horrors in their youth, he said.

Isaac, who was born and raised in Lodz, Poland, fled his homeland in 1939. He was in his early 20s and like many other fleeing Polish Jews, he was arrested near the Russian border and sent to do slave labor in the salt mines of Siberia.

Isaac Moskowitz met Faiga Levin from Kiev in Uzbekistan and they married in 1945. Shortly afterward, they fled from Russia illegally, by bribing the border police. Sam Moskowitz was born at Stettin, a port city on the Baltic Sea while the couple was in transit.

Unable to find any of their family members, after the Kielce pogrom, they once again ran, finding their way to a DP camp in Regensburg, Germany, where they remained for three years. In Regensburg, they found Isaac's brother, also named Sam, who had survived Auschwitz.

In 1949, Moskowitz and his parents went to Israel where they settled in Kfar Yavne, near Rechovot. Isaac ran a fish store and Moskowitz has vivid memories of watching the live fish in his father's cement tank. Customers selected their fish and carried the live fish home unwrapped, because there was no wrapping paper.

After 10 years in Israel, Moskowitz, who was then a teenager, came with his parents to Canada.

He said they had good fortune when they rented a room above a Jewish grocery store on Baldwin Street owned by Anna Bermant, a widow who let them sell eggs and pickles and other products prepared by his mother and father.

"They worked seven days a week and when I came home from Harbord Collegiate, I would help them and Mrs. Bermant," Moskowitz recalled. "I worked with my parents at night making the products in wooden barrels and since my father didn't drive, I went with him by bus to the market in the early hours of the morning. As well, during the summer vacation, I worked at Shopsy's on Spadina Avenue.

"And for the first few years after I opened my law practice, I continued to drive my father to the Ontario Food Terminal in Etobicoke at 4 o'clock in the morning."

While at law school, Sam married Shelly Reisman. They have four children. Moskowitz' father died 13 years ago and his mother passed away recently.

Along with his passion for cooking, baking and preparing traditional pickled products learned from his parents, Moskowitz is actively involved in the community. He is on the board of the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, and he recently organized an afternoon minyan at the Minsker Synagogue on St. Andrews Street in the Kensington Market.

"My office isn't far from the Kensington Market; so every day I am reminded of my roots and I'm grateful to my parents for giving me guidance and business experience.

"Many times I say that running a law practice is like being in a store because you have to satisfy your customers/clients. And some times they ask me for pickles along with my advice."

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CRANANA NUT BREAD

1/2 cup butter (1 stick), room temperature
1 cup sugar
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp ground cloves
3 tsp grated orange zest
2 eggs, beaten
1 cup mashed ripe bananas
1 cup whole wheat flour
1 cup all purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1/4 cup dried cranberries

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease 9x5" loaf pan. Cream together butter, sugar, salt, cinnamon, cloves and orange zest in medium mixing bowl. Beat in eggs and banana pulp. Sift in flours and baking powder. Stir in walnuts and cranberries. Place batter in the greased loaf pan. Bake 1 hr. The bread is done when a toothpick inserted in the centre comes out clean. Cool in pan 15 mins, then transfer to rack to cool completely before slicing. *Serving Suggestion:* Cranana Bread also makes a delicious dessert. Butter a thick slice and toast it under the broiler. Serve with a scoop of good quality vanilla ice cream, topped with light sprinkling of cinnamon.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

Surfing the Web is all the rage these days. If I search the right places, can I find out about who's hiring?

Dear Reader,

Using the Internet as a job search tool is a great idea. If you don't know much about the Internet, numerous books have been published which will help you. One book I like is the *Canadian Internet Handbook* by Jim Carroll and Rick Broadhead. It's available in most bookshops and might even be in your local library.

Once you're on-line, choose a search engine such as Yahoo, Webcrawler, Alta Vista, Lycos or InfoSeek. Then enter a word like "job." "employment" or "work." Watch while the door to a world of opportunities opens in front of you.

When I entered the word "job," I found over 55,000 entries that linked me to many different types of jobs including jobs for MBA grads, jobs in government, jobs in bands and jobs for people who spoke one particular language or another.

One location on the Internet I really like is CareerMosaic which can be found at [http://www.career mosaic.com]. Among its features, CareerMosaic has a database of currently available jobs which can be searched by region or occupation. It has links to many employers including hi-tech firms like Logitech and Motorola, and companies that are not linked to the computer industry, like hospitals, McDonald's and Wal-mart. CareerMosaic also shows you how to create a resume for use on the Internet. Suggestions about privatizing your information and making it highly accessible are useful and important.

If you don't have access to the Internet from home, visit a Cyber cafe. In North York, visit the new Cyber-Office Cafe at 5855 Yonge St. Cyber cafes charge people for time on one of their computers. In these cafes you can find word-processing software, fancy graphic design software, accounting software, scanners and some even have interactive software for kids. Discounts often exist for people who are unemployed.

If you want to find a Cyber cafe, you can check your city's phone directory or look on the Internet using a search engine of your choice. Cyber cafes are also called Cyber bars and Internet cafes. Hopefully, one of the 500 online locations will have an address you can visit in person.

Something else to think about is e-mail. If you are looking for a job in a company that uses computers to any extent, it is in your favor to have your own e-mail address, since many companies who advertise on the Internet do not give a postal address or phone number but only their e-mail address. If you want to set up your own e-mail account and don't have access at home, visit a Cyber cafe.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN

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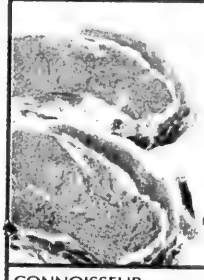

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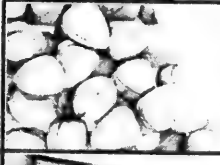

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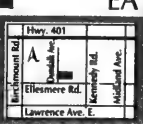

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The Canadian Jewish news

44 Pages | Thursday, December 19, 1996 | Tevet 9, 5757 | 75¢

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

New Israel consul fulfills a childhood dream. *Page 3*

Collapse of Soviet Union allows access to archives, Yad Vashem historian says. *Page 9*

Religion and democracy can coexist, Hebrew U. prof. says. *Page 21*

Coast to Coast

Canadian diplomat under investigation by RCMP for "possible criminal investigation." *Page 23*

TAB news

E.L. Doctorow discusses his famous novel *Ragtime*. *Page 34*

Sports news

U.S. figure skater is half of a top up-and-coming ice dance team. *Page 38*

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MOURNING IN BEIT EL

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, flanked by his Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai (left) and bodyguards, spoke last week at the funeral of Etta Tzur and her 12-year-old son Ephraim. The two were killed in a drive-by ambush near their home in Beit El on Dec. 11. Three terrorists from The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) attacked the Tzur family in their car, killing the mother and son and wounding the father and his four daughters aged four to 17. Dec. 11 was the 28th anniversary of the founding of the PFLP. Netanyahu told the mourners "Whoever thinks that by these acts of terror he will uproot the Jewish people from its country, from the heart of the Jewish homeland, should know that we will uproot him". *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Bibi, Arafat allay fears

By DAVID MAKOVSKY, ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat phoned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week in an apparent bid by both to calm tensions in the aftermath of recent violence, of a cabinet decision to extend financial incentives to settlers, and of charges by both sides that the other is out to undermine peace.

Arafat's call came as top negotiator Yitzhak Molcho and cabinet secretary Danny Naveh met with Arafat in Gaza.

According to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office, the two sides discussed prospects of moving forward on the Hebron talks.

Molcho reportedly briefed Arafat on the cabinet decision to provide financial incentives to settlers.

Foreign Minister David Levy was to brief the Jordanians on this decision in Amman and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai was to travel to Cairo for the same purpose this week.

During the phone call, Arafat expressed sorrow for the killings of the wife and son of Yoel Tzur, who were gunned down outside Beit El last week by terrorists from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

Netanyahu also expressed sorrow for the killing of a Palestinian worker by an Israeli farmer in the Negev last week, the statement from the Prime Minister's Office said.

Arafat told Netanyahu that he has demanded the PFLP stop its terrorism.

Continued on page 30

CIFTA passes Senate

By RICHARD CLEROUX
CJN Columnist

OTTAWA — The Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) finally passed through Parliament this month in time to go into effect officially on Jan. 1, 1997 – just as we had promised the Israelis.

But in the process, the government of Benjamin Netanyahu, and by extension the state of Israel, took an awful verbal bashing.

Friends of Israel on Parliament Hill found themselves repeatedly on the defensive trying to defend the Israeli government.

In the Commons earlier this fall, and again in the Senate this month during the committee debates on the free trade deal, you could almost feel the mood changing against Israel.

Commentary

There was a hardening of attitudes, a certain suspicion of anything coming from the Netanyahu government that did not exist when the previous Israeli administration was in power.

That was why the Liberal government rushed the agreement through Parliament this fall, before the goodwill towards Israel deteriorated any further.

It wasn't about to risk losing the agreement altogether.

There was a feeling among a number of MPs and some senators that even though the free trade deal might be highly advantageous to Canadian business, it might be time to send a message to Israel that Canada did not approve of its approach to the peace process, and was even prepared to sacrifice a business advantage to make the point.

Continued on page 28

Early Deadline Notice

Because of the holidays, the advertising deadline for the Jan. 2 issue will be Monday Dec.23 at noon, not 2 p.m. as incorrectly printed last week. There will be no issue on Dec. 26.

Happy and healthy 1997

The News in Brief

CANADA

Israel Fair Held

MONTREAL — The newly opened Montreal Israel Experience Centre recently hosted an Israel Fair, highlighting the short-term and long-term programs to Israel.

Federation Meeting

VICTORIA – The annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Victoria and Vancouver Island turned down a proposed constitutional amendment that would permit non-Jews to be members of the executive or officers of the Federation. It was also announced that the annual campaign raised a little over $48,000, down from last year.

ISRAEL

Military Cooperation

JERUSALEM — Israel has received Western intelligence reports that Iran recently dispatched a squadron of combat jets to Syria.

The reports were unclear as to whether the jets were intended as a potential strike force against Israel or were part of a joint training exercise.

Military ties between Syria and Iran have strengthened in recent months, according to the latest assessments.

Soldier Guilty

JERUSALEM – A military court has found an Israeli soldier guilty of assault for punching a Toronto tourist in the nose after he stopped for directions last year.

Students Surveyed

JERUSALEM – A poll released in the Hebrew University student paper revealed that 33 percent of students on both campuses don't have sex – but 22 percent do it four or more times a week.

The poll of 300 students showed that the most sexually active female students are on the Givat Ram campus, where 30 percent have sex at least four times a week.

Jewish Homes Opposed

JERUSALEM – Palestinian officials warned last week that a plan to construct some 130 housing units for Jews in the heart of an Arab neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem could spark another wave of violence similar to the riots that erupted in September.

The plan, which calls for the building of homes in the Ras Al-Amud neighborhood, was approved by the Jerusalem Building and Planning Committee.

Palestinian Missiles

JERUSALEM – A spokesperson for the Israel Defence Force would not confirm a published report that Palestinian security officials are trying to obtain anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

The report, published in *Time* magazine, cited Israeli intelligence officials as saying that the Palestinians are attempting to beef up their arsenals in the wake of the riots that erupted in September, when Israel deployed tanks and helicopters.

WORLD

Feld Carr Honored

CHICAGO – The leadership of the Greater Chicago/Wisconsin region of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) recently honored Judy Feld Carr with the first annual Bernard Nath Award.

Bernard Nath was a leader in the ADL for 60 years, fighting against anti-Semitism and bigotry. Feld Carr is the past chair of the national task force for Syrian Jewry, Canadian Jewish Congress.

Bosnian Jewish Refugees

ZAGREB, Croatia – Within a few weeks, the last Bosnian Jewish refugees in Croatia will be resettled in permanent housing, according to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Synagogue Reclaimed

KAZAN, Russia – Hundreds of Jews in Kazan celebrated the return of the city's 100-year-old synagogue to the Jewish community.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday December 17, 1971

EGYPT SEEKS REASON TO END CEASEFIRE

Egypt has launched a campaign for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council within the next few days, which would demand that Israel reply affirmatively to the jarring memo for withdrawal from occupied territory. If Israel refused, then UN mediator Jarring would be asked for a report of the mission which would be a failure, and justification for Egypt to end the ceasefire.

Earlier this week, the General Assembly of the UN adopted an Egyptian-backed resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from the Arab territory it has occupied since the June 1967 war. Despite a vigorous Israeli campaign to dilute the resolutions by amendment, the Arab draft was adopted by a vote of 79 to 7. The U.S. abstained.

******

REPORT URGES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Formation of a body to be known as the Toronto Jewish Community Council with the Candian Jewish Congress is urged in the annual report of the United Jewish Welfare Fund. The proposed council would absorb the activities of the Welfare Fund and the local work of the CJC, said UJWF president Donald Carr.

Mazel Tov
Happy 50th Anniversary
Al & Faye Mintz

With love and best wishes for health and happiness from Don, Rickey, Evan, Jesse, Harley, Judy, Jay, Rebecca, Risa, Gary, Matthew, Joshua, Kevin, Bonnie, Nick, Cassie, Cody, Liam, Steven, Heather and Ryan.

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Vol. XXXVII, No. 34 (2,830)

An independent community newspaper serving as a forum for diverse viewpoints

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Waidergorn takes over as new Israeli consul

FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A childhood dream of serving abroad as an Israeli diplomat has become a reality for Irit Waidergorn. Toronto's new Israeli consul, who replaced Haim Waxman at the end of November, is second in command at the Israeli consulate here.

The consulate, headed by consul general Jehudi Kinar, serves Ontario and western Canada. The one other Israeli consulate in Canada is located in Montreal.

Waidergorn, a native of Tel Aviv, arrived in Toronto following a two-year posting in Brazil, where she served as second secretary at the Israeli embassy in Brasilia and then vice-consul for three months in Sao Paulo.

"For me Sao Paulo was kind of a preparation for Canada," Waidergorn said recently in her new office. Like Toronto, Sao Paulo has a large and active Jewish community, she said.

The move also signified a transition from embassy work to consul work, the latter being less political and more oriented towards services such as providing visas and dealing with immigration issues.

Brasilia, with 50 Jewish families and one Chabad rabbi, was "a great

Irit Waidergorn

experience, but Jewish-wise it's a whole new world [in Toronto]," said Waidergorn.

Her posting in Brasilia wasn't her first experience living in a predominantly non-Jewish community. As a high school student, Waidergorn spent six months on an exchange program in McMinville, Oregon where she was, in a sense, an unofficial ambassador for Israel.

She lived with a Presbyterian family and even sang Maoz Tzur at a school Christmas-Chanukah concert. One of the two Jewish families in the area took her under its wing for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Now 28, Waidergorn admits she started her diplomatic career at a young age. Although Israel's foreign ministry accepts applicants until the age of 33, most begin in their late 20s.

Waidergorn was younger, entering the diplomatic course in 1992 following her graduation from Tel Aviv University with a B.A. in Political Science. She was one of only 18 to be accepted that year. Last year, however, with new positions opening because of the peace process, the ministry accepted 40 people.

In her first ministry position, Waidergorn served in the press department, working in Israel on public relations for Egypt.

She expects the "peak" of her term here will be Israel's 50th anniversary of statehood in 1998.

The first challenge in a new posting is being accepted by local staff, she said. "They're very important. They were here before I came and they'll be here after I leave. I was very lucky with the team I found here. They are marvellous."

As a diplomat, her work has not changed substantially because of Israel's change in government earlier this year, she said. "This government wants peace the same as the other [did], only with some different aspects. The 'main' policy is going for peace and is continuing. There's no turning back. I'm very optimistic about the peace process, [but] I think patience is the key word."

The question of input from Diaspora Jewry on Israeli policy is an issue Waidergorn believes "you can't put rules on. Some will support the government, and some will not. I think there's a very active, open dialogue and it should continue."

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Greater Toronto Area

From the editor's desk

Recalling some special moments of '96

We, the Jewish people in North America, differentiate our new year celebrations. Rosh Hashanah is a holy day; we pray, introverted and introspective, hopeful of a kind and gentle Judgement from the One Great Judge.

New Year's Eve is a holiday. We generally do not pray. But because it too is a chronological marker, it also lends itself to introspection and hoping.

Thus, as we stand on the edge of 1997, it is appropriate to look back upon the year that we are leaving.

The following are excerpts from some of the special moments that were recorded on the editor's desk in 1996.

* * *

On a rare Jerusalem moment: "Our last stop with him [our guide Yoni Shapira] was on Mount Scopus. We went to the campus of Hebrew University, to an alcove hewn into the rock at a high point on the hill looking south and southwest onto the Old City of Jerusalem and beyond. It was late in the afternoon. The sun was already low in the western sky, partially hidden behind a drapery of orange and red clouds. Below us lay the valley, beige and green, pale blue and gold. The Temple Mount sparkled. We sat on stone benches of concentric half circles. We were all tired...

Undoubtedly, it was due to the combination of the feelings of pleasant end-of-day fatigue, the dramatic ending of Shapira's story and the lovely, serene sunset settling upon Jerusalem before our eyes, that we all fell into a goose-bumpy silence. And then, as if in a Frank Capra film, one of the women sitting in the back row began to sing *"Me'al pisgat Har Hatsofim" (From the summit of Mount Scopus).*

Soon everyone was singing *From the summit of Mount Scopus* from the high summit of Mount Scopus. It was a rare moment." (Mar. 28)

* * *

On Theodore Herzl:

"Herzl...became a fixture, a permanent star in the constellation of idealism. He was a beacon. He cast a clear piercing beam into a gloomy Jewish world. He illuminated the corridors of nationalism which, to that point in modern history had remained dark and untravelled for Jews. He resuscitated a dream and he revived a people.

"Herzl's life is a reminder to us all, and to our young generation in particular, that human beings are the most precious unit of existence on this planet, that each individual is immeasurably significant, that individuals can change the course of history." (July 11)

* * *

On Natan Sharansky: "One of the first things one notices about Natan Sharansky is his puckish grin.

"Despite the heavy lines beginning to develop under his eyes, proof of the numerous briefing documents, novels, biographies, math tomes, and chess books that occupy him late into the night, he has a remarkably innocent, child-like countenance.

"He speaks totally without pretense or prepared text, in command of an English vocabulary which is after all, his second or third language. Occasionally, he stops to find the precise word, the one that enables him to convey thoughts and express ideas winnowed to highly refined detail, nuance and meaning.

"Five television cameras are filming him. Their lights shine directly into his face. He is oblivious to their intrusion. He sits at a finely polished mahogany or cherry wood table in a high-backed, upholstered chair alongside his gracious Canadian counterpart and host, Art Eggleton. His feet do not reach the floor.

"Hands folded neatly in front of him, he begins to swing his legs, one resting near the ankle on top of the other, under the table. He is playfully calm. There is very little congruity between the image of the short legs swinging happily under that table and the phalanx of intergovernmental formality that he faces." (Aug. 8)

* * *

On the families bearing the cost of a Jewish education: "Because the financial burden of formal Jewish education is very great, we begrudge no family that decides not to bear it. But, precisely because that financial burden is so great, we commend the families that persevere, moving slowly under the weight, scratching deep furrows into their freedoms. Their achievement was enshrined by the psalmist who sang: *"Hazor'im b'dim'ah, b'rinah yiktsoru."* They who sow with tears and great effort, will surely harvest with a sense of great joy." (Aug. 29)

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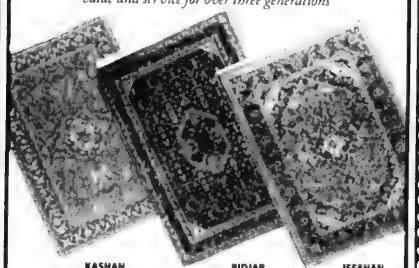

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Some of the attendees at the organization's recent 35th National Convention in Toronto were (standing from left) Priscilla de Villiers, Elaine Todres, Patricia Joy Alpert, national president, Judy Feld Carr, Naomi Frankenburg, Isabel Bassett, MPP, Diane Francis, Wendy Eisen, Judy Mandleman, Michal Modai, and Taylor Hogge. Seated from left: Anne Golden, Judge Rosalie Abella, Sheila Finestone, MP.

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CORRECTION

Certain errors crept into the essay on the Jews of Amsterdam by Prof. Joseph Michman, which appeared in our Chanukah greetings supplement Dec. 5. We wish to correct them.

On page B4: "the truce between Spain and Amsterdam should have read *between Spain and the Dutch Republic.* On page B5 Prince Maurits was *Stadtholder of the Dutch Republic* and not governor of Amsterdam. On page B7 the phrase should have read, *Council of State* instead of The States-General. We apologize to the author, whose latest book *Dutch Jewry During the Emancipation Period* was published last year by Amsterdam University Press, Amsterdam.

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Greater Toronto Area

Lawyers blamed for 'furor' over secret meeting

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The media "furor and turmoil" that resulted from the meeting between the chief judge of the Federal Court and a senior government official was actually the creation of lawyers acting for three alleged Nazi war criminals, the Federal Court of Appeal was told last week.

"The media has a willing ear for scandal and the more scandalous and irresponsible the better," said Toronto lawyer Ian Binnie, representing the Justice Department.

"It is not good enough for my friends [lawyers for the three alleged war criminals] to have created a furor in the press and stand back, wring their hands and shed crocodile tears" about newspaper editorials they helped induce, Binnie said.

Referring to editorials in the Ottawa *Citizen* and the Toronto *Globe and Mail* that had been presented to the appellate court, Binnie said they were "the wash from the turbulence" created by [the three lawyers] so as to stampede the judiciary and prevent them from giving "a sober second look" at the lower court decision staying the three cases.

Binnie, a lawyer in private practice who has been retained to represent the Justice Department, was responding to a series of preliminary arguments presented by lawyers for alleged war criminals Helmut Oberlander, Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobiass.

Earlier this year, Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen granted a stay of proceedings in the three cases because of a meeting between Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac and Ted Thompson, assistant deputy attorney general. Cullen said the meeting tainted the court with the appearance of government interference.

"In my view, this affront to judicial independence is the clearest of cases and a stay of proceedings in each of the three respondent cases will be granted," he ruled.

The stay decision effectively put an end to the three cases, but government lawyers appealed the decision to the Federal Court of Appeal. Lawyers for the alleged war criminals opened the appeal hearing with several preliminary arguments suggesting: the court did not have jurisdiction to hear the case; the "collegiality" of the court and Isaac's role in it raises the question of perceived bias; the Supreme Court of Canada ought to hear the case; and one of the three members of the appeals panel, Judge Louis Marceau, had made a statement suggesting there was a cloud over the court and so he could not be in a position of adjudicating that very issue.

But Binnie said the three lawyers were "quick to make allegations for which there is no evidence whatsoever."

He dismissed suggestions that the collegiality of the court prevents it from dealing with the issue before it. Courts regularly address cases of bias and do so in a professional manner, he said. Pointing to a Supreme Court of Canada decision, he said it underlines the principle that judges will fulfil their oaths of office and deal with cases fairly.

"You have nothing to gain by reversing [Cullen's] decision and nothing to lose by upholding it," Binnie said.

Earlier, lawyers Donald Bayne and Michael Code, representing Dueck and Oberlander, argued there was no appeal from a stay order and Bayne suggested such an appeal could open the floodgates to an "endless series of appeals at every stage."

Government lawyers were making an absurd argument when they suggested no appeal was available to the Federal Court of Appeal on the merits of the case (whether the men lied about their past when they became citizens), but there were appeals on interim matters like a stay application, Bayne said.

Code argued the Federal Court of Appeal has a professional relationship with Isaac. "That leads clearly to the appearance that there might be partiality" and an apparent conflict of interest.

He also suggested there was "an irresistible inference" that judges may have discussed with Isaac the issues before the court.

He said Marceau's statement that there was a cloud over the court suggests other Federal Court judges felt criticism levelled at Isaac was being felt by them as well.

Bayne said Marceau was in the position of having to adjudicate his own statements. That was "an impossible situation" and the court ought to decline to hear the case. The Supreme Court of Canada is available to decided the matter, he added.

That last argument did not go over well with Judge Louis Pratte, who said he knew of no instances where the Supreme Court heard a case that had not been adjudicated by a Court of Appeal. "I've heard your argument," Pratte told Bayne. "I don't agree with it."

Fromm under investigation

TORONTO — The Peel board of education has been asked to determine whether teacher Paul Fromm has violated the board's multicultural policies by associating with racists and Holocaust deniers.

The request came from the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. The League pointed out that a 1993 Ministry of Education inquiry found that Fromm breached the board's multicultural and race relations policy as well as the regulations of the Ontario Teachers' Federation and that Fromm "is not committed to ethnocultural equity policies." The League also noted that Fromm had been warned the board would not tolerate conduct that damaged the employer/employee relationship.

The League alleged in a news release that in November 1994, Fromm spoke at a memorial symposium for Revilio Oliver, a longtime proponent of racism and anti-Semitism. Also speaking there was former Ku Klux Klan wizard David Duke.

The League provided Harold Brathwaite, the Peel board's director of education, with a synopsis of a videotape recorded at the event. The League told Brathwaite that it has "evidence placing Fromm at a similar conference in Vancouver in April" and that there is evidence that Fromm promoted materials by Malcolm Ross, a former Moncton school teacher who has written books that attacked Jews.

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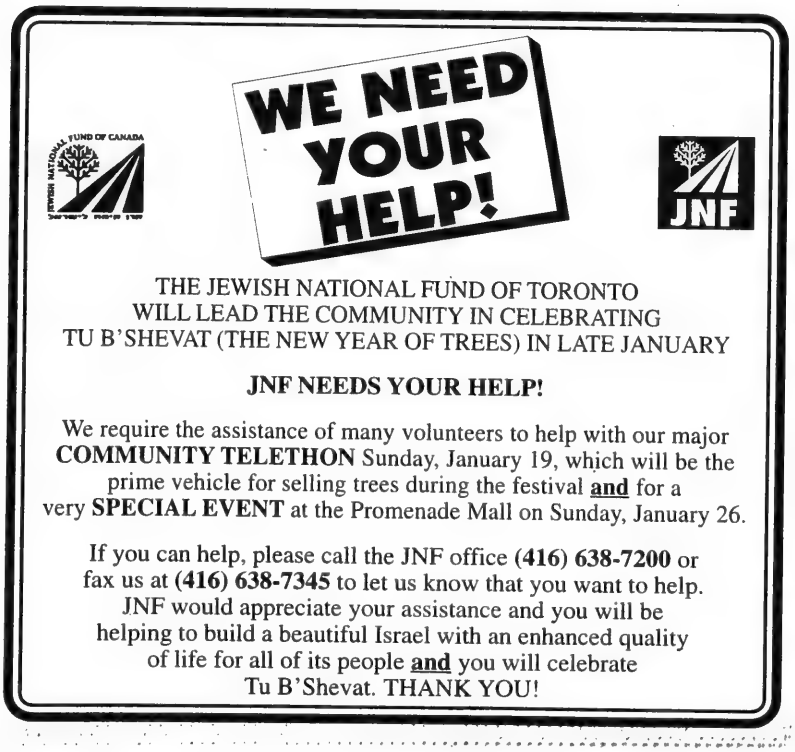
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Greater Toronto Area

Peace Now blasts statements by Palestinians

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In an open letter to the Palestine Authority's (PA) representative in Ottawa, Canadian Friends of Peace Now has blasted statements by PA officials which contravene the 1995 Oslo 2 agreement.

The Nov. 29 letter, signed by Peace Now co-presidents Simon Rosenblum and Frank Guttman, was addressed to Dr. Baker Abdel Munem.

Rosenblum and Guttman, ardent supporters of the Oslo peace process and of a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, claim that leading members of the PA from Yasser Arafat downward are in "serious violation" of Article XXII of the Oslo accord.

The clause states that Israel and the PA "shall seek to foster mutual understanding and tolerance, and shall accordingly abstain from incitement, including hostile propaganda against each other."

In a hard-hitting letter, Rosenblum and Guttman accuse PA officials of praising terrorists who have killed Israeli citizens and of falsely accusing Israel's army of plotting terrorist attacks against Israelis by arming and assisting Islamic fundamentalists.

Rosenblum and Guttman also take the PA to task for threatening armed struggle should final-status negotiations fail to produce a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and of suggesting that such a Palestininan state is merely "a way station on the way to recapturing all of historic Palestine."

Attached to their letter is a lengthy list of objectionable remarks delivered by PA officials from Sept. 1, 1993 to Oct. 29, 1996.

Rosenblum and Guttman, while making allowances for misquotations, poor translations or statements taken out of context, contend that the PA is in fact guilty of contravening the Oslo agreement.

As they put it: "It is often said that certain language is directed for the consumption of one's internal constituencies, and should not be looked upon as reflecting the true intentions of the Palestinian leadership. We do not find that argument satisfactory, as mutual trust demands speaking with one tongue.

"While we remain convinced that the core leadership of the PA does fundamentally see a Palestinian state alongside Israel as the final conclusion of the dispute between the two peoples, any remarks which even indirectly suggest otherwise are in total violation of both the texts and spirit of the peace process.

"We also believe it highly irresponsible to begin preparing, rhetorically or otherwise, for a resumption of violence if the peace process collapses...

"We hope that there will be a quick and complete cessation of remarks of the kind noted, and look forward to working together in achieving our mutual goals of independence, prosperity, peace and security."

In an interview, Rosenblum said that the purpose of the letter was to put on record Peace Now's growing concerns regarding the PA's deviations from the Oslo process.

"We have been concerned for some time," he said. "Until now, we expressed our views in private."

Rosenblum said Peace Now had taken the matter directly to Arafat. "He acknowledged that it was a problem, but claimed that he always had been misquoted."

Asked whether Dr. Munem had replied to his letter, Rosenblum said he did not expect an answer.

The CJN called Dr. Munem, who doubles as the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative in Canada, for a comment, but he did not respond.

Rosenblum said he and Guttman decided to act when they concluded that PA officials were threatening Israel with another *intifadah*, the Palestinian revolt which broke out in 1987 and more or less lasted until Israel and the PLO signed the Declaration of Principles in September 1993.

"The straw that broke the camel's back was all this loose talk. PA officials were saying that if the peace process ground to a halt because of (Benjamin) Netanyahu's intransigence, the armed struggle would resume."

Rosenblum expressed surprise and disappointment that Palestinian leaders whom Peace Now considered moderates, such as Faisal al-Husseini (the PLO's chief official in Jerusalem) and Nabil Shaath (the PA's planning minister), had made some of the offending statements.

"It's one thing for the Palestinians to return to non-violent disobedience," he said."It's another to go back to armed struggle, which'll put the Middle East far back. As we go on, these statements can affect the peace process negatively."

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Jusin Stark, 6, Yehuda Greenwood, 7 and Simcha Greenwood, 7, accompanied by teacher Janna Noventsel, along with other students from Zareinu Educational Centre, entertained for Chanukah at the Promenade Mall in Vaughan. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Kushner to address Kolel mini-course

TORONTO — Rabbi Lawrence Kushner will be the featured speaker at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning's, annual two-day mini-course to be held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) Jan. 11 and 12.

Rabbi Kushner, who lectures on personal and communal spiritual renewal, is the author of six best-selling books on Jewish spirituality. His latest book, *Invisible Lines of Connection*, reveals how everything "ordinary" is supercharged with meaning. He will speak Jan. 11, 8 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St.

The mini-course continues on Jan. 12, with three 90-minute workshops related to finding spirituality in everyday living.

Rabbi Daniel Komito Gottlieb of Temple Kol Ami, Thornhill, will lead a session at 10:30 a.m. entitled The "Big" Connection.and at 1 p.m., Dr. Ana Bodnar, psychotherapist and educator, will introduce The Joys and Perils of Jewish Connection.

The mini-series will conclude with a workshop at 3 p.m., led by Kolel director, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, on Individual Spirituality Meets Communal Responsibility.

Tickets are available at the BJC and through the Kolel mini-course hotline at 905-764-1329. Tickets for Rabbi Kushner's lecture are $18 in advance or $22 at the door. The lecture will be followed by Havdalah and refreshments.

Passes for the three Sunday workshops are available in advance for $20, including a health club pass, or $8 for each workshop at the door. Lunch will be available in the BJC cafeteria.

The mini-course is co-sponsored by the Bathurst Jewish Centre, with the support of the Zukerman Charitable Foundation and Les and Minda Feldman and family.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM CHAPTER

Miri Gur, regional director of Toronto's Israel Aliyah Centre, back left, and Alan Spector, president of the Toronto chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, right, flank a group of Toronto-area students who volunteered last summer with Magen David Adom in Israel. Gur distributed awards to the students and stressed that such programs encourage Jewish youth to become involved in Israeli society. One participant, on duty for the ambulance birth of a baby boy, was invited to the *brit milah*.

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Homeless find place to rest at Holy Blossom Temple

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The sign in the hall downstairs spells out the rules: no smoking, no drugs or alcohol, no weapons and no abusive language or behavior.

The rules seem unnecessary, though, as the crowd is polite, well-behaved, almost genteel. On this wet and bracing night, 38 homeless men and some women have come to Holy Blossom Temple for a hot meal, some gentle banter from synagogue volunteers and, for most of them, a place to rest.

Holy Blossom has become the first synagogue in Canada to take in homeless people – not just for a fast bowl of soup, but for a complete meal and a place to sleep for the night.

The temple has become a full-fledged part of Toronto's decade-old Out of the Cold program, which offers the homeless a meal and somewhere to bed down seven nights a week during the winter months in 32 Metro churches (and now, one synagogue, every Thursday night until the end of March).

The program was inaugurated Dec. 5 at Holy Blossom, when some 30 people came for dinner and of whom 20 remained to sleep in the downstairs Phillip Smith foyer.

Last Thursday, the number swelled somewhat, likely a result of word getting around that another venue was open. Guests, as they are called, tucked into hot pea soup, orange barbecue chicken, salad and tutti-frutti cake for dessert. As it was the last night of Chanukah, they were also served latkes and received a bagged lunch for the next day containing gold chocolate coins. It was all done in a quiet, comfortable, dignified setting. About 30 slept over.

Temple volunteers prepare the food, do the serving and engage the guests in conversation. At last count, the program has signed up some 250 volunteers, something Holy Blossom's newly installed president, Morris Cooper, finds heartening.

"This program has generated a level of excitement I've never seen," he told *The CJN*. "It's brought out the best in our volunteers."

But the road to this quality of mercy wasn't always smooth. For weeks before the program was launched, temple members and area residents voiced concerns about health and safety issues. Many were parents of children attending Leo Baeck Day School in the temple.

"I was a skeptic too," admits Cooper. "I mean, I live a block away and have kids."

The concerns revolved around stereotypes of the homeless; that they are dangerous and carry disease. "These aren't frightening people," says Cooper, surveying the crowd. "They're just down on their luck."

Another worry was that the homeless would flock to the upscale neighborhood surrounding the temple. "They're already here," Cooper counters. "They're in the Cedarvale ravine. You can find them sleeping in bank foyers right on Eglinton Avenue."

Most concerns have been allayed, temple officials say. A police officer from 13 Division spoke to members and neighbors, saying that the vast majority of homeless don't cause problems. A City of York public health officer explained that the chances of contracting disease from the homeless were "extraordinarily low." As well, a uniformed security guard stays overnight.

In addition, dinner was pushed back from 6 p.m. to 6:30, hours after the last child has left classes. Guests are woken early, fed breakfast and are gone by the time school starts. They sleep in their own clothes on plastic-covered mattresses.

Some even receive clothes donated by other synagogues and the National Council of Jewish Women. Small toiletries are also distributed.

About 200 temple volunteers prepared themselves by taking part in a "mentoring" program last year at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. Now, "we have developed the prototype" for synagogues, says program chair Freda Muscovitch. "There are some [shuls] in the United States that provide soup kitchens, but we're the first to do this."

For Dan, a 36-year-old homeless man, Holy Blossom is the place to be Thursday nights.

A college-trained computer programmer, he says he used to work in the insurance industry and at Canada Post before a head injury sidelined him four years ago. "I don't want to go to any place," Dan told *The CJN*, "but if you have to go, you'll know you'll be treated well [here]. We can go quite some time before someone is nice to us.

"This place is a reminder that we do have some class."

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CHANUKAH CANDLES

Rabbi Moshe Spalter (back row, far left) and friends celebrate Chanukah in front of the Lubavitch menorah at Centerpoint Mall at Yonge and Steeles. Other Lubavitch menorahs were located around Toronto. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Soviet Holocaust files may take ages to analyze

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The collapse of the Soviet Union has finally given researchers in Israel and elsewhere access to previously closed archives relating to the Holocaust, says Yad Vashem Museum's chief historian.

But the material yet to be examined is so voluminous, it may well take another century to plumb its secrets, explained David Silberklang in an interview.

To illustrate the problem, Silberklang said that while Yad Vashem – the Holocaust memorial and museum in Jerusalem — possesses 50 million pages of documentation pertaining to the shoah, a single archive in Moscow, one of dozens in the former Soviet Union, may have many more.

During Soviet times, such archives were strictly off-limits to Western historians. But since 1990, when the first ones were opened to foreign scrutiny, researchers have been given permission to sift through the trove.

Yad Vashem has been in the forefront of these efforts but after six years of working through the files, historians are still in the dark about many aspects of the Holocaust in the ex-Soviet Union, he said.

"We still don't know a lot," admitted Silberklang, who delivered a speech here about Jewish and non-Jewish responses to the Holocaust.

"We don't know much about the eastern Ukraine, especially the smaller Jewish communities there. We don't know how many Jews were evacuated by Soviet forces."

And, he noted, there are still yawning gaps in our knowledge of the way in which Jewish communities responded to the German occupation "We can't rely only on Nazi documents. They're not objective."

Apart from these conundrums, he said, researchers have yet to fully grasp events which unfolded outside the borders of the Soviet Union.

• France has not opened all its archives. "The French have trouble with their past," observed Silberklang, whose appearance in Toronto was sponsored by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, Congregation Beth Habonim, the March of the Living, the Holocaust Remembrance Committee and the United Jewish Appeal.

• The role of the Red Cross and the Vatican remains subject to clarification.

• The policy of Switzerland's cantons is largely shrouded in mystery.

David Silberklang

• The policies of countries such as Turkey and Finland remain somewhat unclear.

• The status of dispossessed Jewish property in German-ruled territory is an open question.

"There's still plenty more to be done," said Silberklang, a 40-year-old New Yorker who has lived in Israel since 1982.

Silberklang, who is also editor-in-chief of *Yad Vashem Studies,* said that the Allied powers were not really in a position to rescue Jews in the first years of the war. "At that point, they were losing badly, and were remote from the killing grounds. They were basically trying to survive."

Nonetheless, the Allies could have done more on behalf of Jews, he added. They could expressed compassion, welcomed Jewish escapees, sent funds and threatened the leaders of the Axis bloc with retribution.

In his view, the United States contributed the most to saving lives by establishing the War Refugee Board in 1944. According to one estimate, the WRB rescued 200,000 persons, mainly Hungarian Jews, from certain death.

Canada's approach was, at best, callous.

Even though the Allies issued a joint declaration about the Holocaust in December 1942, they did not fully grasp the extent of the systematic destruction of European Jewry until the end of the war, he said.

The German public had a "fair idea" of what was going on. "By and large, as a group, they knew about the Final Solution. The murder of the Jews was essentially a 'public secret.' "

Silberklang said that Daniel Goldhagen's recently-published book, *Hitler's Willing Executioners,* has reinforced our understanding of the killing process. "But his explanation of why it happened is one-dimensional and simplistic. I, personally, haven't read a valid explanation."

Poland's record is ambivalent. "Poland is a mixed bag. It's an exaggeration that the Poles were worse than the Nazis. It's a fact that some Poles risked their lives trying to help Jews. But, given the number of Jews in Poland, Poles had more of an opportunity to help them."

And Silberklang, the son of Polish survivors, claims that Poland's leaders were insufficiently energetic in attempting to rescue Jews.

In general, he went on to say, the people of the Baltic states and the western part of Ukraine were "very unhelpful. And yet you find gentile rescuers."

Of all the countries dominated by the Germans, Denmark compiled the best record in its treatment of Jews, he said.

Although it resisted the deportation of its citizens, Bulgaria passed anti-Semitic laws and permitted the Nazis to deport 11,000 Jews in Bulgarian-occupied Macedonia and Thrace, he pointed out.

Silberklang said that Holland's record is over-inflated, given the fact that 90 percent of its Jewish citizens perished during the Holocaust.

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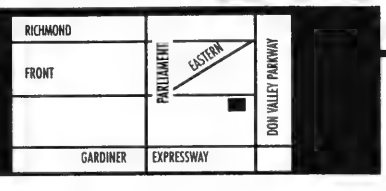

Editorials and Letters

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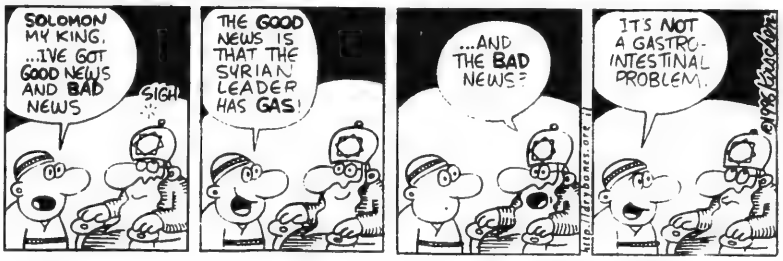
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Dry Bones

Unity, here

This is the last issue of *The CJN* in 1996. The terrain on which we have travelled this past year — as individuals, as a people and as a nation — was strewn, it seems, with more than the usual political, social and economic obstacles.

In Canada, we try desperately not to trip on the possibility of Quebec's separation. Thus preoccupied, we have lately altered our gait, making it more tentative, more halting. We seek out our responsibilities with our eyes low, our gaze close to the ground. Caution and prudence are commendable in proper measure. But great is our loss when they predominate, when we no longer "lift our eyes unto the mountains," towards a horizon where the sun is deeply golden and the sky is azure blue, where belief in our causes is unshaken and commitment to communal action is inexhaustible.

The Jewish community in Quebec is feeling pessimistic about its future. Given the political instability and the resulting economic uncertainty since the last referendum, pessimism is hardly surprising. As *The CJN* noted earlier this year, "the Jews of Quebec are constantly tuned into, constantly reacting to, constantly assessing and constantly debating political developments. Everyone bears within him a small, disquieting but fatiguing, inner agitation over the political situation." But the community in Quebec is hardy, determined to live a meaningful, rewarding, highly organized life, there, within Canada, in the culturally distinct and thriving neighborhoods that most have known and loved for generations.

It falls, therefore, to the Jews in the "rest of Canada" to help them. But in this important intra-communal cause, helping "them" means helping all Canadians.

In the struggle for Canada's future, the Jewish community must "lift its eyes" to envision and actively fight for a just, prosperous, generous, *united* country, a country which ties together the magnificent differences and distinctions of its diverse and powerful regions into one great strength.

...and in Israel

In Israel, on a landscape of frustrating peace partners, violent terrorist outrages, implacable hostility from Islamic fundamentalists, constant condemnation from its neighbors, and recurring criticism from the western media, the people try to find a secure path to peace with the Palestinians and the Syrians, even as they try to avoid falling into the seemingly widening internal fractures and fissures.

In our view, the terrain's most dangerous pitfall is that of Jewish fractiousness. The nation is divided along severely entrenched ideological lines, frequently excessively partisan politics and religious and secular schisms. It is still wounded from Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

The most important task facing the Jewish people as we step into the doorway of 1997 is to heal the fractures and to close the fissures, wherever and however possible. Extremism of any stripe must be rejected. In its place, tolerance, mutual respect and a sense of kinship and shared destiny must be embraced.

There is no denying the immeasurable, almost metaphysical, surge of strength that flows through the Jewish people when we are united. The Book of Esther (9:2) captures its essence perfectly in a very few words: *"The Jews assembled and united together... and no force was able to stand against them."*

When the stresses seem least bearable, the Jewish people must become most responsive. Our history has taught us how. Our responsibilities tell us when. And the situation tells us: Now.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 19, 1944 rock musician Zalman Yanovsky was born in Toronto. He eventually became the vocalist and guitarist for The Lovin' Spoonful. (Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

If Canada had acted on war criminals

Your editorial, "Another Name" (*CJN*, Dec. 5), on the conviction and sentencing of Drazen Erdemovic applauds and acknowledges a small but important step by the International Criminal Tribunal at The Hague dealing with crimes against humanity. The Court rejected a plea based on the defence of simply following orders. The irony is that our own Supreme Court of Canada in the Imre Finta case exonerated him for that very reason. Because of that regrettable decision by Canada's highest court, all criminal prosecutions were brought to a halt, leaving only denaturalization and deportation as a vehicle for bringing Canada's own war criminals to justice.

Might I suggest that the knowledge of judicial accountability may well deter future mass murderers. How terribly sad, therefore, that Canada and the rest of the world were so negligent and irresponsible in dealing with Nazi war criminals because, had it been otherwise, we might not have witnessed the horrific events that took place in Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. If prosecuting could have acted as a deterrent, is it not fair to ask who is more culpable, those who committed horrendous and heinous crimes or, those who did nothing to pursue and punish the perpetrators.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Pollard fared worse than war criminal

Strange are the ways of justice:

Drazen Erdemovic, a soldier in the Bosnian army, was recently found guilty of crimes against humanity, at the International War Crimes tribunal in The Hague. He admitted killing "up to 100" Muslims during the Bosnian War. His sentence: *10 years.* With good behavior, he could be released before then.

Jonathan Pollard, a naval intelligence analyst, pleaded guilty in 1985 of passing classified information to Israel. His sentence: *life, with a recommendation that he never be paroled.* He has already served over 11 years of his sentence, with no end in sight.

I can only assume, therefore, that mass murder isn't as serious a crime as giving Israel information needed to defend itself. Israel was legally entitled to this information, but it was withheld by individuals in the American administration.

Andrew Brooke
Toronto

Saying 'no' can make a difference

What will we teach our children about the Holocaust 25 years from now ? To me there is an important need to see our responsibility as one of passing on a notion of "living memory" from generation to generation. We need to think of ourselves as witnesses, even though we are not witnesses in the sense that survivors are.

One way of making this concrete is by seeing ourselves as links in a chain of connections. As someone who has known a survivor, I need to pass on that experience to my children who then can claim that they knew someone who knew a survivor, and so on. This is a way of both personalizing the Holocaust, always a powerful learning device, and also building our capacity to fight Holocaust deniers.

Another is to make connections, to talk about the particular evil of anti-Semitism and its most horrific manifestation, but also to link these horrors to those of other people who also are suffering because someone with more power has decided that they are less than fully human.

Finally, however, we also need to talk about and remember the people who made a difference, who chose to look and act when others turned away. We need to use them as role models, because in order to work against present and future horrors, we need to ensure that more and more of us and our children are involved actively in saying "no." We need to let our children know what happens when too many people do not say "no," and also that saying "no" can make an incredible difference.

Certainly I would not be alive without the man who regularly left a piece of bread for my mother, or the Italian workers who cut the electric wires with which the Nazis planned to electrocute the Jewish slaves, my mother among them, at the labor camp Salzvedle as the war came to an end.

Fran Klodawsky
Ottawa

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"There is no sorrow like the sorrow of the heart."
Talmud, Sanhedrin

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

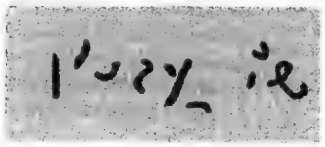
May we take pleasure in peace abundant

On Dec. 10, 1966, Shmuel Yosef Agnon (S.Y. Agnon) of Israel and Nelly Sachs of Sweden shared the Nobel Prize for Literature. *The CJN* wishes to recall that moment for its readers.

In this issue, we publish the address delivered by Agnon at the state banquet in honor of the Nobel laureates. In a future issue we will provide an essay about Nelly Sachs.

In *S.Y. Agnon, A Book That Was Lost and Other Stories*, Alan Mintz and Anne Golomb Hoffman wrote: "Many storytellers have arisen to tell the story of East European Jewry, but the achievement of S.Y. Agnon remains singular.

Agnon's address at the banquet provides touching proof of that achievement.



By SHMUEL YOSEF AGNON

As a result of the historic catastrophe in which Titus of Rome destroyed Jerusalem and banished Israel from its land, I was born in one of the cities of the exile. But I have always seen myself as having been born in Jerusalem.

I was five when I composed my first poem out of longing for my father, who was away on a business trip. I wrote many more poems, all of which were destroyed when my father's house, in which I had left the manuscripts, was burnt down during World War I.

And the young artisans, the tailors and shoemakers, who used to recite my poems while they worked, were killed in the First War. And of those who were not killed in that war, some were buried alive together with their sisters in a pit which they dug for themselves at the command of the enemy, and most were burnt in the crematoria of Auschwitz together with their sisters, who had adorned our city with their beauty, and who, with their voices so sweet, had sung my songs.

Many of the works I composed later were burnt in a fire which destroyed my home in Bad Homburg while I was in hospital. These included a novel about 300,000 words long, and a book I wrote together with Martin Buber, as well as some 4,000 Hebrew books which I had inherited or bought.

The King of Sweden presents the Nobel Prize to Agnon. [Ariel Magazine 1966/67]

Sketch by Moshe Gat

Then I returned to Palestine, settling in Jerusalem, after having been a *chalutz*, and I lived in Jaffa for a while when I was 19. In Jerusalem, because of its merit, I wrote all that God put into my heart and pen, including two books, *Yamim Nora'im* (The Days of Awe) and one on the giving of the Torah at Sinai, *Atem Re'item*.

In my writing I have been influenced first and foremost by the Bible, Mishnah, Talmud, Midrash and Rashi's commentary on the Bible. The next influences were the medieval halachic commentators, Hebrew poets and philosophers led by Maimonides. I also used to read every book in German that came to hand.

I was influenced by every man and every woman and every child who happened my way, both Jews and non-Jews. The conversations of people, the stories they told, were engraved on my heart, and some of them came up into my pen. The same is true of the scenes of nature. The Dead Sea which I used to see from the roof of my house every day at the peep of dawn, the Brook Arnon in which I used to bathe, the nights which I used to spend with men of pious thought and righteous action at the Wailing Wall — all of these gave me eyes to see the Land of the Blessed Holy One, which He gave us, and the city upon which He established His name. And in order not to slight any creature, I must also mention the animals of the yard and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air, from which I learned. Some of what I learned from them I have written down in my books.

But I fear that I did not learn as much as I should have. For when I hear the sound of a dog barking, the voice of a bird piping, the call of a cock crowing, I do not know whether they are thanking me for what I have told about them or whether they are calling me to task.

May He Who gives wisdom to the wise and salvation to kings increase your wisdom without measure and elevate your king without limit. In his days and in ours may Judah be redeemed and may Israel dwell in safety. May the Redeemer come to Zion, and may the earth be filled with knowledge and with joy everlasting to all its inhabitants, and may they take pleasure in peace abundant.

How The New York Times reported the Nobel Prize ceremony Dec. 11, 1966

"When it was his turn to be presented, Mr. Agnon jumped to his feet and enthusiastically shook the King's hand as he received the prize. Then, instead of the usual single bow to the King, he kept on bowing until he got back to his chair. He was obviously a very happy and flustered man. When he learned in October in Jerusalem that he had won the Nobel Prize, Mr. Agnon said that going to Stockholm would give him special pleasure "because there is a special benediction one says before a king and I have never met a king before." Tonight at the banquet, as the King looked on, Mr. Agnon, speaking in Hebrew, recited the blessing, "Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has given of His glory to flesh and blood." The Israeli author said that "some see in my books the influences of authors whose names, in my ignorance, I have not even heard, while others see the influences of poets whose names I have heard but whose writing I have never read."

The true sources of his inspiration, he went on, were first and foremost, the sacred scriptures and, after that, the teachings of the medieval Jewish sages, and the spectacle of nature, and the animals of the earth."

(Excerpted from *S.Y. Agnon, A Book That Was Lost and Other Stories*, edited with introductions by Alan Mintz and Anne Golomb Hoffman, Schocken Books, New York, 1995)

Opinions

Israel after Yitzhak Rabin

By Emil Fackenheim

The most important event in Israel since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin has been, of course, the election and the subsequent change of government, the first chance Israelis have had to vote on the Oslo accord. It is significant that Jews voted for the change by a large margin.

Among the causes have doubtless been not only distrust of the Oslo partner, Yasser Arafat, but also concern for Jews and Judaism. With talk in the former government, or among those close to it, about "post-Zionism," even calls to abolish the Law of Return and the Hatikvah, voters had reason to worry about Jerusalem, and — as writer Aharon Megged, a Labor supporter put it — the threat of "Zionist suicide."

Since taking office, the government has made its share of mistakes. This must not however, obscure its most important achievement thus far. In his acceptance speech, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised peace among Jews prior to peace between Arabs and Israelis. Since then, he has kept his promise in one crucial respect — acceptance rather than repudiation of the written Oslo accord commitments made by his predecessor.

He did not falter even in the September disturbances, but merely let the disturbances give added significance to his contribution to the political dictionary — "reciprocity." The least an Israeli government can expect when it gives arms to Palestinian Authority (PA) "policemen" is that they will not turn them on Israeli soldiers. When this happened, Netanyahu had the right, both legal and moral, to treat the Oslo accord as null and void, but he did not.

The failure to recognize this achievement is largely due to the media, more shameless in their bias than ever. But owing to Israel's situation — besieged since birth, too many wars, no risk-free solution for the Arab-Israeli problem — the concept of "loyal opposition" is poorly developed in Israel. The opposition must criticize the government, but may not undermine it.

Recently leftist leader Yossi Sarid was correct when he warned sabre-rattling President Hafez al-Assad not to be tempted by the appearance of an Israel impotent in divisiveness; in case of war all Israel would be united.

But this lesson is not always learned. The most divisive slogan currently around is probably, "Hast thou killed and also taken possession?" (This is an allusion to the biblical Elijah who rebuked King Ahab for having Nabot murdered and then taking his vineyard that he had coveted, I Kings 21:19.) But Netanyahu did not plot Yitzhak Rabin's murder, nor did Israeli Orthodoxy, of which Yigal Amir is a very aberrant member.

Nor did one of the two major Israeli parties gain while the other lost through the murder. All Israel lost a universally respected leader, mourned also by Israelis who disagreed with his later policies. And if for some of the young in Israel Rabin has become an icon, they are right at least in part. A live Rabin could not have got what all Israel wants — a real peace with no risks left.

Neither French President Jacques Chirac nor British Foreign Minister Malcolm Rifkind would have dared to visit and to to popularity acclaimed Rabin what they did to popularity sniped at Netanyahu: propose a peace in which the Arabs got everying, Israel nothing, not even revocation of the PLO Covenant, Chirac seemed to go out of his way to insult Israel. And Rifkind came here to pronounce that the Israeli settlements in the territories are "illegal." He cannot have been ignorant of the ABC of Israeli-Arab "legality" — UN Resolution 242's call for Israeli withdrawal "from occupied territories," not "the occupied territories." The Arabs have tried ever since to smuggle the "the" back in. Rifkind came to join the smugglers.

I have stressed the political, for everything else is bound up with it. The Orthodox and the Haredim voted last election, many for the first time, because they felt under attack by leftist militant secularism. It would not be wise to let this conflict freeze into a permanent religious-cum-right-wing versus a secularist-cum-left-wing one, let alone to exacerbate that conflict. The Orthodox have exercised the privilege of Israeli citizenship by voting. Now let them accept its responsibilities also by military service or its equivalent. This is the road to greater Israeli unity.

It is the road to greater Israeli-Diaspora unity also. Soon after "the handshake," the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) held a conference in Jerusalem, but invited only Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Faissal Huseini to address them. Was Netanyahu against peace, rather than merely against this road to it? The CCAR was rescued by protests; Netanyahu was invited, belatedly, hastily. But the respected organization would have come to Israel to make the polarization of besieged Israel still wider, when the task of visiting delegations should only be to narrow it.

That this Diaspora attitude toward Israel has not vanished is perhaps best shown by a recent statement in *Tikkun* (II no. 2) "American Jews," editor Michael Lerner asserts, "should now stand firm in demanding a new Zionism based on the sanctity of every human being," hence on "Palestinian national self-determination." The "old Zionists" of the Labor government at least risked being shot at themselves when they gave the PA "police" arms. Lerner's "new Zionists," a Zionism-away-from-Zion, run no such risks. Perhaps this explains why they can stand so firm.

Israel is the only truly radical response to the catastrophe of the Holocaust, the only truly radical commitment to a Jewish future. This is how we must look at the grave problems presently facing us.

Dry Bones

SECRET SWISS BANK ACCOUNTS WERE ALWAYS A "COVER"
BUT IT'S TAKEN US FIFTY YEARS...
TO DISCOVER EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS...
THAT THEY'VE BEEN TRYING TO COVER UP!

Dry Bones

Memorial in Berlin

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

A year ago, the news media reported extensively on a mega-project planned by the City of Berlin. It was to be the Holocaust Memorial to end all memorials — fit for the city where Hitler reigned and where, in one of the suburbs, the final plan was hatched to destroy every last Jew in Europe.

Now, the reports went, Berlin would at last recognize its past and would build a monument the size of a football field: a huge, inclined cement slab, which would be inscribed with millions of names of Nazi victims. The slab would be part of an ongoing exhibt that was to be entitled, The Topography of Terror.

But a few weeks ago, it was announced that the Berlin government, pressed to trim its spending, had decided to postpone the project until the year 2000. That in turn caused widespread criticism — especially in view of the negative comment that had been directed not only against the "superslab," but against the need for having a memorial altogether. In the midst of this growing controversy, the city-state's parliament indicated that it would reconsider the postponement.

All of this happened during the period into which the two major commemorative days of Germany's modern era fall: in 1938, when the events began that have become known as Kristallnacht, and in 1989, when the Berlin Wall came down marking the reunification of East and West Germany.

The Week in Germany, which summarizes the major contacts of German newspapers had this to say: "Underscoring the need to keep memory of the past alive for future generations, German Jews and gentiles alike paid their respects over the weekend to the memory of the German Jews killed and terrorized 58 years ago. On the night of Nov. 9-10, 1938, Nazi officials led attacks on Jews, synagogues and businesses owned by Jews throughout Germany. Many were killed, their synagogues were set ablaze and some 30,000 Jews were arrested for deportation to concentration camps. This terrible event... must not fade from memory if future generations are to be spared the consequences of intolerance, racism and xenophobia."

In Dachau, which housed a concentration camp of terrible memory, the president of the German Parliament, Rita Suessmuth, moderated a discussion between young people and one-time prisoners in the camp. A former inmate of Buchenwald, another camp of ill fate, reminded participants in a memorial service in Frankfurt of the tremendous loss to their culture that Germany had suffered as a result of the Holocaust. "Germany and all of Europe," he said, "still feel the loss today."

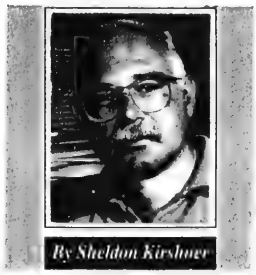
After stressing the importance of preserving memory of the Nazi reign of terror and the Holocaust, Ignatz Bubis, chair of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, challenged Germany's educators to broaden their coverage of he history of Germany's minority beyond the period of the Third Reich.

There are plenty of people who would like to see this whole problem go away. But there are enough others in Germany who feel that without acknowledging its memories, Germany is much less than it ought to be.

The Kirshner File

Recalling the Bernonville affair

Last month, Jean-Louis Roux, the lieutenant-governor of Quebec, resigned under duress, falling victim to what may



By Sheldon Kirshner

charitably be called a youthful indiscretion. In 1942, while taking part in an anti-conscription rally that turned anti-Semitic, he wore a swastika on his sleeve.

If nothing else, the Roux incident underlined the degree to which French Canadian society was impregnated with anti-Semitism, a topic scholar Esther Delisle deftly examined in *The Traitor and the Jew.*

The Bernonville affair, which many Quebeckers have forgotten, also highlights this disturbing phenomenon. In the autumn of 1946, a French priest named Jacques Benoit arrived in the Quebec border town of Lacolle via New York state. Benoit was actually Jacques Duge de Bernonville, a French war criminal who entered Canada with a forged passport.

Bernonville might have remained undetected had he not crossed paths in Granby with a Parisian Jew who had worked in the same building as he did before World War II.

Once Bernonville's real identity was revealed, the federal authorities detained him. Subsequently, a deportation order was issued. French Canadian nationalists, who had been sympathetic to Vichy France, rallied behind Bernonville, who eventually left Canada voluntarily.

Bernonville's story is told by Montreal historian Yves Lavertu in *The Bernonville Affair* (Robert Davies Publishing, $17.99). It is a timely book in light of the fact that the file on European war criminals in Canada is still wide open.

Born into an aristocratic family in 1897, Bernonville was an active member of Action Française, a fascist organization whose guru was the notorious ideologue Charles Maurras. In 1938, Bernonville was arrested, charged with trying to overthrow the government by force.

During the war, when France was occupied by Germany and governed by a collaborationist regime based in Vichy, he served as a functionary in the Commission for Jewish Questions. Its mandate was to implement anti-Semitic laws excluding Jews from the social, political and economic life of France and its overseas colonies.

Later, Bernonville served with the Milice, which rounded up Jews in France. In his final years as a collaborator, he was on the payroll of the 9th Brandenbourg regiment of the Waffen SS.

Like his fellow war criminal, Paul Touvier (who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1994), Bernonville was accused of treason once the Germans were driven out of France. Catholic monasteries hid him, clergymen provided him with a plausible cover, while other Vichy supporters facilitated his flight to Spain and then to the United States and Canada.

As Lavertu observes, Quebec was partial to types like Bernonville. In 1940, the representative of Gen. Charles de Gaulle in Quebec, Elisabeth de Miribel, had bitterly commented: "French Canadians have boundless admiration for Marshal [Henri] Pétain, in spite of the people surrounding him, in spite of his mistakes. They consider any news that France is being enslaved by the Nazis to be the work of English propaganda."

Bernonville, therefore, blended in well in Quebec, and had he not been discovered by chance he may have escaped justice altogether. But as fate would have it, Bernonville's cover was blown.

Given the political climate in Quebec, the Bernonville case became a *cause célèbre*, taken up by such figures as the former mayor of Montreal, Camillien Houde, and a student leader named Camille Lauren, who, as a Parti Québécois cabinet minister, shepherded the passage of Bill 101 through the National Assembly.

The Jewish community monitored events, but rarely intervened in the open. Lavertu speculates that its attitude can be attributed in part to the fear of a public backlash.

In February 1950, almost a year after a judge in Quebec had declared Bernonville's deportation edict illegal, the Canadian government issued a new expulsion order. Prominent members of Quebec's elite protested, but to no avail. On Aug. 17, 1951, Bernonville left Canada for Brazil, a Nazi haven.

France requested his extradition, but it was an exercise in futility. Bernonville, the fugitive, lived out his years in Brazil. But in April 1972, his luck ran out. His cleaning lady's son, who was said to be under the influence of alcohol and drugs, murdered him in his apartment for no apparent reason.

The Bernonville Affair, resting on a foundation of primary archives and documents from such sources as the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, opens up new vistas of understanding about Vichy France and French Canadian society. But, regrettably, it is not a first-class work, marred as it is by errors of omission and periodic bouts of wobbly writing.

The definitive book about Bernonville has yet to be written.

Man of letters

Alfred Kazin is a quintessential man of letters, an essayist, a memoirist and a literary critic. The son of a Russian Jewish blue-collar worker who settled in America in 1907, Kazin is best known for *On Native Ground* and *A Walker in the City.*

In his latest work, *A Lifetime Burning In Every Moment* (HarperCollins, $36.75), Kazin offers readers eclectic glimpses from the journals he has kept since the late 1930s. The book is wide-ranging and seldom less than interesting. Kazin recalls his youth in Brooklyn, his father's painful adjustment to a new land, his professional development as a writer, his friendships with New York intellectuals, his tempestuous marriages and his travels.

Kazin revels in irony. Shortly after the war, he visits a camp for displaced Jews in Germany. Then, in the company of the great musician Yehudi Menuhin, he attends a concert given by Wilhelm Furtwangler, Hitler's favorite conductor.

In a fragment, Kazin cannot resist the temptation of informing us that he saved *The Origins of Totalitarianism* from the dustbin. Having heard that a Boston publisher had rejected Hannah Arendt's brilliant manuscript, Kazin took it to the chief editor. After staying up all night digesting its contents, the editor accepted it with alacrity.

Kazin's impressions of Israel are enhanced by his ability to turn a deft phrase. One example will suffice: "Archeology here is Zionism with a shovel." His brief encounter with Yigael Yadin, the Israeli general and archeologist, is somewhat amusing. Yadin, bored, mechanically urges Kazin to make aliyah. When Kazin doesn't take the suggestion seriously, Yadin's guests display petulant vehemence. They can't understand that Kazin is rooted in American soil.

Kazin's pithy pen portraits are intriguing and acidic. In particular, I enjoyed his description of Bernard Berenson, the celebrated art critic; of Rabbi Leo Baeck, the leader of the Reform movement; and of the novelists Saul Bellow, Isaac Bashevis Singer and Jerzy Kosinski.

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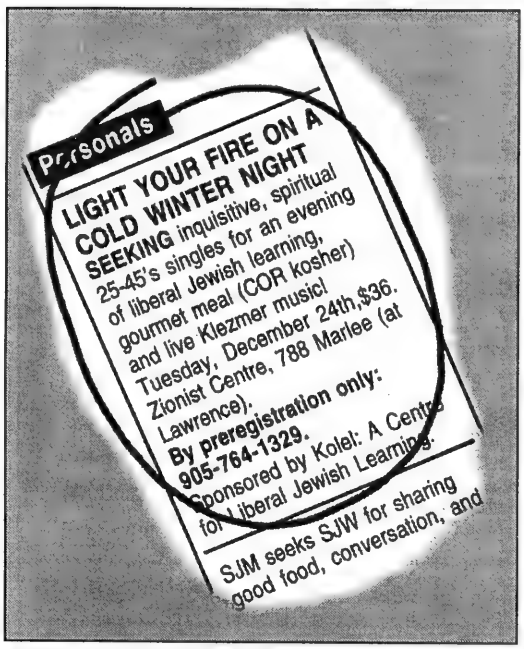
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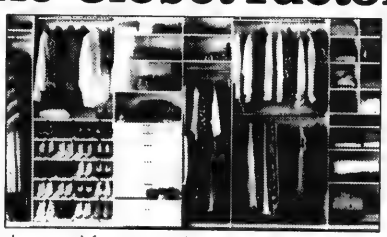

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Shattered illusions

By CHAVA SHIMON

Guest Voices

I arrived and was shocked to find a dingy, dirty, chaotic city. All my illusions of a holy city, emanating light, were shattered by the harsh reality. I expected to find a Jewish city surrounded by Arab villages. Instead I found a Jewish street, sandwiched in the middle of an Arab city.

It was my first time visiting Hebron and the purpose of my spending Shabbat there was to try to clarify my political opinion on our second holy city. I must admit, I understand more now, but at the same time, I feel torn and confused when I consider my position on its fate, which is being decided now in a very dangerous game.

The tension was thick. As we walked through the streets and felt the icy glares, I was amazed by the irony. In the place where Jews and Arabs probably hate each other most, they live closest together.

Walking to pray at the Me'ara (The Cave of Machpelah), I was shocked to see a group of young Jewish boys throwing stones at an Arab kid on a bike. The twisted irony of this scene proved to me that we are definitely products of our environment.

As I walked up the stairs that lead up to the holy shrine, which we've seen endlessly on the news, chills ran down my spine. I stood in the place where Adam, Eve, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob and Leah are buried. I can't say I was spiritually connected, but there was this intense identification with everying I've been doing, everything I've been learning. It was real.

As an observant and practising Jew, I feel a religious obligation towards the sanctity of the place. In Halachah we have a tremendous obligation towards *k'vod hamet* — respecting the dead. This halachic obligation teaches us about our past, and through understanding our past, we may better understand our present and our future. I asked myself if I would be willing to give away my parents' gravesite (may they live till 120).

At the same time, I was sad for the families who are committing their lives to preserve our sacred history. Every day for them is a struggle, is uncertain. Life there is so different: For Chanukah, children don't ask for the latest computer model, or a new bike, but to stay in Hebron with a strong Jewish community!

How many of us can say that we are committed to our roots, our heritage and the state of Israel to such an extent that our belief becomes the essence of our existence; that we live, breathe and fear it every day?

Then I thought, how many of us want our children to grow up playing in stones as opposed to playing on grass. I don't envision my children growing up this way and I don't wish it upon any child of Israel.

The air is filled with an enchanting holiness, and poisonous hatred.

Approaching Jerusalem on my way home, struggling with my ambivalent feelings, I tried to make sense of everything, but the one thing that kept coming back to my mind was the sight of the three young boys with their large kippot, picking up stones and throwing them at their adversary, the Arab kid their own age on a bike.

The challenge, of living in Hebron, is to live there with the strength of the Jewish people, with the Torah, rising above the ways of other nations, fighting with fiercer weapons. But what does this mean if our children are the ones who are casting stones?

Chava Shimon, a graduate of Hebrew Academy High School of Montreal, is currently a first-year student at Bar-Ilan University.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Farewell to God, by Charles Templeton (McClelland & Stewart, $29.99).

"If there is a loving God, why does he permit — much less create — earthquakes, droughts, floods, tornadoes, and other natural disasters which kill thousands of innocent men, women and children every year?

"How can a loving, omnipotent God permit — much less create — encephalitis, cerebral palsy, brain cancer, leprosy, Alzheimer's, and other incurable illnesses to afflict millions of men, women and children, most of whom are decent people?

"How could a loving Heavenly Father create an endless Hell and, over the centuries, consign millions of people to it because they do not or cannot or will not accept certain religious beliefs?

"How can one believe the biblical account of the creation of the world in six days when every eminent physicist agrees that all living species have evolved over millions of years from primitive beginnings?

Probing questions

"Is it possible to believe that the Creator of the universe would personally impregnate a Palestinian virgin in order to facilitate getting his Son into the world as a man?"

These and other striking questions are posted by the author who was for more than 20 years a major figure in the church in Canada and the United States and a renowned evangelist who addressed mass rallies across North America.

Confronted by doubt about some of the major teachings of the Bible and the Christian faith, Charles Templeton in 1957, resigned from the ministry. Now almost 40 years later, he reveals the reasons for the abandonment of his faith.

He concedes that holy books of various religions contain gems of wisdom, profound insights, portraits of remarkable personalities as well as necessary laws to govern human behavior. "But they should be recognized for what they are — not the revealed word of a deity but the conclusions and insights of men and women who, across the centuries, have sought to understand and explain the mysteries of existence."

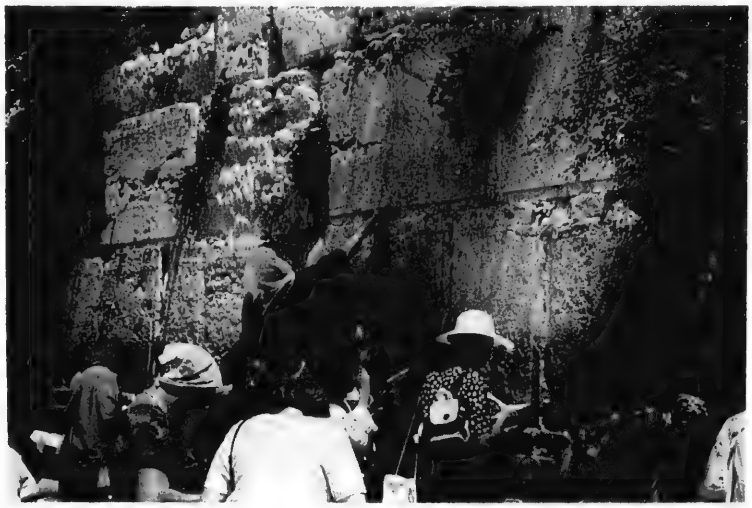
The author finds the God of the Hebrew scriptures an all too human deity with failings and passions on a grand scale...he is biased, querulous, vindictive and jealous of his prerogatives. Templeton is equally sceptical about the Christian church's insistence that Jesus was God, the second person of the Holy Trinity. He insists that he adheres strongly to the values that flow from Jesus' teachings, "without believing the unbelievable that this remarkable Palestinian teacher was Almighty God in the flesh."

Belief in the efficacy of prayer, he insists is a form of self-delusion. "Prayer cannot possibly change anything and there is no point to it." Can God be talked into running the universe according to the selfish wishes of a devout person? Try to imagine the chaos, he asks, if every person's prayer were answered. He concludes, "Our true prayers are the way we live."

He argues that Christians are a small minority in the world. Approximately four out of every five people on earth believe in gods other than the Christian God. "Are we to believe that only Christians are right?"

This apologia is bound to provoke controversy and outrage the sensibilities of many religious people. Complex and difficult theological questions are dealt with in a terse and superficial manner. There is no discussion of religion as a source of values and inspiration or of ritual and holiday observances as a means to add color, depth and meaning to life. Often repetitive and sometimes smug, this is nonetheless an honest, considered statement that people of faith should ponder in order to evaluate and assess their own religious convictions.

See JN



REACHING FOR A HIGH NOTE

This photo poignantly shows an unidentfied woman at prayer at the Western Wall, arching upward to find a private, uncluttered, secure spot within the crevices of the weather-beaten blocks in which to place her note of prayer to God. [photo by Shira Honig]

Dance the horah on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Mention Israeli dance and images of children dancing a simple horah spring to mind. But there is much more to Israeli dance than *Hevaynu Shalom Aleichem* or *Mayim Mayim*. On the Jewish Highway, you can get a great education about the joy of dance in Jewish culture. All without working up a sweat!

The best overview of dance in Israel was prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/facts/ culture/fcult5.html]**. This site traces the importance of dance in both communal and religious Jewish life. Nowadays, Israel boasts many impressive modern dance groups including the Bat-Dor and Batsheva Dance Companies and the remarkable Kol-Dmama (Sound-Silence) Dancers, a unique company comprised of deaf and hearing dancers.

The remainder of this site examines the evolution of folk dancing in Israel and analyzes its continued popularity. "While in other countries folk dance is fostered to preserve old rural traditions, in Israel it is a constantly developing art form."

When you come across Ernie Cohen's Israeli Folkdance Archive **[http://superbook.bellcore.com/archive/homepage.html]**, you begin to understand how developed an art form it has become. Although this Web site's title page is deceptively simple, there is an incredible wealth of information here. You can search for almost any folk dance imaginable at **[http://superbook.bellcore.com/archive/dances.html]**. In return, you'll get the name of the choreographer, a list of recordings and videos that have been made of that dance. And for many of the songs, you will find the Hebrew lyrics transliterated into English and the dance step notation. You can browse the entire alphabetical list of hundreds of dances ranging from *A Chassane* to *Zot Yerushalayim* at **[http://superbook.bellcore.com/israeli/choreographer/]**.

Another more modest page which is also looking for dance notes can be found at **[http://www.artsci.wustl.edu/~jclerman/folkdance/dances.html]**.

It's one thing to try to teach yourself a dance step. But to really learn and enjoy, nothing beats the human touch. Here in Canada, you can find out more from Vancouver's Israeli Folk Dance Society **[http://www.m-o-tek.com/nona/welcome.htm]**, in Montreal at **[http://www.spherenet.com/keff/aboutus/aboutus.html]** and in Toronto at **[http://www.feduja.org/artculre/artcat.stm]**.

You never know whom you'll come across when you start looking for folk dancing fans. One of the more interesting (and eclectic) World Wide Web pages I came across belongs to an enthusiast of Israeli folk dancing, Ariel Cohen **[http://shum.cc.huji.ac.il/~cariel/]**. On his site, Cohen has links to articles about the threat of radon gas, a petition calling for the peaceful use of the Internet...and a page providing Israeli folk dance notation **[http://shum.cc.huji.ac.il/~cariel/AggadatHasultan.html]**.

Oh yes, in addition to being a folk dancing fan, Cohen is also an expert in laser radars and Vice Mayor of Jerusalem.

If you believe that Israelis only dance folk music, here are a couple of sites that can set you straight. The Israel Tap Center **[http://www.isratap.co.il/isratap.htm]** has information about where to learn to tap dance and about the country's Jazz Tap Festivals. And for something completely different, why not try Martial Dance **[http://www.io.org/~wwalker/mdance/Overview.html]** which combines elements of dance improvisation, Aikido and Tai Chi.

But the most surprising Israeli dance site isn't found in Israel, North America or Europe but at Japan's Israeli Folkdance page **[http://www.bekkoame.or.jp/~adontoru/english/eng.html]**.

According to this fascinating site, Israeli folk dancing made its way to Japan after World War II. Teachers from the United States. (who were neither Jewish nor Israeli) began to teach these dances in Japanese junior high schools and apparently their popularity continues to today. And what's the most popular dance of them all? *Mayim Mayim.*

Happy dancing!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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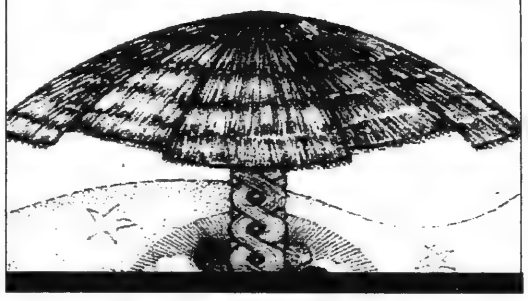

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Greater Toronto Area

At the 1996 JNF Toronto Negev Dinner (from left) are dinner chair John Turner, JNF Toronto president Tom Ungar and dinner honoree Lt. Gov. Henry Jackman.

JNF honors Jackman at Negev Dinner

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — More than 800 people attended the recent 48th annual Jewish National Fund (JNF) of Toronto Negev Dinner honoring Lt. Gov. Henry Jackman.

The evening featured political bantering and tributes to the honoree by politicians, clergy, Israeli representatives and community leaders.

Following the introduction of the head table guests by Ben Prossin, executive director of JNF Toronto, former Liberal prime minister John Turner, who served as dinner chair, lauded Jackman as someone who believes in "a sense of duty, a sense of responsibility, a duty to give something back for what he and the rest of us have received from a marvellous country."

Praising Jackman for serving Ontario "for all the right reasons," Turner said everyone in the province "owes him an immense amount of gratitude and respect for what he has done."

Jehudi Kinar, Israeli consul general to Ontario and Western Canada, said the proceeds of this year's dinner will establish the Jackman Gardens in the JNF Park Jerusalem 3000.

Chanukah candles were lit by Bill Lampert and Barry Spiegel, co-chairs of the General Canvass Division, assisted by youngsters Tara Disenhouse, Jessica and Jeffery Fryman, Kathy Sager and Allan Ungar.

U of T's next chancellor

Former Ontario premier Bob Rae said he paid tribute to Jackman "despite the fact that a year and a half ago, you fired me."

In an unscheduled announcement, Rose Wolfe, chancellor of the University of Toronto, said that Jackman has been elected as the university's next chancellor.

Joey Tanenbaum, the 1994 Negev Dinner honoree, lauded Jackman, whom he said has often talked of the similarities between the struggle for nationhood by the people of Israel and those in Canada.

In his response, Jackman chided Rae: "We worked out an agreement; we decided how to divide up the responsibilities. I said I will take all the honors and you will take all the blame, Bob. I think it worked out pretty well."

As his last official public function as Ontario's lieutenant governor (Jackman officially completed his term of office three days after the dinner), he said, "If I had to pick one dinner at which I could thank Canadians for their generosity, for their dedication to the principals we all hold dear, I can not think of a better place than here at the Negev Dinner."

Dinner co-chairs were Rae, Alan Posluns and Prof. Irving Abella.

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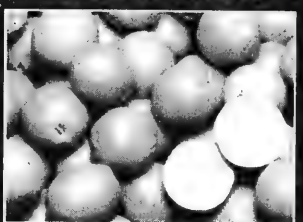
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Greater Toronto Area

Young Jewish Adults group shuts down in T.O.

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Association for Young Jewish Adults (AYJA) has closed down here after seven years in operation, although it's still going strong in Montreal, where it originated in 1987.

Both in Montreal and Ottawa, where a branch was organized three years ago, the group is now affiliated with the local Jewish community centre (Snowdon Y and Ottawa JCC respectively).

The association, known for its fundraising social activities, began life as the Jewish Adult Programming Society (JAPS) in Montreal, but eventually changed its name because of flak over the acronym.

"We saw a need in the community for singles to meet, and for fundraising," said Rob Singer, who co-founded the group with David Hershon. "Every dollar we raised we donated back to the community," he added. Singer, now 34, owns the Jewish Singles Registry in Toronto.

These days, at least in Toronto, 20- and 30-somethings have a wider variety of Jewish outlets in which to become involved. It was becoming hard to compete with for-profit organizations who ran the same types of activities, said past president Marla Cohen.

An additional factor in the decision to shut down was the difficulty finding new volunteers to organize the programs, Cohen added. A core group was actively involved in programming; their mailing list at one point had some 1,500 names.

"Good way of meeting people"

When Cohen, now 30, moved from Montreal to Toronto in 1990, she became involved with AYJA immediately. "I thought it was a good cause and a good way of meeting people."

Although the association used to hold parties in Toronto every six to eight weeks, it's been over a year since their last one.

AYJA leaders, faced with time constraints and changing lifestyles (Cohen, for example, is a new mother), were hoping to find people to take over their reponsibilities. According to de facto national president Mike Cohen (no relation to Marla), the organization would welcome inquiries even now from anyone interested in revitalizing the group.

Over the years, in the three cities, AYJA raised between $100,000 and $150,000 for charities such as Magen David Adom, the Reena Foundation, United Jewish Appeal as well as lesser known ones. A few years ago they held a step aerobathon to raise money for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada. Often they would donate needed items such as mezuzahs or books, said Marla Cohen.

"I feel good about what AYJA has done," she added.

Mike Cohen, the de facto national president, is a 34-year-old Montrealer who has been involved with AYJA since its inception.

"It was probably one of the greatest things in my life. It brought me into a network of young Jewish adults – probably all the best friends I have today are people I met through that group," he said. Cohen, national director of communications for Canadian Jewish Congress, served as AYJA president for three years.

A major event is being planned in Montreal for the group's 10th anniversary, he said. "We estimate 50 to 100 couples met and married through AYJA. It's absolutely incredible. Our group is different because it's singles and couples."

For more information about the June 1997 reunion, call Davina Shapiro at the Snowdon Y, 514-737-6551.

BETH TIKVAH AWARDS

Beth Tikvah Synagogue won an award for adult education at the First Annual Synagogue Awards Competition, sponsored by the Ontario region of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Seen here at the awards ceremony is (from left) Morris Adams, Heather Shapero and Stuart Razin.

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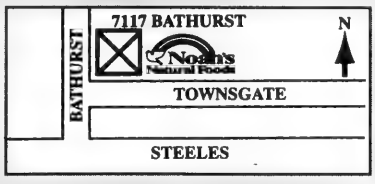

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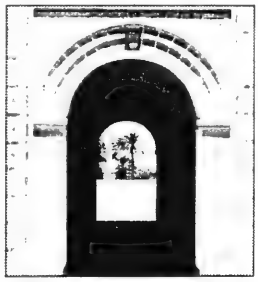

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Greater Toronto Area

Young Judaea to celebrate 80th anniversary

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Young Judaea (CYJ) is embarking on a year of celebration to mark its 80th anniversary.

Among the planned commemorative events are reunions to be held across the country next fall. The Zionist youth movement, which was started by Canadian youth in 1917, is probably best known for its summer camp,started by CYJ teens who wanted to continue their year-round activities during the summer, said the organization's executive director Risa Epstein.

Canadian Young Judaea has a presence in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax, and has been coordinating Jewish weekends recently for children and adults in a number of eastern Canadian cities, in cooperation with the Atlantic Jewish Council.

For Ryan Hass, CYJ's national shaliach, the appeal of the organization lies in its "total acceptance and tolerance." A 29-year-old native of Southend-on-Sea, England who made aliyah in 1989, Hass was involved in CYJ affiliate Hanoar Hatzioni from the age of 8.

"You could be sitting in a room doing a program with someone who wears a kippah and someone who doesn't, with someone who believes in the left wing and someone who believes in the right wing. It seems to bring these people together...and creates a Jewish environment and Jewish identity," said Hass.

Although he grew up in a religious home and attended *cheder* in a community of 1,500 Jewish families, the youth movement gave him "another side to the Jewish identity."

Epstein, a former Young Judaean who has lived in Israel, confirms Hass' description of the diversity within the youth movement. "We have kids who are *shomer shabbos* and kids who have very little Jewish tradition in their homes. We're able to satisfy both their needs in an environment of respect."

A graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem whose undergraduate degree was in informal education, Hass lists among his main goals co-ordinating the educational aspect of CYJ and fostering leadership.

Before arriving here in October, he spent three years in charge of Hanoar Hatzioni's European and Canadian desk.

Hass is the director of Camp Solelim, a six-week leadership camp near Sudbury, Ontario for 14- and 15-year-olds, and is also affiliated with CYJ's other summer

Ryan Hass

camps: Kinneret and Biluim Canada, both in the Laurentians; Camp Kadimah in Nova Scotia; Camp Hatikvah in British Columbia; Biluim Israel, one of the largest Canadian teen trips to Israel; and Camp Shalom in Gravenhurst, Ontario, whose establishment in 1948 was marked in a commemorative issue of *The Judaean* that also saluted the new republic of Israel.

In Toronto there is a junior program during the year for youngsters age 7 to 13 and for teens. The programs had fizzled during the 1980s, but there's been "a rebirth," noted Epstein. "People in the community are looking for an informal way for their children to learn about Judaism." Vancouver and Edmonton have followed a similar trend, she added.

The concomitant educational aspect does not include "using the youth movement as a political vehicle," Hass emphasized.

"We believe," said Epstein, "that education is the only way our campers can make educated decisions about their own beliefs."

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TVO program to focus on historic cemetery

TORONTO — A documentary aired on TVO's *Studio 2* in October will be repeated on Dec. 27 between 8 and 9 p.m. due to popular demand.

Studio 2 co-host Steve Paikin travelled north to a bleak area near Kirkland Lake to visit an old Jewish cemetery there, in a place once known as Krugerdorff.

The documentary covers a little-known piece of Ontario social history, when immigrant Jewish pioneers applied their skills to the building of the Ontario Northern railway line, settled in and around Kirland Lake. There were two shuls to serve the close-knit community, and a family named Hederofsky donated part of its land for use as a cemetery.

Now only a handful of Jews remain in the area and there is no synagogue to serve them.

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Former Ontario Premier Bob Rae (third from right) delivered the first Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture on Human Rights. With him are (from left) Robert Lenkinski, Helen Lenkinski, CJC community relations chair Ellen Cole, Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, chair of the lecture; Arlene Perly Rae and Lionel and his wife Judith Lenkinski. [Daniel Fine photo]

Rae praises Lenkinski for human rights work

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The late Jewish labor activist Louis Lenkinski was an "essential" figure in events that led to the laws banning discrimination in employment and housing in Ontario, former Ontario premier Bob Rae said recently.

"I learned to like and to love him," said Rae, who delivered the first annual lecture in Lenkinski's memory to about 250 people at Leah Posluns Theatre.

Lenkinski and the Jewish Labor Committee played a major role in convincing the late premier Leslie Frost to pass the laws, Rae said

The lecture was delivered in the glow of candles celebrating the sixth night of Chanukah lit by Lenkinski's two sons, Robert and Lionel, and Bernie Farber of the Canadian Jewish Congress. Lenkinski's widow, Helen, was also present.

"Toronto is a smaller place and we are all diminished by his demise," said chair Rabbi Jordan Pearlson of the feisty labor leader who died at the age of 74 while vice-chair of the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Rae said there would be no question period following his address in tribute to Lenkinski because "no one could ask a question buried in a statement as well as he could."

One of Lenkinski's strengths was that he did not accept the view that human rights was an individual matter but insisted that it belonged to all groups like the blacks, Jews and Chinese, Rae said.

CJC officer Ellen Cole introduced the former premier on behalf of Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen.

Kosher wines pass taste test

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Dick Singer, freelance wine writer, swirls the liquid in his wine glass and sniffs the bouquet. "It's excellent," he declares, and then sips. "It's balanced, with a very judicial use of wood, and good clean fruit coming through."

That was Gamla, a kosher chardonnay wine from Israel. Next he tries a glass of Bartenura Peimonte, a kosher chardonnay from Italy. "A soft dry, right? But it's not completely dry. It's got more viscosity, more body, and probably more alcohol, too."

At a recent kosher wine-tasting at the Wagman Centre in North York, a crowd of oenophiles, restaurateurs, caterers, writers and other guests sampled dozens of kosher wines provided by the event's two sponsors, Herzog Wines of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Mazel Wines of 3825 Bathurst St., Toronto.

"We're trying to promote the new world of kosher wines," said Nathan Herzog, vice-president of Herzog Wines. "We're trying to show that kosher today is not sweet. It's not an old-fashioned wine. It can be a first-rate bordeaux or an awarding-winning cabernet sauvignon from California."

Dozens of kosher wines were uncorked at the tasting. The most expensive was Chateau Labegorge Margaux, an exclusive bordeaux that sells for about $75 a bottle. Others, which sell at more popular prices, included several varieties of Kedem wines from New York State, Baron Herzog wines from California, Bartenura wines from Italy, Herzog Select wines from France and Gamla wines from Israel.

The company's most popular label is Baron Herzog, which typically sells for $9 to $16 a bottle in Canada. One table displayed at least a dozen varieties of kosher wine available at a number of Liquor Control Board of Ontario outlets. Many other labels that the LCBO doesn't carry are available through the company's exclusive agent, Mazel Wines (416-631-8071).

Maurice Benzacar, vice-president of the Canadian Sephardic Federation, recalled the wide variety of kosher wines his family had grown accustomed to in his native Morocco. "Then we came to this country, and you couldn't find a bottle of kosher wine anywhere, except for sweet Manischewitz," he said.

He sipped the wine he was holding, a Merlot red from France. "We've come a long way," he said. "The city used to be a desert."

Joe Elmaleh, restaurateur of the North York kosher restaurant King Solomon's Table, concurred. "It's really amazing how many kosher wines are now available," he said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Holiness the purpose of education: rabbi

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The purpose of Jewish education is to teach a child to do that for which he was created —to be holy, says Rabbi Avraham Kelman.

But only when he understands what makes G-d holy, can he understand what true holiness is, the former Torontonian and now a prominent New York rabbi, said at a lecture at Beth Jacob synagogue to mark the yahrzeit of Chaim (Harry) Friedman, grandfather of Rabbi Jay Kelman, the shul's associate rabbi.

If that purpose is not accomplished, the rabbi said, "life is meaningless."

When Mordechai was trying to convince Queen Esther to go to Ahashverus to try to save the Jews of Shushan, the rabbi said, he used three arguments. The first two were ineffectual: If you don't go, then someone else will, and if you don't go, you and your family will die.

The third argument, that perhaps that situation was the reason Esther became Queen, worked, because it emphasized the belief in purpose so important to Jewish thought.

Holiness, Rabbi Kelman said, "is the ability to live a life in which self-preservation and self-aggrandisement are not the primary function in life.

"What it is, is creating and maintaining the world for others."

'Chodesh makes us aware of wonders of time, nature'

The Syrian Greeks, at the time of the first Chanukah, were "totally devoted to self-preservation," not only in their search for physical perfection and the satisfaction of individual desires, but even in their study of the natural world.

"Science and math enabled them to understand this world, and make better use of it for themselves. There was no holiness in it."

The Greeks knew what they were doing when they forbade the Jews to mark the new month, and perform circumcision.

"Chodesh, the marking of the new moon, makes us aware of the wonders and accuracy of time, and of nature. It's purpose is to make us recognize how miraculous is the world that G-d has created."

The bris, he went on, makes Jews realize that while the creation of a person is indeed miraculous, that creation must be controlled and elevated.

Chaim Friedman was honored by a ceremony marking the conclusion of the study of a portion of Talmud in his memory, by grandson Yaakov Friedman.

Rabbi Kelman was introduced by Rabbi Jay Kelman, also a grandson, and thanked by Rabbi Moshe Burak, spiritual leader of Beth Jacob Congregation.

* * *

The synagogue has begun a special lecture program to mark the 100th anniversary of its founding. The next lecture is Jan. 4. Guest speaker will be Dr. Eddy Breuer, who will speak on Orthodoxy Confronts Modernity: A Variety of Traditional Responses.

Prof. says religion and democracy can coexist

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Jewish statehood is a challenge to all Jews, whether secular or religious, says a law professor at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

"There are tremendous clashes between proponents of the democratic notion and those who believe in the notion of divine law," said Izhak Englard, who spoke recently on Can a Jewish State be a Democratic State?, co-presented by the University of Toronto's Jewish Studies Program and the Dr. Max and Gianna Glassman Exchange Program.

A number of models have been suggested that attempt to deal with the problem, Englard said.

"One model is to conceive the notion of the Jewish state in the cultural and Zionist sense — a secular, nationalist identity. Ideologists who conceived this model believe that we start with democracy and add some Jewishness, only if it does not detract from the former. Full precedence is given to democracy."

On the other hand, the Orthodox believe in "the divine providence of the Jewish people. Orthodoxy cannot accept the notion of tolerance. They feel that if one is left alone to commit sins, those sins will affect the public. The notion of mutual responsibility and the danger of individual sin is one of the greatest fears of Orthodox people," he said.

Englard, the Bora Laskin professor of law at Hebrew University, said that proponents of a modern state worry about the physical welfare of the people and not their moral virtues.

"Again, this clash of notions creates a dilemma for Orthodox Jews. Modern scholars have found a definite anti-political stance in rabbinic Judaism. There are claims that the Orthodox community discredits earthly political power."

The bottom line, said Englard, is that "human existence is fraught with contradictions and nothing can be resolved by denying the validity of one's values. What we must do, is strive for harmony between irreconcilable elements. Rabbinic Judaism must cope with the idea of a modern state and secular circles must cope with the aspirations of the Orthodox."

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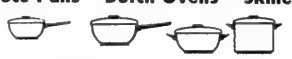

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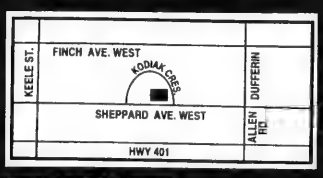

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פֿאַלן פֿאַלט דער מענטש אַליין, אַבער כדי זיך אויפֿ-הייבן, נויטיקט ער זיך אין דער האַנט פון אַ גוטן פֿרייַנד.

איין האָר פון אַ מיידלס קאָפּ שלעפּט שטאַרקער, ווי צען אָקסן.

אַ וואָרעם קריכט אַריין אין כריין און מיינט, אַז קיין זיסערע זאַך דערפון איז אויף דער וועלט נישטאָ.

אַ גאָלדענע נשמה — ער האָט נאָך נישט באַווין טאַן אַ מענטשן גוטס, ווי ער האָט שוין חרטה.

די מורד איז אַזוי פויל, אַז זי האָט זיך אַפילו געפּוילט חתונה האָבן.

דער גליקלעכסטער מענטש אויף דער ערד איז געווען אָדם הראשון: ער האָט נישט געהאַט קיין שוויגער.

קליינע קינדער לאָזן נישט שלאָפן, גרויסע קינדער לאָזן נישט לעבן.

זאָלסט קיינעם נישט מקנא זיין — קנאה עסט אויף פּודווייז געזונט.

איין פֿאַסער קען האָדעווען צען קינדער, צען קינדער קענען נישט אויסהאַלטן איין פֿאַסער.

אַן אייזל דערקענט מען לויט די אויערן. אַ נאַר — לויט דער לאַנגער צונג.

אַז גאָט וויל שטראָפן אַ מענטשן, נעמט ער בי אים אָפּ דעם שכל.

אַ קינד איז אַמאָל ערגער פון אַ גזלן, און מען מח נאָך טאַנצן אויף זיין חתונה.

— יונגערמאַן, וואָס שרייט איר אַזוי שטאַרק, וואָס רייסט איר איין וועלטן, מען זעט דען נישט גליק, סאַראַ פֿאַסקודניאַק איר זייט?

דער מענטש טראַכט, און דער מלאך המות לאַכט.

איך וואָלט אַ בעלן געווען האָבן אַ וויב, ווי די לבנה: ביינאַכט זאָל זי אויפגיין, און גאַנץ פרי זאָל זי ניט ווערן.

די פרוי איז שיין, מילד, רייצנדיק, כל זמן זי עפּנט נישט דאָס מויל.

באַשע האָט איבערגעלייגט אַ ים מיט ליבע-ראַמאַנען, טויזנט מאָל זיך באַגאָסן מיט ביטערע טרערן, און אַליין גע-בליבן אַן אַלטע מוידז.

אַ זיגער איז בעסער, ווי גלעט. גלעט צעגייט זיך און אַ זיגער שטעלט זיך אָפּ.

נישט שטענדיק איז אַן אָפּטימיסט יענער, וואָס האָט די גאַנצע צייט אַ שמייכל אויפן פנים. צייטנווייז איז דאָס פשוט אַ נאַר.

אַ גוטע דערציילונג דאַרף זיין קורץ, אַ שלעכטע — נאָך קירצער.

היט אָפּ אייער געזונט. איר קריגט פֿס נישט אין קראָם פֿאַר קיין שום געלט.

קלוגע מענטשן וויסן גוט, וואָס אַזוינס איז נאָרישקייט, דאָך באַנאָרישן זיי זיך גאַנץ אָפט.

אַז אַ נאַר וואַרפט אַריין אַ שטיין אין גאָרטן, וועלן אים קיין צען חכמים נישט געפּינען.

גלייכער מיט אַ קלוגן פֿאַרלירן, איידער מיט אַ נאַר געווינען.

נאָראָנים דאַרף מען נישט זיין, זיי וואָקסן אַליין, ווי קראָפּעווע.

אַ זעעוודיקער קען אויך זיין בלינד.

צווישן אַלע מעלות וואָס אַ מענטש פֿארמאָגט, איז אַבער די בעסטע מעלה — אַ מענטש זאָל מען זיין.

אויף וועמענס וואָגן מען פֿאָרט, אַזאַ ניגון זינגט מען.

די צייט איז דער בעסטער דאָקטאָר.

איר פרעגט, וואָס עס האָט דערפון? קדחות אין אַ קליין טעפּעלע.

איר פרעגט, וואָס עס האָט פֿאַר דעם באַקומען? אַכצן און דרייצן, דאָס איבעריקע מינץ.

די צייט מאַכט דעם מענטשן גרוי און אַלט.

היט זיך, מענטש, פון גראָפֿמאַנען און טויגעניכטסן. זיי זיינען פּייאיק אויף אַלץ.

דער פֿאַרשווין האָט זיך באַרואיקט: מען האָט אים אַפּגענאָמען מיט אַ קאָלטן עמער וואַסער.

From coast to coast

Diplomat linked to drug smuggling ring

Staff and Wire Services

OTTAWA — Officials here are tight-lipped about a Canadian diplomat allegedly linked to a cocaine smuggling ring in Israel.

Authorities in Canada say Douglas Wardle, who was recalled from Israel three weeks ago, is under investigation by the RCMP for "possible criminal activity."

Foreign Affairs spokesperson Charles Larabie refused to confirm Israeli media reports that Wardle, an administrative officer at Canada's embassy in Tel Aviv, used his diplomatic immunity to take part in a cocaine smuggling operation worth millions of dollars.

Larabie told *The CJN* that Wardle, a 20-year diplomatic corps veteran who had been with the embassy since 1994, has been suspended with pay pending the investigation.

Ottawa recalled the mid-level diplomat Nov. 29, just after the Israeli Foreign Ministry presented Canadian ambassador David Berger with the police evidence against Wardle.

According to widespread Israeli reports, that evidence included smuggling cocaine inside a diplomatic pouch, which is immune from customs and inspection, and helping to finance drug shipments.

However, according to Larabie, there is "no indication" that Wardle's use of a diplomatic pouch to smuggle drugs are part of the allegations.

Israeli police began to suspect Wardle after a raid on the home of an alleged Israeli accomplice netted between six and eight kilos of Colombian cocaine

Israeli police were quoted as saying the drugs were purchased in the United States and brought to Israel by Wardle through "diplomatic mail."

Police are still investigating whether other employees of the Canadian Embassy were involved in the operation.

The daily *Yediot Aharonot* reported that a member of Canada's UN force in Israel was also arrested, but that was denied by both the police and the Canadian Embassy.

So far, two Israelis, Meir Hazan, 37, of Beersheva, and Ya'acov Sternheim, 46, of Yavne, have been arrested in the case.

But Tel Aviv detectives are searching for a third Israeli believed to be the leader of the drug gang. The man, reportedly a friend of Wardle's, has apparently fled the country.

Hazan was arrested Nov. 21. He was remanded in custody for eight more days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court last week, following the discovery of the Colombian cocaine in a suitcase.

Sternheim is believed to have established contact with Wardle about six months ago in a Tel Aviv pub where the two hung out, according to *Ha'aretz*.

The Canadian Embassy has refused to comment on the case.

Reportedly, Wardle has kept his diplomatic immunity and thus cannot be tried in Israel without the Canadian government's permission. The RCMP is treating the incident as though it took place on Canadian soil.

With reporting by Leora Eren-Frucht in Jerusalem and Ron Csillag in Toronto.

Students' experiments head into space

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — When the Atlantis space shuttle blasts off from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida next May, a group of Herzliah High School (Snowdon) students will be watching with special interest.

On board will be two tiny test tubes of the students' containing barium chloride and sodium sulfate, which when mixed together on Earth produce barium sulfate, the chalky solution given to patients before an X-ray of their digestive tract.

The students want to find out if these two compounds will produce the same sort of "milkshake" in low gravity, that is, be drinkable and coat the stomach and intestines opaquely, in order that they show up in contrast on an X-ray.

Herzliah is one of 12 elementary and secondary schools in Canada (one of seven in Quebec) whose experiment was selected by the Canadian Space Agency from among 53 proposals for inclusion in the student segment of the Canadian Protein Crystallization Experiment (CAPE) project, aboard the Russian space station Mir.

The student experiments will be brought by Atlantis to Mir, which is circling the Earth at an altitude of approximately 390 kilometres.

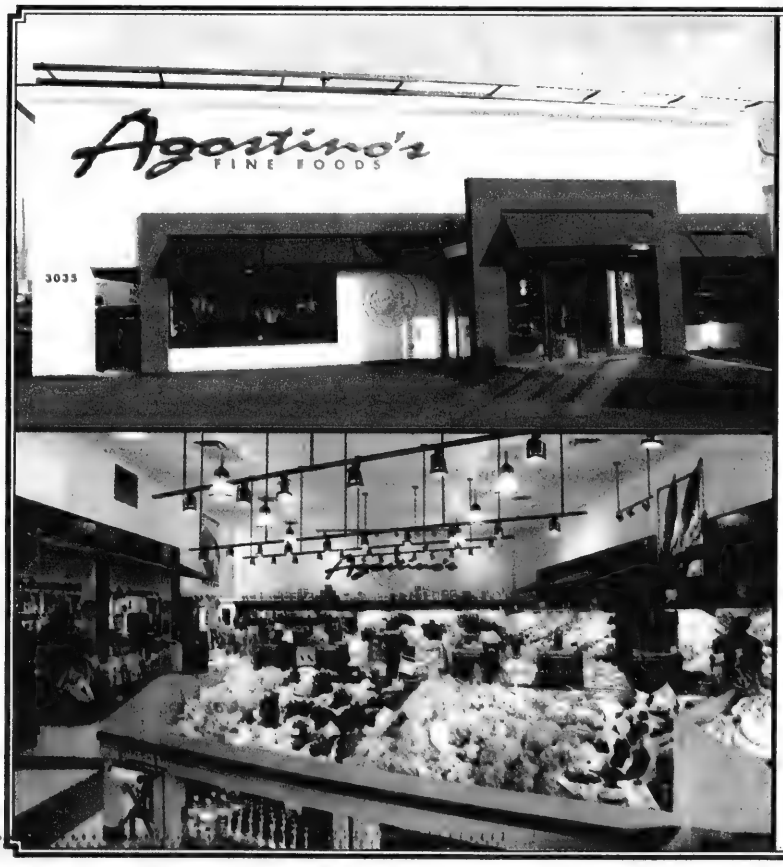
"This is an opportunity for hands-on learning; it's not like just learning something from a textbooks," said Munk.

After travelling over 100 million km through space at speeds of more than 27,000 km an hour, the experiments will be returned to Earth sometime in September and sent back to the classrooms of the students who designed them for analysis.

The student experiments will be conducted alongside those of some of Canada's top scientists. Researchers from a dozen universities and institutes will use Mir to grow protein crystals in microgravity.

All of the experiments will be housed in an automated laboratory about the size of a large shoebox, that will mix the liquids in pairs of tiny test tubes, or wells (each holds 125 microlitres), at precisely timed intervals. About 40 of the 800 wells in the device will be made available to the winning students.

The student experiments will remain unopened until they are returned to Earth.



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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Please note these holiday deadlines for What's New and About People: Monday, Dec. 23, is deadline for Jan. 9 issue. Thursday, Jan. 2, is deadline for Jan. 16. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Dec. 22

OHR SOMAYACH LECTURE

Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, senior lecturer of Ohr Somayach, delivers a major lecture entitled Dreams and Their Interpretations: From Joseph to Freud, 8:30 p.m., 613 Clark Ave. W. No admission charge. 905-885-5730.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Jews for Judaism presents Back to the Source IV, A Minister's Conversion to Judaism, a public lecture featuring **John Hove**, former Lutheran minister, 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $5.

PNAI CHANUKAH PARTY

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) Chanukah party, featuring Habima Players directed by **Minabelle Haneford**, and singer **Gloria Valentine**, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Bring a friend. No charge. **Charles King** 783-7872.

Monday, Dec. 23

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Blood donor clinic at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 2-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Photo/signature ID required.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League-North Bathurst presents Nutrition and Weaning, 7:30 p.m., 99 Heatherton Way, Thornhill. **Nancy** 889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

Wednesday, Dec. 25

COUNTER-MISSIONARY

The All-Day Counter-Missionary Seminar topics include Missionary Tactics, The Real Messiah, Obsession to Convert Jews, Christian-Proof Texts and more, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto (BAYT), 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $36 (includes COR-kosher lunch). Co-sponsored by Jews for Judaism and Ohr Somayach.

Tuesday, Dec. 31

FIRST NIGHT TORONTO

Toronto Klezmer Band, under the musical leadership of **Rick Kardonne** and featuring singer **Gloria Valentine** performs at First Night Toronto, Toronto's New Year's eve festivities, 7 p.m., Toronto Dominion Bank Plaza, at King and Bay. Also featured are **Salvo Chakhnievitch** on trumpet and **Joseph Roth** on violin. 362-3692.

Thursday, Jan. 2

BABYSITTING COURSE

Earn a certificate from St. John Ambulance at the babysitting course for ages 11-16 at Bathurst Clark Public Library, 900 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration fee $30. Pre-register 905-709-1103.

And What Else Is New

JEWISH HUMOR IN FILM

Toronto Jewish Film Festival presents Jewish Humor in Film, Part 2. Laugh your way through a host of Jewish comedies with such greats as **Woody Allen, Jerry Lewis, Mel Brooks, Albert Brooks**, the **Marx Brothers**, six discussions starting Jan. 15, 6:30-9:30 p.m., JCC Bloor. $65. 324-8600.

SINGLES ISRAEL TRIP

Join Jewish singles from all over North America on the Israel Singles Outback Excursion Dec. 23-Jan 5. aided by experienced tour guides and educators. Aish HaTorah 905-764-1818.

SJA INTERTALK

Secular Jewish Association Intertalk, a support group for intercultural couples, pot luck dessert and meeting moderated by **Eva Goldfinger** Sunday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m., 82 Willowbrook Rd. Thornhill. non-members $8. RSVP 905-889-7450.

JRC SHABBAT MINYAN

There is a new Jewish Russian Community Centre branch at 4455 Bathurst St. (Sheppard/Bathurst)

[Cont'd on page 25]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription. We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Tanya Werger's little brother Sam wants to wish her a happy fourth birthday on Dec. 1. Hugs and kisses from Mommy, Daddy, Jennifer, Bubby, Zaidy, Gramma and Zaida.

Mazel tov to Samantha Leigh Tator on her bat mitzvah from Mom, Dad, Shane and the rest of the family.

Happy birthday to our darling Aziza who turned two on Nov. 26. Love Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa, Safta, Saba and Nana.

Mazel tov to Karen & Aubrey on their engagement. Delighted parents are Tobe & Ian Tweyman and Sharon & Harvey Lipman. Proud grandparents are Minka Smith and Edith & Jack Tweyman.

Mazel tov to Anita & Terry Sokoloff on their 35th wedding anniversary on Dec. 3. With love from your children, Bonnie, Jody and Lisa.

Happy anniversary to Iris & Ralph Back, the greatest parents in the world. Love, Evan & Leslie.

Mazel tov to Helen & Saul Kravetz on their 50th wedding anniversary from their children Debora & Nahum Watkin, Arnold & Ruth Kravetz, and grandchildren Ori, Mark, Elliot, Fay and Bryan.

Happy 90th birthday to Isabel (Billie) Berlin Levy on Dec. 28, from her children, grandchildren, family and friends.

What's New

[Cont'd from page 24]

and the Shabbat Minyan is growing. A Sefer Torah in good condition is needed (to be donated). **Rabbi Uri Gelman** 222-7105, ext. 31.

A TIME TOGETHER

Jewish Women International of Canada (JWIC) presents A Time Together, a special mother-daughter (ages 11-14) slumber party Feb. 15 and 16, Holiday Inn, Woodbine Ave. and Hwy 404, Markham.Guest speakers include family therapist **Rhonda Katz** who will lead a communication workshop Shalom Bayit (Peace in the House); Jewish community professional **Susan Jackson** who will address issues concerning mother and daughters; educator **Goldie Goldberg** slated to head the True Colors seminar. Cost for mother-daughter couple $115 members, $135 non-members includes meals, programs, supplies hotel accommodation. Information/reservations 630-9313.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., winter courses for adults, teenagers and pre-teens, in conversational Hebrew, all levels. Monday mornings (beginners) Jan. 21-April 22; Wednesday mornings (intermediate) Jan. 22-April 23; Thursday evenings (all levels) Jan. 23-April 24. Instructor for beginners **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

MANUSCRIPTS CRITIQUED

Writer, publisher, editor **Makeda Silvera** will critique short stories and essays and offer her professional advice to beginning writers as North York Public Library's 1996/97 Writer-in-Residence. Submission guidelines at any North York Library branch or call 395-5512. Only manuscripts and essays submitted before Jan. 24 will be considered.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service offers Positive Parenting Groups (Your Preschooler, The School Age Child, Young Adolescents, Surviving Your Teenager) begin in January; Bereavement Groups (Young Widows/Widowers begins Jan. 14; Adult Child Losing a Parent begins Jan. 21). **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

VISUAL ART CLASSES

Visual art classes at the Koffler Centre. Information/Registration, **Raylene** 636-1880, ext; 270.

For adults of all experience levels: Pottery, Drawing, Life Drawing, Oil/Acrylic Painting, Watercolor, Stone Sculpture, and Design in 3 Dimensions. Daytime and evening classes are available.

For children and teens, after-school classes include Drawing and Painting, and Pottery for Teens and Sunday classes in Children's Art and Children's Ceramics for ages 6-17.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is looking for warm friendly people willing to share one or two hours of their time each week with some elderly citizens who have trouble getting about. If you enjoy having a chat, sharing some laughs and listening to a wealth of memories, this is for you. If you speak Yiddish, Russian, Polish or Hebrew, you would be especially welcome. Volunteer Coordinator 225-2112.

DROP-IN PROGRAM

Winter Drop-in program for preschoolers, toddlers and infants and their parents, grandparents and caregivers starts the week of Jan. 6 at Overland Learning Centre, 55 Overland Dr., Don Mills. Share in fun and education through arts and crafts, books, songs and physical activities. $45 for 10 weeks. Sponsored by North York Board of Continuing Education. Information/Registration 395-5081.

WINTERFEST VOLUNTEERS

The City of Vaughan needs volunteers (age 16 and up) to help run fun activities and make Winterfest 1997 a success. Winterfest 1997 will be held Sunday, Feb. 9 at Uplands Ski Centre. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. 832-2281, ext. 8343 or 8355

For Seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, Dec. 19, 9:30 a.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Everyone welcome. Come and enjoy a special holiday program. **Goldie Leibman** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building) Closed Dec. 26 for Boxing Day. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club meeting Monday, Dec. 23, 1 p.m. **Dr. Rohn**, naturopath, speaks on The Process of Healing. Reservations being taken now for the Purim vacation trip to Israel March 5-26. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

At the **Senior Chaverim** meeting, Monday, Jan. 6, 1:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation board room. **Cantor Tobias Gabriel** speaks on Bagels and Tequila, an overview of our Latin-American Jewish community.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club New Year's dinner and dance,Tuesday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m., noise makers, door prize, novelties, members $30, non-members $35. *Ragtime* at the Ford Theatre for the Performing Arts, Feb. 12. Membership open. $12 for 1997. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip to Sherry Frontenac Hotel, completely renovated, pick up at Miami airport and return, close to shopping, one month ($2,090), two or three months. **Helen** 635-6343.

Garnet Williams Seniors Bridge Club, sponsored by the City of Vaughan, opens a new location in the new year at Rosemount Community Centre, Bathurst and New Westminster. At Garnet A. Williams Community Centre beginner bridge lessons, start Friday, Jan. 10. At Rosemount Community Centre, Seniors Bridge Club starts Jan. 6., Bridge lessons Monday 9:30 a.m. to noon (advanced beginner), 3:15 to 5 p.m. (novice level). **Larry** 905-881-6260.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

New Year's eve party Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 2 p.m., dinner, dancing, entertainment, members only $35. **Irina** 225-2147.

Sunday movies: *Four Weddings and a Funeral* Dec. 22, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* Dec. 29, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, Dec. 29, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Winterlude, a winter camp for kids ages 2½ to 12 years has limited space still available at BJC, Dec. 23-Jan.3. Camp offers swimming, arts and crafts, music, drama, dance and special events. 636-1880, ext. 378.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club presents the Yiddish film *Tevye the Milhikker* with subtitles Thursday, Dec. 19, 1:30 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

ADVISORY GROUP

About People

Susan Davis, lawyer and, since 1989, national executive director of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada, based in Toronto, has been appointed a member of the advisory group conducting an independent review of Canada's Immigration Act and make recommendations with a view to modernizing it for the 21st century. Davis has also worked as a program officer and a protection officer with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Dr. Stefanie Green

FAMILY PHYSICIAN

Wellesley Central Hospital Department of Family and Community Medicine welcomes **Dr. Stefanie Green** as its newest family physician. Green will be working at the St. James Town Health Centre at 200 Wellesley St. E. Fluent in both English and French she was an educator and facilitator in high schools through the Adolescent Outreach Program.

Israel Appel

APPEL HONORED

Israel Appel was honored on the occasion of his upcoming 90th birthday (he was born Feb 15, 1907 in Poland) at a luncheon held at the Borochov Cultural Centre recently, where he was presented with a plaque commemorating his lifelong devotion to the Labor Zionist Movement and the State of Israel.

TEA AND MUSIC

More than 200 women gathered at the home of Edward and Marsha Bronfman for An Afternoon of Tea and Music to benefit Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem. The geriatric and psychiatric hospital is in its second century of service to the people of Israel. From left, Lynda Latner, Marsha Bronfman, Florence Cooper.

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From coast to coast

Jewish war orphans' story told

By ADAM KORBIN
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — It was appropriate that the launch for Fraidie Martz' book *Open Your Hearts*, the story of Jewish war orphans in Canada, was held in Vancouver.

Just as the war orphans travelled from Montreal to Vancouver 50 years ago, Martz' research for the book also began in Montreal and ended in Vancouver, where she now lives.

Open Your Hearts tells of 1,123 Jewish war orphans who survived the Holocaust and were reluctantly allowed into Canada. The story, which is drawn from archival material, diaries and interviews, is not only about the orphans who each had a miraculous story of survival to tell, but also about the Canadian families that took them in. Many families were told they'd have the orphans for a weekend or a week at most. In fact, many orphans became permanent family members.

At one point during her remarks at the book launch, Martz asked the former orphans in the audience to identify themselves. Three men put up their hands: David Ehrlich, Leo Lowy and Robbie Waisman. Then she asked if there were any members of families that took in orphans and five women raised their hands and the event quickly turned into a mini-reunion.

Waisman said there were few women who had survived the Holocaust, and even fewer on board their ship bound for Canada.

"Our spirits were lifted when we were told we would be meeting some nice Jewish girls in Winnipeg!" he said.

The launch, held at the Holocaust Centre, was co-sponsored by the Holocaust Education Centre, the Jewish Historical Society, the Jewish Community Centre and the Isaac Waldman Jewish Public Library. The book was published by Véhicule Press.

CJC wants Holocaust teaching in school curriculum

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Teaching about the Holocaust should be mandated and incorporated into the curriculum early in a child's education, Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, recently said in a proposal to Paul Pallen, British Columbia's assistant minister of education skills and training.

Congress "would like to see lessons learned from the Holocaust included in the core curriculum. At present, Holocaust studies are optional and a student can complete 12th grade without even hearing the word mentioned. The lessons of the Holocaust are too important to be optional," said regional officer Felicia Folk.

Holocaust education days are held on an ad hoc basis in B.C. schools, mainly in the Vancouver and Victoria areas. They are conducted by Congress staff with help from survivors.

Folk told Pallen the lessons of the Holocaust provide students with the tools needed to deal with living in a complex, pluralistic society.

"These lessons," she said, "can be incorporated within existing subjects to encourage students to think critically and to counter the devices which foster prejudice and discriminatory behavior — sometimes leading to violence in our society."

She pointed out that Toronto, North York and New Brunswick have included the study of the Holocaust in their schools' curricula "in recognition that the societal and human conditions which precipitated the Holocaust are present in contemporary society."

CJC executive director Erwin Nest and associate director Marilyn Berger called the discussions "very productive."

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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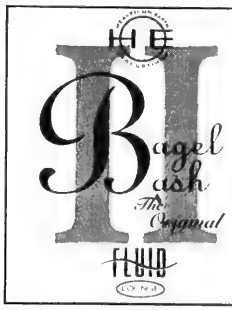

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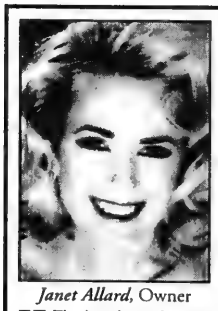

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From coast to coast

School's closing angers parents

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Many North Winnipeg Jewish parents are angry and disillusioned with the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's (BJE) decision to close the Talmud Torah-I.L.Peretz School (TTILP) as of the end of June.

The final decision came in October, when efforts collapsed to have at least a junior kindergarten to Grade 4 program at the Rosh Pina Synagogue.

In a letter to the BJE, Talmud Torah parent council co-chairs Sharon Chisvin and Nancy Glinter expressed the betrayal felt by many parents.

"We don't believe there was ever a real commitment on behalf of the BJE to maintain a north-end school," they wrote. "It was only at the urging of our school committee that the BJE reluctantly agreed to form a committee to look into an alternate site for our school."

Last winter, the parents were informed that the BJE was moving to a "middle years" concept, in which Grade 5, 6, 7 and 8 students would be in the same school. (This is a trend in school divisions around the province.) Their school would be left with JK-Grade 4.

Recently, however, BJE President Dr. Eric Winograd and superintendent Jack Solomon met with the parents and said that the board was only willing to leave a Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten class and a combined Grade 1 and 2 group in the north end.

Parents were given two weeks to decide if they wanted to leave their children in the program. Most of the Grade 1 and 2 parents pulled out.

In their letter, Glinter and Chisvin expressed their disappointment that newly appointed superintendent Solomon had not "bothered to walk through the Rosh Pina and see its potential until the day before the parent meeting." Nor did he even have any plans ready as to how the BJE intended to proceed with the JK and K program or to provide a shuttlebus service to take north-end children to campus.

"We particularly decry the lack of openness," Glinter and Chisvin wrote. "It is not the decision, as much as the demeanor of the Board. The message we have received is that dialogue is irrelevant and our children are unimportant. This has been a sad affair for the entire Jewish community. Many in the north end (which still account for about 40 percent of the Jewish population – although three-quarters of young families live in the south end) have lost trust in the community leadership."

Nevertheless, Glinter and Chisvin say that they are prepared to continue to try working within the system to inculcate the values of community and Yiddishkeit that made the TTILP what it was.

St. John loses two Jewish leaders

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Jewish community of Saint John, N.B., lost two of its leading citizens in the same week recently.

They were Rose Freedman, 92, the oldest member of the community, and Lou Michelson, 77, who has been the lay spiritual leader for the community for the past 14 years. Saint John has been without a rabbi for that time.

Feedman was born in Hillsborough, N.B., in 1904, daughter of the late Isaac and Bessie Selick.

She was known as a "professional volunteer." Her commitment to the Saint John Jewish community was a deep one involving her activity in all its organizations.

She organized a shelter for immigrant families arriving in Saint John after World War II.

She is survived by two sons, Dr. Lewis Freedman and Berard Freedman, two daughters, Marcia Kovan and Edythe Steinberg, as well as 12 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Michelson worked for many years as a film distributor in Saint John for many of the major film companies. In the early 1960s he became co-owner of Saint John's first drive-in restaurant, the Dog-N-Suds. He later sold restaurant supplies for Chan food products.

Someone in the community must learn to take over his father's role as spiritual leader, said his son, Dr. Alan Michelson of Waban, Mass., near Boston, who came for the funeral and the shivah.

Alan Michelson said his father led by example. "I relied on his advice," he said. "I rarely made an important decision without him."

His father was treasurer of Shaarei Zedek Synagogue and previously was president for three years.

He is survived by his wife, Jen (Kashetsky) Michelson, son, Aton, two grandchildren, Aviel and Ariane, and a sister, Ida Shuman of Dundas, Ont.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

From coast to coast

Canada Israel free trade law passes the Senate

[Cont'd from page 1]

Enter into the picture the fact that Ronald MacDonald, a Nova Scotia Liberal MP who had never been to the Middle East in his life, was sent on a 17-day whirlwind trip to Israel, Muscat, Oman, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Jordan, and to the cities of Aman, Ramallah, Gaza City, Hebron, Kuwait City and Tel Aviv.

MacDonald was sent to find out what the Arabs and Palestinians thought about CIFTA. He was picked in part because he held no preconceived view for or against anybody in the Middle East, and could approach the issue with an open mind.

He reported back to the Senate last week that after talking to a number of Arab and Palestinian leaders, he believes there is no way that any good can come from holding up the trade agreement.

He admitted that he too had considered at one point holding up the deal to send Israel a message.

He explained that when Yitzak Rabin first proposed the deal, "it was a time of great hope for peace," but by the time an agreement was reached last summer, the government in Israel had changed.

MacDonald made it clear that Netanyahu may not have been Canada's first choice, but he was, after all, Israel's choice.

"Even though sometimes we do not like the results of democracy, we must accept that democracy is the way to go," he told the Senate Foreign Affairs committee.

Surprisingly, he admitted that there had been "considerable debate" within the Liberal cabinet about whether Canada should "hoist" the trade deal so as to "lever" Netanyahu "to put the peace process back on track."

In the end, the government decided delaying implementation of the trade pact might not have the desired effect, and it certainly wouldn't help Canadian business, he said.

There would be no question of rewarding or punishing anyone.

MacDonald spent three days in the Gaza, where he met Mahel Masri, the Palestinian minister of economy and trade, and Dr. Nabeel Shath, minister of planning and international cooperation. He also met several senior economic and business advisors to Yasser Arafat.

He discovered that the Palestinians are not opposed at all to CIFTA, because they hope it will allow them to trade with the outside world, something they said Israel prevents them from doing by closing borders, blocking their produce from entering Israel, or even going to other parts of the occupied territories.

Israel is paying a heavy price for the stalled peace talks, he said. When the free trade talks began, the Israeli economy was growing at five and six per cent. It was the fastest growing economy outside Asia. This year it has slowed down to one or two percent and last month actually went backwards one per cent.

MacDonald said only prosperity will bring peace.

"The poor people and the children with hollow cheeks who are sitting in camps in Gaza could not care less about what we are doing." he said.

Halifax seniors celebrate Chanukah

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — The latkes were hot, the challah was fresh and the candles glowed as brightly as the faces of the 11 Jewish residents of Northwood Manor, a Halifax senior citizens residence that hosted its first-ever Chanukah party this year.

Northwood's management and the Atlantic Jewish Council are working together to establish a special wing for Jewish seniors at the manor.

This party was organized, said Gael Phillips, director of clinical services, "because Christmas is a happy time for most of our people. Chanukah should be happy for our Jewish residents."

While the majority of the manor's population is Christian, Jews make up the second largest percentage, said Susasn Dempsey, senior director of dietetic services. She and her assistant Charles Kwan organized the day with help from Isabelle Vardon and Shirley Burnstein, also staffers at Northwood.

"We've had monthly Sabbath dinners for the Jewish residents but this is the first time we've done a Chanukah celebration," said Dempsey. "Charles got Shirley's latke recipe and then found a recipe for challah which was specially made by an outside baker."

Rabbi Saul Aronov of Beth Israel Synagogue lit the Chanukah candles and said the blessing on the wine. Resident Howard Polar, a man in his late 80s who regularly attends daily services at the synagogue and reads the Monday and Thursday Torah portions, said the Hamotzi.

Most of the residents and a few special guests participated when Rabbi Aronov led a sing-song of Chanukah melodies in Hebrew, Yiddish and English.

CHANUKAH IN NORTH BAY

At a North Bay community celebration at the Sons of Jacob Congregation, Dr. Les Rosoff and his one-year-old daughter Alisha light candles in a hand-fashioned menorah. At right is Irit Cochrane. The menorah was designed and built by Manny Gurevitch of North Bay as a memorial to his mother, who lived nearly 100 years. [Jennifer Turack photo]

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Israel firm on financing settlement expansion

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli government officials have defended a cabinet decision to give special tax breaks and other financial benefits to Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

The officials also dismissed Palestinian warnings of renewed confrontations over the issue.

"We are not seeking a confrontation with the Palestinians," said Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who met Sunday with Jewish settlement leaders.

"We are aware of the threats, but they will not deter us," he added. "We have said again and again that the settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza are deserving of support."

Mordechai's comments came in the wake of last Friday's cabinet decision to grant level "A" status to the Jewish settlements, the same status accorded development towns and border communities.

The status will provide settlements with a series of financial benefits, including subsidies for housing, education and investments.

Such subsidies had been discontinued by the previous Labor government.

The Netanyahu cabinet decision not only drew criticism from the Palestinian leadership, but also from the United States and the European Union, which said Israel's government was adding more friction to already-tense Israeli-Palestinian relations.

Mordechai dismissed Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat's criticism over the weekend of the cabinet decision as a "declaration of war" by Israel.

"I think it is clear to everybody," Mordechai told reporters. "We'd like to continue the peace process with the Palestinians."

The cabinet move came in response to the recent terrorist attack on a car carrying an Israeli family near Beit El, a settlement near the West Bank Palestinian town of Ramallah.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the attack, after which the perpetrators fled to Ramallah.

Palestinian officials complained Sunday that Israel had tightened the closure it had imposed on the Ramallah area in the wake of the shooting.

Israel closed off secondary roads and dirt roads leading from the self-rule enclave. Sunday's move came in the wake of reports that Palestinians were using them to avoid Israeli roadblocks.

Mordechai, who visited the family of Ita Tzur, 42, and her son, Ephraim, 12, who were killed in the attack, demanded that the Palestinian Authority hand over the terrorists responsible for the shooting.

But the head of all Palestinian security forces in the West Bank, Jibril Rajoub, said that the Palestinian Authority had no intention of handing over the suspects.

Under the terms of the self-rule accords, suspected terrorists can be tried and punished within the self-rule areas.

Observers have noted that the Palestinian Authority consistently avoided extraditing terror suspects to Israel, fearing that the move would completely undermine its credibility among the Palestinian people.

But critics charge that the sentences imposed on convicted terrorists are merely token actions, adding that more than a few convicts have wound up with positions on the Palestinian security forces.

The act of terror prompted calls from Jewish settlement leaders for massive building in the territories. The leaders also issued a thinly veiled ultimatum that they would take the initiative themselves if the government did not.

While cabinet members emphasized that no decision was made to establish new Jewish settlements, the move was interpreted by Palestinians as another step toward changing facts on the ground in the territories.

Ahmed Karia, the speaker of the Palestinian legislative council, warned in an Israel Television interview that the council had called on Palestinians to "prepare for confrontation" against the Israeli government decision.

Senior Israeli security officials also warned that the government decision could spark new violence in the territories.

Fighting erupts in Lebanon

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Fighting erupted in southern Lebanon over the weekend after rockets were fired across the border into northern Israel.

On Saturday, Hezbollah gunmen ambushed an Israeli convoy in the eastern sector of the security zone. The unit included the head of the Israel Defence Force liaison unit in southern Lebanon, Brig. Gen. Eli Amitai.

Amitai was lightly wounded from shrapnel. Another member of the unit was also lightly wounded.

The forces in the convoy immediately returned fire, killing one of the gunmen.

In subsequent searches in the area on Sunday, IDF forces came upon a wounded Hezbollah gunman and killed him.

Also Sunday, Israeli jets rocketed Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon.

In another development, Israel submitted a complaint to the five-nation group monitoring a cease-fire in southern Lebanon to protest last Friday night's Katyusha rocket attack launched from southern Lebanon into the western Galilee.

The attack, which caused no injuries or property damage, was the first rocket assault on Israel since April, when the United States brokered a cease-fire that called on Israel and Hezbollah not to launch attacks from or target civilian areas on either side of the border.

Hezbollah leaders denied involvement in the rocket attack.

IDF officers said Palestinian groups operating in the coastal area, from where the rockets were launched, could be responsible.

Israeli officials said that attack was launched from an area under Lebanese control, adding that it was an outright violation of the April cease-fire.

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PM, Arafat talk to ease tensions

[Cont'd from page 1]

Privately, however, Arafat has voiced anger at demands that he should consistently condemn Palestinian killings of Israelis, saying that neither Netanyahu nor other cabinet ministers have ever publicly condemned Israeli killings of Palestinians.

Arafat told reporters in Gaza: "As for the statements of the Israeli prime minister ...that we are preparing to wage war on them, this is untrue and aims at diverting attention from what he is preparing to do against us ... This government does not want peace."

Netanyahu said the opposition should instead be attacking "the clear attempt by the Palestinian Authority to ignite the area."

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai dismissed Palestinian warnings that supporting settlement expansion would gravely endanger the peace, saying the government would go ahead with the strengthening of Jewish settlements.

"We are aware of the threats and threats won't deter us. We advise the other side not to threaten us and to continue with the [peace] process which we have started," Mordechai said, "Together with this we have said time and again that settlement in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza District is determined by the government of Israel."

He made the statements after a meeting with settler leaders, followed by a one-hour condolence call to the Tzur family.

Mordechai, who in his position has the last word in settlement construction, promised settler leaders to enlarge settlements, but he refused to elaborate. Beit El residents are pushing the IDF to let them build housing on adjacent army firing ranges, but neither would say whether this has been approved.

Mordechai was accompanied by Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy, OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, and Noah Kinarti, Mordechai's adviser on settlements.

In a related matter, Col. Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service in the West Bank, said his men have arrested dozens of PFLP members.

He said mug shots of the PFLP suspects are to be given to Israel for Yoel Tzur to try to identify his attackers, but that Israel's demands for their extradition would be denied.

"We will never hand over anyone to the Israelis," Rajoub told the Associated Press. "We have our own courts and process. We will prosecute those responsible," he said.

Military sources say they have yet to receive any mug shots from the Palestinians.

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Petrol bomb hits IDF car

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A petrol bomb thrown at an IDF command car patrolling the Syrian border last Friday evening set the vehicle alight. The soldiers, who were not injured, extinguished the flames.

The incident occurred near the Druse village of Majdal Shams on the eve of the anniversary of the Golan Heights Druse's six-week strike against the 1981 Knesset decision to extend Israeli law to the region.

It follows a series of nationalistic incidents over the past few months on the Golan Heights that were apparently perpetrated by pro-Syrian Druse. Last Friday's attack was one of the most serious and is being investigated by police, the army and the security services.

The other incidents included arson attacks on a police post in nearby Mas'ada village and on a building housing the Income Tax Authority office in Majdal Shams.

There also have been incidents of stone-throwing at police and civilian vehicles on the Golan Heights and an arson attack against a restaurant owned by the head of Bukata Local Council. Last month, another blaze which was started deliberately, gutted the dining room of a Swiss-style holiday village at Moshav Neveh Ativ on the upper slopes of Mt. Hermon.

Supt. Eliezer Binyamin, spokesman for the police's Galilee District, said police were investigating whether there was a link between these incidents and last Friday's attack.

"There is no evidence at the moment of any direct link between these incidents, but the possibility cannot be ruled out and we are investigating the matter," Binyamin said.

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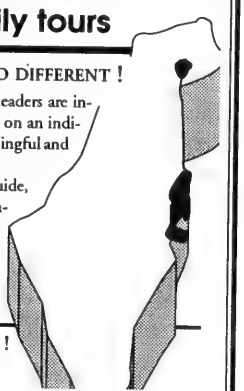

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The Week in Israel

Dec. 9

• Palestinian students defied an Israeli court order and broke into the campus of Hebron University to resume classes suspended since last March. The university had been closed after the wave of suicide bombings. *(The students agreed to leave the next day.)*

Dec. 10

• Tel Aviv mayor Ronnie Milo sent a sharp letter to Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eliyahu Yishai to protest government raids on stores open on Shabbat. Milo warned the minister against trying to change the status quo.

Dec. 11

• According to a report in *Yediot Achronot*, Foreign Minister David Levy told a closed-door meeting of his colleagues that reaching a peace treaty with Syria will be impossible without an Israeli readiness to consider territorial concessions on the Golan Heights.

• Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani met with imprisoned Hamas leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin in the latter's hospital cell. "I came to see how Sheik Yassin feels and to see if his medical treatment is satisfactory," Kahalani said.

Dec. 12

• Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians convened in Jerusalem to establish a regional task force aimed at preventing the spread of AIDS.

Dec. 13

• The consumer price index rose 0.6 percent in November the Central Bureau of Statistics announced. It was the sixth consecutive month that the index had risen by less than one percent. To the end of November, the inflation rate was running at 11 percent.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

King David's Violin, a gala concert will be held on Dec. 28 at the International Convention Centre. Zubin Mehta, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, along with Itzhak Perlman, Pinchas Zuckerman, Midori, Shlomo Mintz and Gil Shaham will perform in the last special musical tribute to Jerusalem 3000.

Turkey's Islamic PM opts for continuity

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Almost a year ago this week, the Islamic movement became a major political force in Turkey when the Welfare party won a plurality of parliamentary seats in the general election.

The party, led by Necmettin Erbakan, was unable to form a government, and so it was left to the secular right-of-centre bloc to cobble together a workable coalition.

Less than six months later, the shaky regime collapsed in a welter of mutual recriminations,and Erbakan, as the head of a new government, became Turkey's first Islamist prime minister.

The turn of events shocked Turkey's Western friends. In pre-election campaigning, Erbakan had referred to Israel as a "timeless enemy," had threatened to pull Turkey out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and had promised to form closer ties with the Islamic world.

In retrospect, Erbakan has not fulfilled all his promises, hewing to well-worn paths at home and abroad.

He has not attempted to reverse Turkey's secularist traditions — the brainchild of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk — notwithstanding declarations about replacing Turkey's Western legal system with Islamic law.

He has not revoked Turkey's military agreement with Israel, the framework of which was signed last February.

He has not tried to withdraw from NATO and, indeed, has let the West go on using air bases on Turkish soil.

But in keeping faith with one of his pledges, he has established more neighborly relations with Iran, Iraq and Syria, all of which are on a U.S. list of states sponsoring international terrorism.

Erbakan's *volte-face* is a function of several factors.

• The Turkish armed forces, the custodian of Ataturk's secular legacy and the country's strongest institution, are steadfastly opposed to an Islamic revolution.

• The staunchly secular foreign minister, Tansu Ciller, has seized control of Turkey's external relations.

• Erbakan has decided not to rock the boat, hoping that his middle-of-the road policies will impress the mainly secular-minded electorate when elections are held again. If his strategy works, he may try through stealth to create an Islamic state in Turkey.

With this goal inspiring him, Erbakan is proceeding cautiously, particularly with respect to Israel.

After assuming office, Erbakan said that he would honor the military cooperation pact with Israel, provided it was in Turkey's national interest. The ambiguity of this remark alarmed Israel. But having satisfied himself that the pact benefits Turkey, Erbakan has brushed off pleas from Egypt, Syria, Iran and Saudi Arabia to scrap it.

Late in August, David Ivry, the director-general of the Israeli Ministry of Defence, signed an agreement in Ankara calling for further cooperation between Israel's and Turkey's defence industries.

On Dec. 7, following several delays construed in Israel as deliberate, Erbakan finally signed a deal under which Israel Aircraft Industries will modernize Turkey's aging fleet of American-built F-4 Phantom jets in factories in Israel and Turkey.

In tandem with these developments, Ciller and Turkey's president, Suleiman Demirel, both of whom have visited Israel in the past three years, have taken pains to assure the Israeli government and the Jewish community in the United States that Turkey will honor all its commitments to Israel.

Despite these pronouncements, Turkey — the first Muslim nation to recognize the Jewish state — appears to be reducing the visibility of its relationship with Israel.

Under instructions from Erbakan himself, Welfare party officials have been prohibited from contacting Israel embassy officials in Turkey. And in a calculated snub, Erbakan has not responded to an appeal from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for a dialogue.

Erbakan's aloof attitude to Israel, while not surprising, is not without precedence in Turkish-Israeli relations. Until only a few years ago, Turkey, in deference to Arab sensitivities, maintained low-level ties with Israel, resisting calls for ambassadorial links.

Turkey warmed up to Israel in 1993, the turning point having been Israel's rapprochement with the PLO and the beginning of the Oslo peace process.

But since the advent of the Erbakan era, one wonders whether Israel can sustain its current friendship with Turkey far into the future.

The popularity of the Welfare party is clearly on the ascendancy, not only because voters are fed up with the culture of corruption represented by mainstream secular parties, but because politicians like Erbakan have deftly tapped into the anger and the frustration of the grinding poverty which affects tens of millions of Turks.

Should Erbakan succeed in convincing the majority of Turks that he is an honest and efficient leader, he may well have a chance to win an outright victory in the next election. And if he does, he will surely downgrade Turkey's relations with Israel.

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Documents: Swiss facilitated transfer of Nazis to Argentina

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — The search for looted Nazi gold and missing Jewish assets from the Holocaust continues to produce staggering findings at virtually every turn.

Newly released documents have confirmed long-held suspicions that the Nazis transferred their wealth to Argentina for safekeeping during World War II.

But what had not been known until now is that the Swiss may have helped transport Nazis and their plundered assets to Buenos Aires, as documents uncovered by the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and the Senate Banking Committee suggest.

A 1946 U.S. diplomatic memo released last week by Senator Alfonse D'Amato, who chairs the banking committee, said U.S. diplomats suspected that high-level Nazi officials, including Hermann Goering and Joseph Goebbels, were using Swiss diplomatic pouches to send their wealth to Argentina during the war.

The document cited accusations "that Nazi German capital is escaping in Swiss diplomatic pouches, probably without the knowledge of the Swiss federal government, because of the government's practice of entrusting diplomatic missions to its bankers and businessmen travelling to the Western Hemisphere."

D'Amato sent a pointed letter last week to Carlo Jagmetti, Switzerland's ambassador to the United States, demanding an explanation.

Swiss officials denied any prior knowledge of the reports contained in the memo and have dismissed it as hearsay.

Thomas Borer, Switzerland's main spokesperson on the issue of Switzerland's wartime role, accused D'Amato of using unverified documents and presenting them as fact.

Meanwhile, additional documents have surfaced alleging that the Swiss government turned a substantial profit by providing Germans with phony documents needed to flee to Argentina.

Hungary expected to extend Holocaust compensation

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Hungarian parliament is expected to approve amendments to that country's third compensation law which will extend compensation to a larger number of people, including Holocaust survivors living in Israel, according to Zoltan Szabo, Hungary's deputy education minister.

Szabo is one of two government representatives on the Hungarian committee that decides on compensation for victims of the Nazis in Hungary.

The bill could be adopted by parliament in February 1997, after the New Year's recess, Szabo said this weekend during a private visit to Israel.

The third compensation law, adopted by the Communist government, was found to be wanting by Hungary's (Supreme) Constitution Court and modifications to it are currently under debate in the parliament, he said. It deals with compensation to persons deprived of their liberty or life.

Szabo said that the court found unconstitutional the section of the law dealing with forced laborers taken to the frontier for non-military service.

Under the original paragraphs of the law, noncombatants were excluded and compensation was paid only to combat recruits, he said. The amended bill would include those recruited by the Hungarian army for forced labor of all kinds.

Another amendment, Szabo said, would be to the clauses which grant compensation only to victims' spouses. The court ruled that children, parents, brothers and sisters would also be eligible for such compensation and the parliament is expected to amend the law accordingly.

He said that Israeli citizens of Hungarian origin could be affected by the changes, but could not estimate how many people were involved.

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Author discusses his book-come musical Ragtime

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — During a recent public interview at Harbourfront, New York-area author E.L. Doctorow displayed his wit and literary sensitivity as he answered questions on the writing of his most famous novel *Ragtime* and the musical adaptation now playing in Toronto, his habits as a writer, his definition of historical fiction and his opinion of Holocaust denial.

Doctorow said he began *Ragtime* while feeling emotionally depleted after completing a previous novel, *The Book of Daniel*. "I was sitting in my study, staring up at the wall in a house in New Rochelle built in 1906, and I started writing about the wall," he said. "That's the kind of day you have sometimes as a writer. Soon I was writing about what things were like in 1906. One thing led to another and I was off on this book."

At an early stage Doctorow used the working title *Buffalo Nickel*, and he wrote so the book would be accessible to as many readers as possible, he admitted. "My purpose was to finish writing the book and to hope that it would be read by more than the usual 3,000 people." (To date, some seven million copies of *Ragtime* have been sold.)

Since the book is set in the past, could it be considered historical fiction? "I don't know what historical fiction is," Doctorow replied. "I think that's a genre for people who write their books in the past and delight in describing for their readers how people dressed...and how they sent rocks crashing into the castle walls. If that's historical fiction, I don't think I write that.

"Also, a writer in that genre makes a distinction between the past and the present. I can't make that distinction. I don't know when the past is. I don't know how it's different than the present. Every book I write is about my life. My definition of a historical novel is one that endures in history. All novels are historical fiction, written after the fact."

Foggy boundary between history and myth

He cited classics like Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, Mark Twain's *Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter*, describing them as historical novels that easily transcend categorization in a subgenre of historical fiction.

"I remember when I turned in the manuscript of *Ragtime* and an editor said, 'You know, you tend to set your manuscripts in the past.' I was stunned. I said, 'By God, you're right.' I didn't realize it."

Given the foggy boundary between history and myth, is it possible for someone to write a supreme novel in which the Holocaust is denied? "No, that's ridiculous," Doctorow said without a moment's hesitation. "There are some facts that are so momentous and so huge that nothing can be done to them and nothing should be done to them, and certainly the Holocaust is that kind of fact.

"This sinful, evil attempt to deny the Holocaust highlights the perception many people share that history is really up for grabs. History is being fought over all the time, and it's a battlefield. It was Orwell who showed us that whoever controls the past controls the present...What we need is a multiplicity of witnesses so that whatever the historical reality is, it doesn't come out of one channel."

How and when does E.L. Doctorow write? "You want the truth? The truth is you work every day, you get up and go to work like everybody else. Writing generates writing, you can't sit down and wait for it to happen. If you're a runner you have to run every day, you can't just wait for race day, so it's the same thing."

Doctorow said he is thrilled by Livent's masterful production of *Ragtime*. "The show finds the implicit allegory of the text, and I'm delighted about that."

Hadn't he found even one small flaw in the musical? "The thing that got me more upset than anything is that I was not even offered a walk-on," he jibed. "You'd think they'd have the good grace — but maybe in the touring company."

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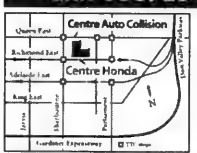

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Ragtime Opening A Gala Affair

Theatre Notes

• Notables attending the post-show reception for the opening of *Ragtime* at North York's Ford Centre included author **E.L. Doctorow**, mayors **Mel Lastman** and **Barbara Hall**, provincial Attorney General **Charles Harnick**, former lieutenant governor **Lincoln Alexander**, and many guests from the New York theatre community and Toronto's financial community.

Musical entertainment was provided by the **Mazik Klezmer Band**, a five-person Montreal ensemble. After sampling some of the food, cast members mingled with the guests in the grand lobby. The play's Little Boy and Little Girl, Paul Franklin Dano and Lea Michele, were among those who had to be dragged off the dance floor at evening's end.

Food for 2,400 persons was provided by three caterers, and there was hardly a bite left over. The four food stations boasted large photographs of various New York neighborhoods in the first decade of this century, such as Hester Street and the Lower East Side, Mulberry Street and Union Square. A variety of ethnic foods were offered. Nostalgia has never tasted so good.

Film Notes

• Laugh your way through a host of Jewish film comedies by such greats as **Woody Allen**, **Jerry Lewis**, **Mel Brooks**, **Albert Brooks** and the **Marx Brothers**. Then get serious as you grapple with questions like: What is Jewish humor? How has it changed in the last 50 years? How does it differ from other kinds of humor?

The occasion is the course Jewish Humor In Film, Part 2 (Part 1 is not a prerequisite), presented by the Toronto Jewish Film Festival. The series of six screenings starts Jan. 15, Bloor St. JCC, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. $65. 416-324-8600.

•The Israeli film *Summer of Aviya*, fresh from its unprecedented 12-week run in Toronto, opened earlier this month at the Fifth Avenue Cinemas in Vancouver. The award-winning film is based on a best-selling autobiographical novel by Israeli actor **Gila Almagor**, as is its sequel, *Under the Domim Tree*, which is slated for a Jan. 17 opening in the same movie house.

Literary Notes

• **Elaine Kalman Naves** speaks on her new book *Journey to Vaja: Reconstructing the World of a Hungarian Family*, at the next Jewish Genealogical Society meeting, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m. Non-members $1. Naves, a Montreal-area writer and journalist, is a literary columnist for the *Montreal Gazette* and has written a radio documentary *Journey to Vaja* for the CBC series Ideas.

•**Linda Frum** has done a wonderful job in capturing her late mother's warmth, intelligence and exceptional journalistic talents in the recently-published *Barbara Frum: A Daughter's Memoir* (Random House, $29.95), reviewed recently in these pages.

A journalistic legend who anchored *As It Happens* for CBC Radio and later *The Journal* for CBC TV, **Barbara Frum** succumbed in 1992 to the leukemia that she had been quietly fighting behind the scenes for many years.

As it happens, I had the pleasure of being interviewed by Frum on *As It Happens*. Back about 1980, I was one of two writers who had been asked to write articles for *Weekend Magazine* on, of all silly topics, the 50th anniversary of striptease. The art department took full creative liberties with the illustrations.

The results were wonderful, but decidedly adult. Seven of the 23 Canadian daily newspapers that carried *Weekend* dropped that issue from their Saturday papers. (Five were out West, the other two in the Maritimes.)

"How does it feel to be a banned writer?" Frum began.

Her intelligent questions inspired thoughtful answers. And her warmth didn't shut off once the interview was concluded.

"Congratulations," she told us after we finished taping. "This will make your careers."

Knesset approves more cuts

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel's cabinet, approved a NIS 1.8 billion ($.8 billion Cdn.) cut in the 1997 budget last week.

That's in addition to the $2 billion cut agreed upon in July.

The cut is split between direct reductions in expenditures and from a variety of other sources.

Despite a promise to the contrary by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the eve of the meeting, the defence budget will be cut by 0.5 percent.

Prior to the meeting, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer said he would vote against the proposals, because of the intention to cut some $105 million from his budget.

However, in a show of sympathy led by Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, all the other ministries agreed to dig deeper into their own pockets to ensure the education budget is only cut by 0.65 percent, instead of the initial 1.3 percent.

During their presentation to the cabinet, Finance Ministry officials said the additional cut is essential to prevent a slowdown in growth and immigration; to avoid increased unemployment and inflation; to guarantee there is no difficulty in funding imports; and to ensure the improvement in the general quality of life is not reversed.

Bank completes loan for Israel

TEL-AVIV — Bank Hapoalim has completed a landmark term loan of FFR 1.1 billion ($4 billion Cdn.) for Israel, Rafi Ben-Ami, chief representative for the bank in Canada said.

The loan was completed at an all-time low lending rate – .25 percent over the London Inter-Bank Offer Rate for the first five years of the seven-year term.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Tis the season for departures. Joe is leaving for Cuba, Sheryl for Argentina, Nick and Nora for California, Pat for Patagonia. For once, I am left behind, wishing bon voyage to others and asking that time-worn question, "Are you sure you can't take me along inside your luggage?"

Time now for my perennial review of the pile of material on my desk from tourist offices, consulates, agents, convention and visitors bureaus, and assorted others.

* * *

U.K. Toll-Free Number: The British Tourist Authority has introduced a toll-free number for Canadians, offering an improved information service from coast to coast. The number, 1- 888-VISIT UK, is now in operation, sponsored for the first year by Thistle Hotels. Callers within the Toronto area should continue to call 416-925-6326.

In 1995, the number of Canadian visitors to Britain rose by 10 percent to 626,000.

* * *

Miami Stats: According to the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1993 was the biggest year ever for Canadian tourism to Miami (596,000 visitors). However, after the highly publicized safety problems, tourism dropped sharply. Then, thanks to the introduction of a series of effective law enforcement and safety initiatives, Canadian visitation started to rise again.

In the past year, Miami experienced a 26 percent growth in Canadian tourism. Some 530,000 Canadians are expected in 1996.

Miami law enforcement programs such as the Tourist Oriented Police Squad (TOPS) and the Tourist Robbery Abatement Program (TRAP) have become models for other cities interested in improving visitor safety. For information on travel to Miami, phone 1-800-955-3646.

* * *

Tracking the Wild West: In Arizona, discover the Wild West on a scenic rail journey with the San Pedro & Southwestern Railroad. The trip begins in the southeastern Arizona town of Benson and heads south into the pristine San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, known for its many birds and silver mills. The four-hour trip includes the ruins of Contention, the ghost town of Fairbank, and narrated stories about legends like Doc Holiday, Wyatt Earp, Geronimo and the Clanton brothers. 520-586-2266.

* * *

Hotel Happenings: Four Seasons Regent Hotels and Resorts have snagged top honors in several annual travel industry surveys, including the exclusive *Travel & Leisure Magazine* readers' poll. The Four Seasons Resort Maui heads the magazine's list of Top 50 Tropical Resorts, and another 15 Four Seasons Regent properties were include in the Traveller's Top 100.

Inter-Continental Hotels and Resorts has introduced a new Internet service that allows users to view color photos of all its properties and to book and confirm reservations at Inter-Continental, Forum and Global Partner hotels worldwide. The Web site is located at [http://www.interconti.com/].

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Kutsher's of Monticello, N.Y.: The magic of the Catskills, a vacation haven since early this century, is the home of Kutsher's Country Club, one of the liveliest and most attractive of the region's resorts. Kutsher's offers an 18-hole golf course, covered tennis courts and other sports facilities, supervised day camp and teen programs and top entertainers. 514-342-5466 or 1-800-837-8960.

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France Upcoming Events: The exhibition Picasso and Portraits continues at the Grand Palais in Paris until Jan. 20. From Impressionism to Art Nouveau, recent acquisitions of Musée d'Orsay, continues to Jan. 5. The Carnaval de Nice runs Feb. 8 to 23 under the theme The King of Sports.

* * *

Israel Art Tour: Michael Weiser's Israel Art Venture offers tours for small groups of adventurous art lovers who are accompanied by a guide and an arts professional as well. Tour sites include the renowned Bezalel Academy of Art and Design; the artists' quarter in Yemin Moshe, western Jerusalem's oldest neighborhood; the Suzanne Dallal Centre for Performing Arts in Tel Aviv; the Recanati Museum in the ancient Roman city of Caesaria and several artist studios.

Contact the Israel Goverment Tourist Office, 416-964-3784 or the Internet address [http://www.macom.co.il/interart/artventure].

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Celiac disease affects nutrient absorption

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —It is hard to imagine not being able to have cake at a friend's birthday party. Or going out for pizza. Or chowing down on *sufganiot* at the office Chanukah party.

But that is reality for the estimated one in 2,000 with celiac disease, a medical condition in which gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley, oats, spelt and rye, affects the absorptive surface of the small intestine.

The body is unable to absorb nutrients necessary for good health: protein, fat, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals.

Symptoms range from virtually non-existent to severe bloating, gas, diarrhea, weight loss, anemia and fatigue. While celiac disease is not fatal in itself, if left untreated it can cause other serious problems.

Current research seems to indicate that there is a relationship between untreated celiac disease and such life-threatening illnesses as lymphoma and cancer of the gastro-intestinal tract.

While research is being done in the United States to diagnose celiac disease by blood testing, at the moment, diagnosis is by a duodenal biopsy.

Until recently, diagnosis was usually made in infancy or childhood. Now, it is recognized that it is a lifelong condition, needing lifelong care, and can be diagnosed at any age.

Audrey Kaufman, head nurse at the Cosmetic Surgery Hospital in Woodbridge, knows all about celiac disease. And not only because for 12 years she was a nurse at the endoscopy unit at Mount Sinai hospital, the department where the diagnosis is made.

She herself has celiac disease.

She told *The CJN* that she was one of those people who had no symptoms. Going to her physician for a routine check-up, she was told that she had severe anemia.

"I didn't believe it," she said, and had the tests redone."

When iron therapy didn't help the anemia, she went to a hematologist, an endocrinologist, and finally to her own endoscopy department for the biopsy, which gave a positive diagnosis for celiac disease.

Again, she refused to believe it.

"I went through the same stages as with any loss — denial, anger, depression and finally acceptance."

Acceptance means adherence to a rigid diet, avoiding all foods containing gluten. This is not as straightforward as it sounds, as gluten is not just found in such expected places as cakes, breads and pastas.

"There are many hidden sources of gluten in prepared foods," Kaufman explained, including luncheon meats, drugs, baking powder, icing sugar, spices, soup mixes, soy sauce, and some soda pop.

"You have to read labels very carefully. Even yogurt and sour cream may have gluten. If an ingredient list says 'modified starch,' for instance, it may be cornstarch or potato starch, which is OK, or it may be wheat starch, which isn't."

Fortunately, the Specialty Food Shop at the Hospital for Sick Children carries many gluten-free foods, and Sterks Bakery in Vineland ships gluten-free bread and bagels and flour, so she can do her own baking.

"I am aware that I am on a constant diet, but I am also aware of how good I feel. It doesn't stop me from doing anything, eating in restaurants, or travelling."

Kaufman acknowledged that it is more difficult with children, where peer pressure may make it more difficult to accept the dietary limitations.

However, she pointed out, "so many people have allergies that everyone is more aware of food problems and is more supportive — even kids."

Information and advice is available from the Canadian Celiac Association, 905-567-7195. The association also offers the Celiac Help Line, 416-781-9140, or 1-800-363-7296 toll-free across Canada.

Israeli research may explain 'Gulf War syndrome'

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli researchers have found that stress can disarm the "blood/brain barrier" that protects the brain from drugs and other chemicals in the circulatory system.

The discovery helps explain the different reaction in peace and in war to the drug pyridostigmine, which was given to U.S. and Israeli soldiers during the Gulf War to protect them against chemical weapon attacks by Saddam Hussein.

The research by Hebrew University neurobiologist Prof. Hermona Soreq and Dr. Alon Friedman, a Soroka Hospital neurosurgeon who was an IDF doctor during the Gulf War, was published recently in *Nature Medicine*.

More than half a million U.S. soldiers were given prophylactic doses of pyridostigmine during the 1991 war, and some IDF soldiers received it for a short time as well.

Soreq said the research conducted on mice was important, because it meant people under conditions of stress should get a lower dose of medication.

IDF soldiers who were given the drug during peacetime in clinical trials suffered from relatively mild side effects, such as sweating, mild diarrhea, excessive urination and salivation, as well as stomach pains. But 24 percent of those who received the drug during wartime complained of dizziness, headaches, nervousness and reduced concentration — central nervous system symptoms that showed the drug had reached the brain. U.S. soldiers complained about long-term symptoms, but the cause has never been proven.

The brain is unique among organs in that, due to the special compressed structure of its tissues, few chemicals are known to pass into it from the blood. Substances pass from the capillaries to cells, and then to other cells through a pump-like mechanism. Pyridostigmine is regarded as the most effective drug for preventing nerve gas from killing those exposed to it, and until now, it was thought that the drug did not pass the blood/brain barrier.

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U.S. skater on the way up

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eve Chalom admits to being just a little awestruck when she and her partner Mathew Gates hit the ice in Kitchener at the recent Skate Canada dance competition.

After all, up to that point in their careers they'd competed against skaters ranked from 15th to 30th in the world. Skate Canada was different altogether. There, many of the world's best skaters had gathered and the rankings ranged from third to 15th.

"We weren't used to this type of competition," Chalom, 17, conceded afterwards. "There were very highly placed couples."

Still, their seventh place finish (out of 10) was more than respectable for the unranked duo and gives some indication that the youthful couple are on their way up in the world of international ice dance.

After Skate Canada, Chalom and Gates, 21, travelled to Gelsinchirken, Germany for the Nation's Cup, one of six major events on dance skaters' winter calendars. Again, the competition was world-class and with the extra experience of Skate Canada, they skated better, even if the results didn't show it.

"We were more comfortable, had better speed and made fewer mistakes," Chalom said. Their improved performance was good for a ninth place finish out of 12 competing couples.

The Russia Cup, held last weekend in St. Petersburg, was next on their agenda and will be followed by other national events leading up to the World Championships in Lausanne next March. Based on their abilities and their previous performances, they can be expected to finish somewhere between 15th and 20th, Eve's mother, Susan, predicted.

In the world of ice dancing, where judges are ultra conservative and top-ranked skaters practically have to skate into the boards or throw a partner into the third row to drop in the rankings, good young skaters can expect to spend years climbing up the rankings ladder. That can be frustrating for a young couple who are otherwise top skaters, Susan said.

Still and all, Chalom (pronounced Shalom) and Gates are making remarkable progress. Last year, they finished third in the United States Ice Dancing Championships while the year before, they won the Junior National Championships.

Chalom and Gates have matched well ever since they skated together in Boston for the first time four years ago. Liz Coates, who'd seen Gates skate in England and who coached Chalom in Detroit, thought the two would match up well. She was right. The two hit it off right from the start.

"They were a fabulous match," Chalom's mother Susan said. "Their body and facial movements looked coordinated right from day one."

Mathew Gates and Eve Chalom on ice.

They began to train together at Chalom's home rink, the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. in June 1992 and six months later they won the U.S. Novice title at the '93 U.S. Championships in Phoenix. They followed up that victory with a third place finish in the Juniors competition at the 1994 U.S. Championships and a year later they won the Junior title.

Even before they met, Chalom was an old hand when it came to skating. She took up the sport at age 8 – "kind of late compared to other people," she said.

Even as a youngster, she loved the sport. "I liked going faster than you could walking or running and it was kind of exciting," she said. Ice dancing came naturally to her as dance was an activity taken up by her entire family.

Her mother Susan and father Edward have enjoyed folkdancing for 35 years and at one time, performed with the Detroit Folk Dance Club. The three of them and Chalom's brother Adam all took Spanish flamenco dance lessons together and put on a show.

On the ice, she and Gates perform sambas, waltzes, cha-chas and tangos, the classic ballroom dances. "Eve's got a tremendous sense of rhythm," Susan said. "You can see it in her whole body. She's not just skating, she's dancing out there."

Ice dance differs from pairs skating in that the latter employs more lifts and jumps while dance stresses more artistry, style and choreography. Ice dancers must skate to "dance music," maintain recognizable dance holds and positions and can only separate briefly while changing positions.

Hearing the music is not proving to be a problem for Chalom, who suffered a 50 percent hearing loss in one ear and a 65 percent loss in the other as a result of being hit by a car while riding on the back of a babysitter's bicycle at age four.

She employs a hearing aid and has learned sign language. In fact, when she enters college next year, she plans to study American sign language and education.

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330 OBITUARIES

EVA NATCH. With deep sorrow the family announces the sudden passing of Eva Natch, on Monday, November 18, 1996. She leaves to mourn her two sons, Donald (Raymonde) and Bryan, her mother Anna Olenick and her grandsons Steven, David, Donald Jr. and Roland. She is also survived by her brother Tom (Mindel) Olenick, sister Bess (Max) Ploskar of Toronto and many nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by her husband Max, in 1995 and her father Zalmen Olenick in 1988.

All her life she was a dedicated worker for the State of Israel. At the age of 21, she was the youngest President of Na'amat (Pioneer Women) Winnipeg Council. She later became National President of Na'amat Canada, Vice Chairperson of the Canadian Zionist Federation Western Region, Vice Chairperson of the Zionist Education Trust and supported many local organizations.

Eva made many trips to Israel on behalf of Na'amat. During her extensive work on various committees for the State of Israel, she had the honour of meeting and sharing the podium with many noted personalities, such as Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Abba Eban. She had a love of life and enjoyed music and dancing. Children were the highlight of her life. Eva will be missed by her family and friends and touched the hearts of everyone.

Pallbearers were Jack Katz, Gary Ross, Edward Medzon and her grandsons, Steven, David and Donald Jr.

If friends so desire, donations may be made to Na'amat Canada, 1727 Main St. or the Jewish National Fund, 401-365 Hargrave St.

ROCHWERG, Harvey - on December 1, 1996, late of 10 Pannahill Rd.
KATZ, Percy - on December 2, 1996.
SELESNICK, Monty - on December 2, 1996, late of 644 Sheppard Ave. E.
SILVER, Lily - on December 2, 1996.
COHEN, Ethel - on December 4, 1996, late of 23 Almington St.
KLYNE, Eileen - on December 4, 1996.
KOHN, Hillel - on December 4, 1996, late of 205 Hilda Ave.
MORTON, Gerald - on December 4, 1996.
BENAYON, Messody - on December 5, 1996, late of 100 Antibes Dr.
POSEN YOUNG, Samantha Jaye - on December 5, 1996, late of 61 Millersgrove Dr.
ROSEN, Tauba - on December 5, 1996.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

BADER, Jack - on December 6, 1996.
ROSENFARB, Molly - on December 7, 1996, late of 55 Stonedene Blvd.
ZELTERMAN, Khaim - on December 7, 1996, late of 24 Carscadden Dr.
BERESTESKI, Izrail - on December 8, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
WEISDORF, Faye - on December 8, 1996.
PENEK, Mikhail - on December 9, 1996. late of 3036 Bathurst St.
MOLDAVER, Ruth - on December 10, 1996.
WELLS, Esther - on December 10, 1996, late of 40 Lissom Cres.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ENGEL, Lollie - on November 28, 1996, late of 77 Linwell Rd., Unit #32.
GRUENSTEIN, Harry - on November 28, 1996, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., #308.
LEVY, Robert - on November 28, 1996, late of 240 Heath St. W., #303.
BERNICK, Irwin - on November 29, 1996, late of 25 Fifeshire Rd.
MATENKO, Miriam - on November 29, 1996, late of 424 Shaw St.
SCHWARTZ, Henry - on November 29, 1996, late of 1 Kirkland Blvd.
BELMAN, Harry - on November 30, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
FELD, Mary - on November 30, 1996, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #1007.
PRICE, Jack - on November 30, 1996, late of 595 Brookdale Rd., #401.
SILVERSTEIN, Sam - on November 30, 1996, late of Lincoln Place Nursing Home.
BRONFMAN, Peter - on December 1, 1996, late of 87 Roxborough St. W.
HILLSBERG, Nathan - on December 2, 1996, late of 2601 Bathurst St., #601.
BLOSTEIN, Anna - on December 2, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
KERBEL, Toby - on December 3, 1996, late of 8 Brian Cliff Dr.
JACOBSON, Dora - on December 3, 1996, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #1630.
EISEN, Frances - on December 4, 1996, late of 1 Canyon Ave., #907.
KIRSH, Esther - on December 5, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MANOFF, Gerri - on December 5, 1996, late of 155 Kaiser Crt., #802.

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Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sarah vacationed last week in the Negev. Unfortunately, the vacation ended abruptly when Etta and Ephraim Tsur were murdered near Beit El. As speculation increases in Israel about an impending agreement with the Palestinians on Hebron, pundits are now focusing their attention on the shape of a final deal. In the accompanying article, David Makovsky of the *Jerusalem Post* describes the possible parameters of a territorial compromise in Judea and Samaria. [RNS/Reuters]

Bibi's choices after Hebron

BY DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Most of the public assumes that after a Hebron pullback, all the other thorny issues of the peace process are on hold until 1999,

Commentary

when so-called "final status" talks on a variety of issues, including Jerusalem, are expected to be concluded.

In fact, the future is almost now. Due to a key section of the Oslo 2 interim agreement, the Palestinians believe they are entitled to no less than almost the entire West Bank by next September – before final status talks even begin. Settlements would become islands in a Palestinian sea, as opposed to the present situation where the Palestinians are more like islands in an Israeli sea.

Differences on this issue, known by the acronym FRDs ("further redeployments" or IDF pullbacks), will not only surface in the months ahead, but are one of the main elements blocking the Hebron deal. Palestinian Authority (PA) leader Yasser Arafat wants an affirmation from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that he will carry out three pullbacks by next September. Israel, according to Arafat, has already missed the September 1996 deadline for a first FRD.

But Netanyahu, realizing the complexity of these redeployments, wants to skip the whole issue and go directly to the final status. Ironically, in the past Israel has viewed the interim agreement as the key to dealing with painful issues of final status. But Israel now wants a final status approach, while the Palestinians have discovered the redeeming features of the interim agreement. Arafat's adviser Ahmed Tibi reflected a broader view among the Palestinian leadership when he said, "Israel cannot get out of fulfilling the interim agreement."

With either the pullbacks or the less likely alternative of going to final status, the public should soon be getting a better – but perhaps not a complete – grasp of how Netanyahu envisions a final status deal with the Palestinians and how he intends getting there.

The deep-felt concern about the next phase of the peace process has been the biggest force fuelling both stepped-up calls within Netanyahu's own coalition for a national unity government, and calls for moving directly to final status talks. A package deal on final status issues would avoid, in the eyes of some, the "salami-like" approach to yielding slices of the territories now, depriving Israel of any future negotiating leverage.

Whether by way of further interim pullbacks or final status talks, it is critical that the Netanyahu government has a vision of how it wants the talks with the Palestinians to end. While there have been a flurry of territorial ideas on the future status of the West Bank, for clarity's sake it is useful to look at three different paradigms.

• Cantons. The first approach is one that Ariel Sharon calls "cantons" and Arafat derisively calls "Bantustan," in allusion to the old South African homelands idea. The idea is to ensure the Palestinians have no territorial contiguity between their cities, so that they could never form a state.

In Netanyahu's book *A Place Among the Nations*, published three years ago, he endorses this idea, but uses the American name of "counties."

However, the Oslo accord has apparently made Netanyahu think his old ideas are unworkable. By the eve of the May elections, Netanyahu had distanced himself from this. When asked then by the *Post* what he thought about cantons, he responded, "I think they are not going to put us in isolated little islands and we are not going to do it to them either."

If Netanyahu does not accept the canton idea, the government should not therefore seek to expand the Jewish settlements alongside densely populated Palestinian areas in the heartland of the West Bank, settlements which were mostly established by Sharon in the late 1970s and early 1980s for this purpose. For example, it would be hard to understand the logic of plans to expand places such as Nahliel, which is just northeast of Ramallah, as suggested in the *Washington Post* this week by settlement leaders .

• The Third Way. This plan calls for Israeli territorial presence along two columns, namely western Samaria and the Jordan Valley, providing Israel with just under half of the territories.

One official in the Prime Minister's Office said: "Our territorial ideas and the Third Way's are very similar. Anybody who thinks we can significantly expand in the middle of Judea and Samaria is mistaken."

At a meeting with Jordan Valley settlers earlier this month, Netanyahu declared that Israel wanted to annex this area in final status talks. Of course, in a move laden with symbolism, it should be recalled that Netanyahu took Dan Shomron, who headed the Third Way for a brief period, as his chief negotiator.

• Beilin-Abu Mazen. This idea, whose outlines were agreed upon last year by two architects of the original Oslo accord, Yossi Beilin and Mahmoud Abbas (known by the patronym Abu Mazen), based on a plan by Yitzhak Frankenthal of the religious peace movement Netivot Shalom, calls for Israel to annex seven percent of the territory where an estimated 75 percent of the settlers live, in return for Palestinian statehood.

According to the Frankenthal plan, Israel would not need to annex a single Arab village while annexing settlement blocs in Gush Etzion, Ma'aleh Adumim and western Samaria as a part of border modifications.

When Netanyahu notes how Labor expanded existing settlements by about 40 percent over the last four years, it should be noted that this growth took place within what Yitzhak Rabin considered the "Greater Jerusalem" area, embracing Gush Etzion and Ma'aleh Adumim along with some building slightly east of the Green Line in western Samaria.

This is Netanyahu's dilemma, and perhaps even his opportunity.

The Inside Back

About Life

Dear Ella,

My mother and I are constantly fighting over one thing. She will not take a taxi. There is no logical reason she can give me, she just won't. I can't begin to tell you the pressure this puts on me.

I have a family of my own, I drive car pool twice a day, I make meals for a family of four every day and I do all the household chores, errands and shopping. This really leaves me very little time to drive my mother around and she just won't understand.

Even if I put my foot down and refuse, I am consumed by guilt the entire day. I play the conversation over and over again in my head and rationalize why I did the right thing. I'm willing to try anything to take this pressure off myself. Do you have any suggestions?

Chauffeur – NOT

Dear Chauffeur – NOT,

This is not the first time I've heard of this situation. It existed in my own home as well. I'm not sure what it is about taxis that forces an intelligent person to become completely irrational.

I've narrowed it down to three things.

First, money. Set up an account with a cab company. Give your mother the phone number and tell her whenever she needs to go somewhere, to call this number and it won't cost her anything.

Second, companionship. This could be an excuse for her to see her busy daughter. She might be feeling lonely and/or neglected and needs some extra TLC. Maybe a daily routine would help. Try to set up her day so that she keeps busy, preferably with other people in her situation and age group. Possibly have her join the Bernard Betel Centre and get her involved in programs there.

Third and hardest to solve, respect. Your mother may feel, if she has a daughter to drive her around, why should she have to take a taxi? A mother is important and should come first. What kind of a daughter would let her own mother drive with a stranger?

This is obviously an old-fashioned way of thinking. Try to reassure your mother that you love and respect her, but your time is limited. This will not help you with your guilt. That is something you'll need to tend to from your end.

Take comfort in knowing that you are not alone in this "Taxi Boycotting" dilemma. Talk to your friends and see how they handle it. You may get some good ideas. In the meantime, keep in mind that you are only human and there are only so many hours in a day. Do the best you can.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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1 cup dried cranberries
8 cups fresh spinach, washed, stemmed and torn into bite-size pieces (about 1 lb)
3 seedless tangerines, peeled, pith removed, and sectioned
1 cup toasted pecans, coarsely chopped

Soak cranberries in 2 cups hot water about 1 hr. Drain, discarding all but 2 tblsp of soaking liquid. Reserve liquid and cranberries separately. In large bowl, combine cranberries, spinach, tangerines and pecans. Add dressing below, toss and serve. Serves 8.

SHERRY VINEGAR DRESSING
Makes about 3/4 cup
3 tblsp sherry vinegar
2 tblsp cranberry-soaking water
1/2 cup peanut or vegetable oil
1/8 tsp freshly grated nutmeg
1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
1/2 tsp salt

In a medium bowl, whisk together dressing ingredients until well combined.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Kids (Grades 1 to 6)

PURIM IS ON THE WAY.

WATCH FOR NEWS OF OUR 3RD ANNUAL

PURIM PICTURE CONTEST

Diplomatically Speaking

BY Jehudi Kinar

Building the academic bridge

One of the important bridges between two countries is the academic one. Consulates can and do play an important role in encouraging these ties and try to act as a link; indeed this is one of our current projects.

Various exchange programs have been established in virtually all of the universities across Canada and Israel enabling students to spend a year or more in the other country. This is a wonderful opportunity for young people to travel abroad, learn a new language and appreciate a new culture and society. Students in all fields can easily find a university with a suitable program which meets their needs and interests — whether it be in the liberal arts, fine arts, sciences, law or any other field. In fact, it is easy to transfer credits between most of the universities in Israel and Canada.

Many students have taken advantage of these programs. Over the years, the exchange programs have grown, with hundreds of students travelling to Israel from Canada each year. For Canadian students going to Israel, there are scholarships and bursaries in place to help those students who require financial assistance.

Beyond the many student programs, we, along with the universities, are also trying to encourage academic exchanges of professors. Each year a number of academics from Israel travel to Canada either as visiting scholars at one of the many institutions of higher learning here, or as researchers at some of the hospitals, often the Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Sinai or Baycrest.

Not only do Israeli doctors and researchers bring new methods and techniques, theories and knowledge at the end of their sabbaticals, they also return to Israel with new expertise acquired from these renowned institutions. The academics are very often willing to address the community in lectures and seminars. This is an opportunity which more organizations should take advantage of.

Our consulate is also endeavoring to promote further academic ties. In fact, we are in the process of trying to establish a Chair in Israel Studies at one of the universities here. Once one such Chair is established, hopefully others will follow.

Over the years, scholars such as Gabriel Ben-Dor (political science), Arye Rattner (sociology), Alexander Bligh (history) and Itamar Rabinovich (Middle East history) have spent a year or more in Toronto. This is but a sampling. We are also in the process of developing a relatively new program, Visiting Scholars, which seeks to bring top Israeli academics on short visits.

Last year, for example, we helped to bring professors David Menashri (Iranian history and politics) and Yehezkel Dror (political science) to Toronto to speak at the University of Toronto and York University. This academic year, Prof. Yoseph Nevo (history) will visit Toronto for a period of two days at the beginning of February. These short visits are important in maintaining and fostering ties, establishing relations and sharing new research.

Similarly, many Canadian professors visit Israel frequently in many capacities. There is a well-established Canadian studies program in Israel which attracts Canadianists from across the globe — be they historians, political scientists or lawyers. Canadian experts in various fields travel to Israel to meet with colleagues, to compare the work being done and again, to share any new findings and theories in their fields.

In an age when there are significant budgetary constraints on the universities, it is important to continue to encourage the sharing of information, the familiarization of each other's educational systems and to expand our partnerships. In the last century, academic exchanges have helped enormously in improving relations between countries as well as having advanced knowledge generally.

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Retirement & Investment Planning
272 Lawrence Ave. W., Suite 203,
Toronto, Ontario M5M 4M1
787-4517

The Last Word . . . TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

If something appears too good to be true more often than not it is. Today normally conservative investors are scrambling to find better returns and in so doing are purchasing inappropriate investments. It is always best to obtain independent advice so you can make an informed decision.

Call EARL CRACKOWER 416-787-4517 to find the comfort zone.

HIGHLAND FARMS

Prices Effective from
Sun. Dec. 15, 1996 until
Sat. Dec. 21, 1996

CHICKEN LEGS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Fresh
1.99 LB
4.39 kg

PERL'S
ALL BEEF SALAMI
375 g Chub 3.99 EA

PEPSI & 7-UP
Regular & Diet
750 ml Bottle
79 Plus Deposit

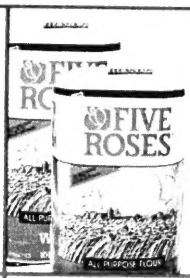
4.99
Case of 24 x 355 ml Tins

WESTERN SOUR CREAM
Regular & Light
500 ml Tub 99 EA

RIB STEAKS
Cap Off
Cut from Canada
AA/AAA Grades Beef
Fresh
4.99 LB
11.00 kg

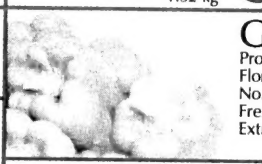
HEAD LETTUCE
Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
79 EA

YAMS
Product of USA
Fresh
1.52 kg 69 LB



FIVE ROSES ALL PURPOSE
FLOUR
•White •Whole Wheat
10 kg Bag
5.99 EA

BEEF BRISKIT POINT SINGLE
Lazar Yitzchok COR 369
Glatt Kosher Sealed Tray
Packed Meats, Fresh
16.53 kg 7.49 LB



GREEN PEPPERS
Product of USA
Florida
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Extra Large Size
2.18 kg 99 LB

KELLOGG'S
CORN FLAKES CEREAL
675 g Box 1.99 EA

SCHNEIDERS
TURKEY BREAST
Cooked or Smoked
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
19.82 kg 8.99 LB

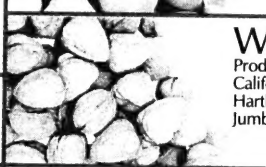
BOSC PEARS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
1.74 kg 79 LB

DOLE
PINEAPPLE
•Slices •Crushed
•Tidbits •Chunks
398 ml Tin 79 EA

SUN PAC
PRUNE NECTAR
Pure
1 L Bottle 1.69 EA

TROPICANA, PURE PREMIUM
ORANGE JUICE
100% Pure
1.89 L Carton 2.99 EA

MANISCHEWITZ
EGG NOODLES
Assorted Varieties
340 g Bag 99 EA



WALNUTS
Product of USA
California
Hartley Variety
Jumbo Size
3.73 kg 1.69 LB

SILANI
•RICOTTA CHEESE, 400 g av. wt.
•MOZZARELLA, 340 g Package
Fresh
2.49 EA

STRUB'S
DILL PICKLES
1.5 L Jar 3.99 EA

BICK'S
BABY DILLS
•Hot & Zesty
•Garlic •Extra Garlic
•Half the Salt
1 L Jar 2.99 EA

SEALTEST, PARLOUR
ICE CREAM
•Regular •Light
•1% •Yogourt
2 L Tub
2.99 EA

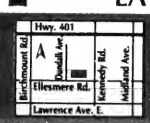
SEEDLESS CLEMENTINES
Product of Morocco
Fresh
2.3 kg Box 4.99 EA

CRANBERRIES
Product of USA
Fresh
340 g Bag 1.99 EA

COTTONELLE
BATHROOM TISSUE
12 Roll Package
3.99 EA

KOSHER PRODUCTS ONLY
AVAILABLE AT DUFFERIN STORE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 10 pm
Saturday, 7 am to 10 pm
SUNDAY, 9 AM TO 5 PM
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

4750 DUFFERIN ST. AT SUPERTEST RD. (SOUTH OF STEELES AVE.)



850 ELLESMERE RD. AT KENNEDY RD.

LAWRENCE AVE. E. AT BENNETT RD.

PLEASE REWIND